



WASHINGTON GORGE ACTION PROGRAMS

The Community Action Agency for Skamania and Klickitat Counties

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2021 WAGAP Annual Report

Your Community Action Agency.

Helping People. Changing Lives.

Learn more at
www.wagap.org

Success by the Numbers

Households Helped **4,432**

Individuals Helped **9,248**

Volunteer Hours **4,719**

Emergency Temporary Shelter Provided **217**

Food Boxes Distributed **10,915**

Emergency Protections from Violence Issued **46**

Legal Assistance **651**

Households Receiving Energy Assistance **415**

From the desk of the Executive Director

Serving the greatest number in history

In 2021, Washington Gorge Action Programs celebrated 55 years of vital community service.

At the start of the shutdown in 2020, none of us imagined the struggle would continue more than a year later. I am so proud of the agency and work we do, especially in difficult times.

We've experienced tremendous growth and hardships in the last year. Our staff have been stretched

thin learning new grants, navigating waters and keeping our employees and community safe.

In 2021, WAGAP served the greatest number of clients ever. When our communities needed us, we stepped up for them in a big way.

We couldn't do any of this work without you. It is with heartfelt gratitude that I say thank you!

Thank you for supporting us, thank



you for supporting your community, and thank you for continuing to help us help people and change lives.

In gratitude,

Leslie Naramore
Executive Director



Rep Gina Mosbrucker meets Kirsten Poole to celebrate grant funding secured for the new Domestic Violence Shelter.

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.

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

Emergency warming and cooling shelters

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 and White Salmon School Districts.

Information and Referral

Link those in need with community resources



Children and parents are supported at the **Community Youth Center**



Helps here!



Pathways Health Connect links clients with many types of care to improve their health and lives!



Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Statement

Approved by the Board of Directors March 25, 2021

We, the board members of Washington Gorge Action Programs, reaffirm our organizational commitment to our communities, clients, staff, partners and stakeholders to provide services that help to alleviate poverty in a manner that is safe, respectful, equitable and inclusive of all.

We acknowledge that racial, social and economic disparities exist in our communities. We recognize that we work with a diverse community of people who experience different inequities. We believe that creating opportunities for people to participate, collaborate and create spaces to raise their voices will help us work toward equity.

Our programs are designed to foster individual and family self-sufficiency, health and well-being through access to food, shelter, healthcare, employment opportunities and resources that promote security.

We strive to build an inclusive culture that empowers us to connect as we develop our staff, board, committees and programs that are representative of our communities, coming from diverse backgrounds and experiences. We value personal commitments, curiosity, collaboration and perspectives.

We pledge to continue to provide a diverse, equitable and inclusive environment dedicated to strengthening our community by inspiring hope and helping people to help themselves.

The Food Bank Network received amazing support throughout the year, including shipments of local farm-fresh produce.



Second Hand Rose thrift store in Bingen provides a safe environment to shop and donate locally.

The store's voucher system allows clients in need to use credit toward items like clothing, shoes, kitchen appliances and household items.

Job training is a unique opportunity at the store, getting clients back into the workforce.

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.



2021 Highlights

Strengthening connections with our Spanish-speaking neighbors

Investing in community members from all backgrounds is essential to our mission. This year we put a tremendous focus on better serving those whose primary language is Spanish through a variety of efforts to make sure we are reaching all community members and helping them create better lives for their families.



In February:

WAGAP launched a monthly newsletter.

By March:

a version was also available in Spanish.

Leti Valle Moretti supported the Spanish-speaking community by translating newsletters, articles and materials.



Juan Reyes joined the team to give his girls a positive example of community service. He hopes his daughters and children of the next generation will change the world.



Vaccination Clinics

WAGAP partnered with NorthShore Medical Clinic, Comunidades, and Columbia Riverkeeper to educate the Spanish-speaking community about COVID-19 and offer free vaccinations and boosters.



Emergency Warming and Cooling Shelters

Our most vulnerable populations were provided Emergency Shelter options during extreme weather conditions in both winter and summer. In Skamania County, WAGAP staffed the shelters and in Klickitat County we worked with partners to keep people safe.

Care Connect Washington

Staff and volunteers delivered groceries and essential items to individuals and families quarantining due to COVID-19.



