

WASHINGTON GORGE ACTION PROGRAMS

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What legacy would you like to leave in the world?

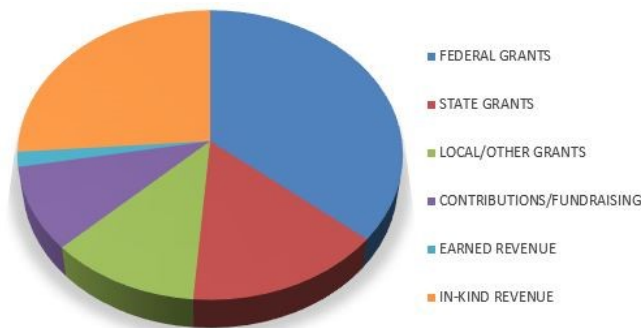
Become part of the WAGAP family by leaving a legacy donation in your will.

Whoever you are, whatever your situation, you can make a difference and help create a better community by including a gift to WAGAP in your will.

Visit our website to find out more.

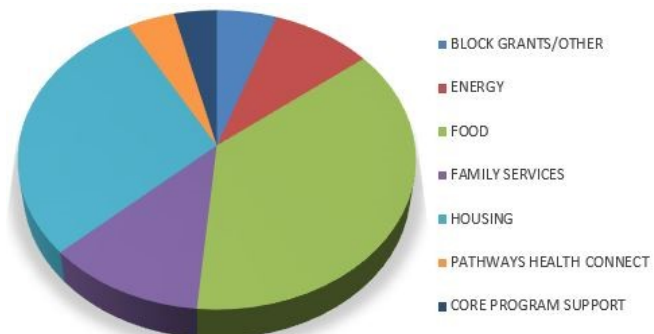
www.wagap.org/donate

2020 Financial Information



Income

Federal Grants	\$ 2,090,188.00
State Grants	\$ 879,175.00
Local/Other Grants	\$ 668,857.00
Contributions/Fundraising	\$ 540,730.00
Earned Revenue	\$ 96,061.00
In-Kind Revenue	\$ 1,515,921.00
Total	\$ 5,790,932.00



Expenses

Block Grant/ Other	\$ 271,012.00
Energy	\$ 456,980.00
Food	\$ 1,882,137.00
Family Services	\$ 596,950.00
Housing	\$ 1,456,398.00
Pathways Health Connect	\$ 216,222.00
Core Program Support	\$ 193,192.00
Total	\$ 5,072,891.00



WASHINGTON GORGE ACTION PROGRAMS

The Community Action Agency for Skamania and Klickitat Counties

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2020 WAGAP Annual Report

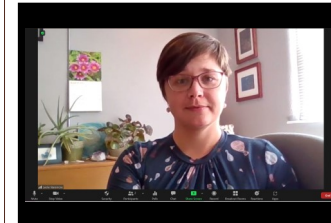
Your Community Action Agency.

Helping People. Changing Lives.

Learn more at
www.wagap.org

Success by the Numbers

Households Helped	4,006
Individuals Helped	8,572
Recipient of Volunteer Hours	7,566
Emergency Temporary Shelter Provided	188
Food Boxes Distributed	14,312
Emergency Protections from Violence Issued	46
Households Receiving Energy Assistance	561



By Leslie Naramore,

It would be easy to classify the events of 2020 as 'unprecedented', but the fact is, they're not. Our entire history has been leading to this moment. It would seem that the pandemic was the match that lit the fuse but these are all issues that have been bubbling to the surface for centuries. It turns out our safety nets were not as secure as we thought. Many families already live paycheck to paycheck and so the effects of missing just one were devastating.

From the desk of the Executive Director Rising to the challenge

We know that COVID-19 and the crisis of living in poverty disproportionately affects people of color and what we saw in our communities was no different than what we witnessed nationally. Community Action was birthed as part of the War on Poverty and the crisis then really wasn't much different than the crisis we now face.

"Unfortunately, many Americans live on the outskirts of hope--some because of their poverty, and some because of their color, and all too many because of both. Our task is to help replace their despair

with opportunity," said President Lyndon B. Johnson during his State of the Union Address on January 8, 1964. "Our aim is not only to relieve the symptom of poverty, but to cure it and, above all, to prevent it." This work is as necessary now as it was then.

I am comforted by all of the togetherness that I've seen even as we were encouraged to spend time apart. 2020 was a year of uncertainty. Life in 2020 vacillated deeply between highs and lows; the lows of knowing seniors who were

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Our Mission

Strengthening community by inspiring hope and helping people help themselves.

