

Published on *The City of Tualatin Oregon Official Website* (<https://www.tualatinoregon.gov>)

[Home](#) > [Outside Agency Funding Request Form](#) > [Webform results](#) > Submission #89

Submission information

Form: [Outside Agency Funding Request Form](#) [1]
Submitted by Visitor (not verified)
Wed, 08/18/2021 - 3:05pm
98.232.244.210

Agency Contact Information

Agency Name

Oregon Community Warehouse, Inc

Address

8380 SW Nyberg St

City

Tualatin

State

OREGON

Zip Code

97062

Contact Name

Anna Kurnizki

Contact Telephone Number

9718655289

Contact Email Address

development@communitywarehouse.org

Agency Request Information

Request

Community Warehouse is requesting \$5,000 from the City of Tualatin.

What is the Request for?

Community Warehouse is requesting funding to provide furniture bank services for 555 Tualatin residents. At least 185 residents will receive furniture and household items that support their independence and improved quality of life. In addition, 250 residents will be able to donate their used household furnishings and 120 residents will be able to shop at our Estate Store for one-of-a-kind and antique finds to support our mission.

Community Warehouse's furniture bank concept is simple: we accept donations of household items from the community and deliver them to people who need furniture. Since 2001, Community Warehouse has provided beds to sleep in, tables to eat and gather at, cookware and dishware to prepare meals, lamps and desks for schoolwork, and other essential household items to turn empty houses into furnished homes. During COVID-19, CW pivoted numerous times to meet the needs of our community members. After nearly a year of delivery-only services, we have resumed in-person appointments at our furniture banks for clients in need of furnishings. Grant funds from the City of Tualatin would support increased services: from 15 households per week to 25 households per week.

For individuals and families who are newly in housing, furnishing a home is expensive and often means people live without beds, tables, or kitchenware that make cooking possible. Furniture means more than just the items themselves. It empowers people who are newly housed by providing a place to eat, play, work, and connect. Services emphasize participant choice; clients are able to choose their own furniture. This is a vital component of the process. By having the opportunity to make personal choices about their home, clients can regain dignity and agency.

As one participant said, "Getting to pick out your own furniture for yourself, the stuff you want, makes you feel like you gain a little control or autonomy that you've lost."

Describe the Agency's Mission

Community Warehouse's mission is to provide essential household furnishings to neighbors in need through unique community partnerships, creating stronger home foundations and brighter futures for all. We are the only nonprofit furniture bank serving the Portland metropolitan area, with Warehouses in Tualatin and NE Portland. In 2019, Community Warehouse provided over 90,000 items to 7,662 people from 129 zip codes. Last year, CW operated with modified services during the pandemic, providing furniture to 2,882 people.

Community Warehouse offers a low-barrier approach to participation. Clients must simply be low-income and in a housing situation that lacks furniture. By providing furniture, we jumpstart people's ability to feel settled and to have the items they need to make their house a home.

Our services have a direct impact on housing retention for individuals who have experienced homelessness. In a study completed with the Portland housing agency JOIN, we found that housing retention increased by 40% when people transitioning from

homelessness received furnishings from Community Warehouse.

CW clients experience positive benefits that help with maintaining work, a positive family life, and better long-term outcomes. We expect the following outcomes based on our 2019 Impact Evaluation:

- 94% of participants agreed that they are living less in crisis mode.
- 98% of respondents agreed that getting furniture helped them afford other things they need.
- 94% of respondents now think more positively about their lives and 95% feel more hopeful.
- 91% of respondents feel more inspired to give back to their community.

What Group of Citizens in Tualatin Does Your Organization Target?

Based on our past service statistics, of the people Community Warehouse serves, approximately 33% identify as White, 31% as Black, 18% as Latino/a/x, 10% as Asian, 5% as multi-racial, and 3% as Indigenous. In addition, 15% identify as immigrants and refugees and 29% self-identify as having a disability. Fully 70% of our clients identify as women or girls.

Everyone served by CW has either recently been homeless, is transitioning into housing, or is at risk of homelessness and living in housing without adequate furniture. We serve people who have a higher risk of homelessness, including seniors, persons with disabilities, youth exiting foster care, people with criminal records, victims of domestic violence, and people living with certain chronic health conditions.

CW predominantly works with people referred by one of our 250+ partner agencies: nonprofit and government agencies such as housing programs, community centers, churches, school programs, and hospitals, such as Community Action, Family Promise, and the Tigard-Tualatin Resource Center. We also serve clients who self-refer to our program and who do not have the resources to furnish their new home nor a case manager or agency to represent them.

What Types of Services will be Provided in the Funding Request Year?