Black Lives Matter

The vandalism of a mural in a WAGAP office window in Goldendale sparked controversy. But it also opened a dialog for staff, clients, and community members to talk about the importance of Community Action.

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.

More 2021 Highlights

Sharing stories - personal experiences help us help others

Thank you everyone who took time this year to share your personal story as part of an effort to better connect with the people of Skamania and Klickitat counties. Many people contribute to the success of our clients like staff, volunteers, board members, contractors and community partners. We are each motivated by our own experiences.

Sharing our stories builds deeper connections and helps us provide even better service.



Top row: Lorena Salazar, Juan Reyes, Middle row: Kristen McReath, Shawyna Spino, Sunday Sutton,
Bottom row: Ubaldo Hernández, Oliver and Bobby Casey.

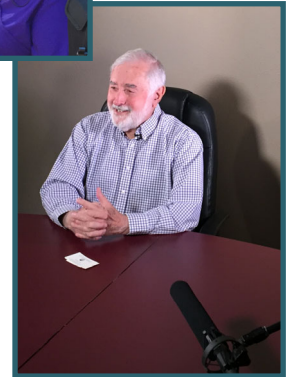
Current stories and news are shared on our website at <https://wagap.org/in-the-news>.

Supporting Families



Expanding the effort to bring more childcare to the region

With our partners, WAGAP supports the development of new licensed childcare options to help children, families, and local businesses thrive. Klickitat County Childcare Committee (KCCC) sourced grant funding, completed a feasibility study, and promoted the need by creating a call-to-action video with the help of Laughing Deva Productions.



- Thank you everyone who participated! -

Affordable Housing Roundtables

Everyone deserves a safe place to call home



WAGAP partnered this year with Mid Columbia Community Action Council, Mid Columbia Housing Authority, Nch'i Wana Housing, and Comunidades, to talk about how housing issues affect the people of the region.

Participants learned what affordable housing is, who it impacts, and why advocating matters. The series brought together residents, municipalities, planners, state agencies, and community advocates. The goal was to change some of the "Not In My Back Yard" mentality, creating more equity.

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Find us on the web: www.wagap.org

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

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Roger Gadway—**Vice-President**

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Ubaldo Hernández

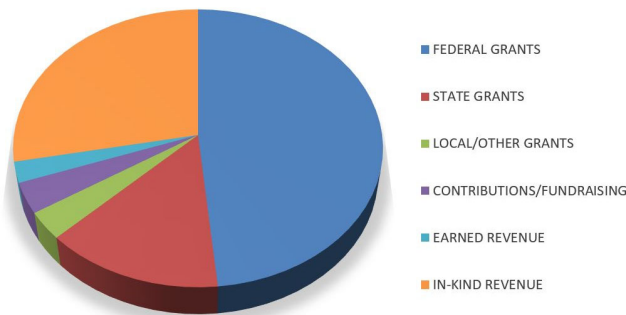
Alec Maule

David Quesnel

Alicia Ramirez

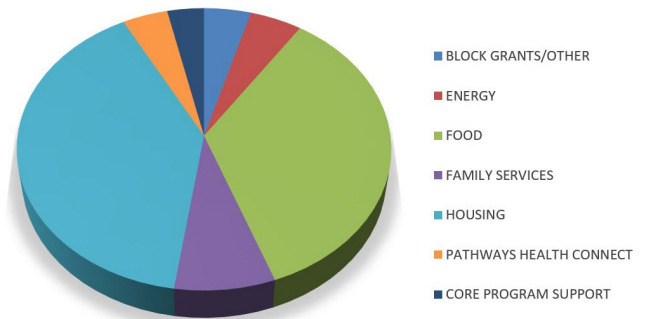
Debi Van Camp

2021 Financial Information



Income

Federal Grants	\$	3,834,510.00
State Grants	\$	1,131,596.00
Local/Other Grants	\$	255,474.00
Contributions/Fundraising	\$	282,347.00
Earned Revenue	\$	190,892.00
In-Kind Revenue	\$	2,220,832.00
Total	\$	7,915,651.00



Expenses

Block Grant/ Other	\$	339,068.00
Energy	\$	377,063.00
Food	\$	2,671,665.00
Family Services	\$	608,576.00
Housing	\$	3,046,857.00
Pathways Health Connect	\$	327,065.00
Core Program Support	\$	265,400.00
Total	\$	7,635,694.00