Washington Gorge Action Programs long term agency goals:

To reduce the negative impact of poverty on individuals, families, and communities.

To foster individual and family self-sufficiency, health, and well being.

To advocate for economic and social justice in our communities.

To alleviate violence through projects, community education, advocacy, and social change.

To reduce hunger and malnutrition and promote food security.



Patty Gallardo models her face mask, a regular accessory in 2020

Coping with the COVID-19 pandemic...work continues

Getting back to business

After a six-month closure during the shutdown, everyone pitches in to reorganize and refresh Second Hand Rose. The vital service reopened in October with new shopping protocols including social distancing, requiring face masks and use of hand sanitizers. Photo: Sheila Ball, Finance Manager, Bruce Bolme, Board President, and Teresa Obregon who joined the WAGAP team to reopen the store.



All hands on deck meet the needs of families affected by the pandemic

With closures affecting schools and afterschool programs, Autumn Williams takes a break from her role as the Community Youth Center Director to help prep food boxes at the Bingen Food Bank. Rolling with the tide, she provides service with a smile to help boost morale during a challenging year.

The Promise of Community Action

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.



What is Community Action?

Community Action fights the causes and conditions of poverty. Founded in 1964 as part of the Economic Opportunity Act, Community Action has been dedicated to eradicating poverty ever since. Community Action Agencies are mostly funded by block grants, which means that the community gets to decide what works best for them. In our small, rural communities, this is especially important. Community Action is all about empowerment and we work hard to make sure that our clients and funders understand this and work alongside us as we work to help set people on the road to achieving sufficiency. There are over 1,000 Community Action Agencies in the United States. Here in Washington we're one of 30; working in different communities, across cultures, and with unique programs, together we're working to help people and change lives.



An Overview of our Programs

Community Youth Center

An afterschool drop-in facility for youth ages 6-17

Emergency Services

Crisis intervention, housing, utilities, referrals

Energy Assistance

Assistance with utility bills and shut off prevention

Food Banks

Monthly and emergency food distribution

Commodity Supplemental Food Program

Additional food for low-income seniors

Second Hand Rose

Thrift store providing vouchers & job training

Emergency Shelter

Short Term emergency housing

Permanent Supportive Housing

Long term housing with case management for persons with disabilities

Turning Point Rapid Rehousing

Two year self-sufficiency program with housing

Homelessness Prevention Activities

First month rent, security deposit, and homelessness prevention

Weatherization

Referral to services to increase home energy efficiency

Programs for Peaceful Living (Klickitat Co)

Domestic Violence Services & Prevention
Sexual Assault Services & Prevention

Crime Victim Services (Klickitat Co)

Support for victims of crimes

Care Coordination (Klickitat Co)

Helping individuals live healthier lives and get the support they need

Prevention (Klickitat Co)

Drug Free Communities grant for Klickitat County.
Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative for Goldendale School District

Information and Referral

Link those in need with community resources



Helps here!

Rising to the challenge, continued...

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unable to get to the grocery store or school children isolated from peers, to the highs of new partnerships forged to provide better services and funders going out of their way to get us COVID-19 response money as quickly as possible.

From the initial lockdown in March, which saw schools and businesses close, we did our best to adapt. Health and safety protocols were put in place and staff had to work quickly to adjust to the new normal, many while also homeschooling their children. People who had never had to utilize our services before suddenly found themselves in need of our Food Banks and other programs. People turned to us for help paying rent, or their electric bill, or getting internet services installed at home so their child could

participate in their online classes.

Staff stepped up to the challenges brought on by the pandemic immediately and without complaint. Our new normal was met with dedication to getting the job done and I'm so proud of each and every one of them. Our agency usually functions with an average of 35 employees, in response to new programs and emerging needs we suddenly had 44 employees.

Our communities also stepped up for us in a big way. Our COVID-19 Relief Fund was largely financed by donations from all of you and we were not at all surprised to see donations come rolling in because *as we've seen time and again, this community cares.*

On the positive side in 2020...

- Funders and donors raised over \$230,000 in discretionary funds
- \$2 million was received to help keep families in their homes
- Klickitat County Childcare Committee received \$100,000 for a planning grant



Photo: Pre-pandemic,

Our Klickitat youth toured the capitol building for the 2020 "Gorge-Ous Night in Olympia" in February.