

**Washington County
Anti-Poverty Strategies 2010-2015
Presentation**

The Washington County Office of
Community Development
produces the
Washington County Consolidated Plan
every five years!

“Community Action, the county’s anti-poverty agency, led the creation of the Anti-Poverty Strategy for the Consolidated Plan.”

Thank You to Katherine Galian!

The 2010 – 2015 Consolidated Plan
describes community needs and
determines local priorities for using public
resources to assist low and moderate
income residents of Washington County

**The Anti-Poverty Strategies are based on
the expressed concerns of low-income
residents of Washington County!**

There are three Anti-Poverty Strategies:

Strategy 1. Public Policy

Implement innovative public policy that affirmatively seeks new ways to promote the economic independence and well-being of low income residents.

Strategy 2. Service & Support Systems

Provide comprehensive and integrated services that focus on prevention and are strongly consumer driven.

Strategy 3. Civic Capital

Increase sense of community and belonging among low income and minority residents as well as overall public investment in the social and political well-being of the entire community.

- Community Action has been identified in the plan as the lead to establish an Anti-Poverty Strategies Work Group to:
 - monitor the progress of the strategies
 - address barriers
 - respond to changing conditions as they arise

There are many Action Items outlined for the group to work on over the next five years.

A few of the Action Items are:

- Increase awareness of poverty issues among community leaders

- Address the “cliff effect” and other disincentives to transitioning off services and moving toward greater independence and self sufficiency
- Improve Information & Referral infrastructure to increase consumer awareness and understanding of available resources

- Identify existing efforts and key partners that will increase opportunities for communication, collaboration and coordination between groups that fund organizations and agencies to undertake anti-poverty efforts.

The Anti-Poverty Strategies Work Group
began meeting in July 2010

The back ground information we are working
with comes from our 2010 Washington
County Issues of Poverty

While Washington County's population grew 20% between 2000 & 2008, the poverty population grew at nearly three times that rate (58%). Nearly 1 in 4 Washington County residents (24%) are low-income.

In 2009 the poverty level for a family of three was \$18,310 annually, yet a single parent **working full time** earning Minimum Wage had an annual income of only \$17,472.

For a family of three to afford a 2 bedroom apartment in Washington County at the 2010 Fair Market Rate, family must have an annual income of \$33,560, which is 165% of the Federal Poverty Level.

- **Current participants on the Anti-Poverty Work Group Include:**

- Office of Community Development
- Department of Human Resources – Washington County
- Department of Housing
- Bienestar
- Washington County Disabled Aging & Veterans Services
- Pacific University