Furniture Bank Services:

Clients meet staff and volunteers for the first time at their 1-hour appointment at the Tualatin Community Warehouse location to talk about their needs and select furniture with their case manager. Clients are able to select furniture and household items that support their independence and improved quality of life. Recipients will have the kitchenware they need to cook meals, tables and chairs to give their children a place to do homework, along with beds that support a good night's rest and enable focus and energy as they attend to life's daily activities.

Having furniture and household goods increases economic opportunity in that people are able to use their money for other needs and/or save for the future. People who receive furniture from the Warehouse are keenly aware of the money they save by not having to purchase furniture. They appreciate the economic value of quality furniture. Multiple interviewees in our 2019 Impact Evaluation connected the economic opportunity to increased self-sufficiency and noted that they felt an increased ability to focus on other goals, including reducing the need for public assistance and opening a savings account. This helped stress levels significantly as clients moved from concentrating on furniture to accomplishing their short-term and long-term objectives.

Furniture also improves health. A client with chairs and a bed can have therapists visit his home, instead of relying on rides and missing appointments. A mom can now have babysitters, supporting employment. For so many clients, a mattress allows better

sleep, preparing them to face the stressors that come their way. Many participants explained how furnishings meant they had choices related to food. Having proper cookware and dishes enabled clients to provide home-cooked meals and improve their nutrition. Dishes, pots and pans, and silverware mean people can cook and eat what they want when they want it: "There is no longer a need to be a hunter-gatherer, spending all my time eating whatever I could find because I didn't know when I'd find my next meal. Now I can eat regular. That's a BIG deal!"

Donations:

Individuals are able to donate used furniture to the Tualatin-located Community Warehouse for redistribution to their neighbors in need. Funding will assist in re-launching our pick up service. This means that Tualatin residents will be able to donate items without needing to rent a truck or otherwise transport large items to our Tualatin Warehouse. Families find great value in their items having a new life with another family. As one donor said, "We had been struggling for awhile to convince our mother to let go of her long-accumulated furniture and belongings. The idea of giving mom's furniture to Community Warehouse, where it could do such good for local families, was really helpful for her in the letting go process."

Estate Store:

The Community Warehouse Estate Store, located in Tualatin, generates income for program operations. In the store, community residents are able to shop for furnishings that have a higher resale value. Proceeds from these sales are 100% redirected back to Community Warehouse operations, thereby leveraging funds toward serving additional families.

How Many Tualatin Residents will be Served?

555

What Percentage of Your Program is Dedicated to Service in Tualatin?

100% of the grant funds will be directed to our Tualatin Warehouse services. (Organization-wide, 40% of services are delivered in Tualatin.)

If You are Requesting Funds from Tualatin and Other Governments in Oregon, Please List Them Here

City of Beaverton
City of Hillsboro
City of Lake Oswego
City of Tigard
Clackamas County

Agency Organizational / Financial Information

Please Submit Your Budget Information

[cw-budget-2021_revised_8.5.21.pdf](#) [2]

Please Submit Your Board Information

[cw_board_of_directors_roster_2021.pdf](#) [3]

Please Submit a Copy of Your 501(c)3 cert.

[501c3_communitywarehouse.pdf](#) [4]

Other Attachments

[covidresponse-pandemic-services-report.pdf](#) [5]

Source URL: <https://www.tualatinoregon.gov/node/13520/submission/65681>

Links

[1] <https://www.tualatinoregon.gov/administration/webforms/outside-agency-funding-request-form>

[2] https://www.tualatinoregon.gov/system/files/webform/cw-budget-2021_revised_8.5.21.pdf

[3] https://www.tualatinoregon.gov/system/files/webform/cw_board_of_directors_roster_2021.pdf

[4] https://www.tualatinoregon.gov/system/files/webform/501c3_communitywarehouse.pdf

[5] <https://www.tualatinoregon.gov/system/files/webform/covidresponse-pandemic-services-report.pdf>

Community Warehouse 2021 Restated Budget

Board Approved on August 5, 2021

	Original Budget	Updated Budget	Difference
Revenue:			
Individual Contributions	273,100	250,000	(23,100)
Corporate Contributions	-	50,000	50,000
Foundation Grants	350,000	405,000	55,000
Government Grants	100,000	75,000	(25,000)
Paycheck Protection Program	-	216,800	216,800
In-Kind Contributions	941,900	344,396	(597,504)
Client Fees	712,865	252,696	(460,169)
Pickup & Store Delivery Fees	36,000	38,540	2,540
Event Income	200,000	215,000	15,000
Estate Store Sales	506,000	428,500	(77,500)
Rental Revenue	6,500	6,600	100
Investment & Interest Income	-	5,000	5,000
Gain (Loss) on Asset Disposal	-	4,000	4,000
Other Revenue	-	3,000	3,000
Release of Restrictions	-	0	0
Total Revenue	3,126,365	2,294,532	(831,833)
Expenses:			
Wages	1,148,513	949,800	(198,713)
Payroll Taxes	131,502	108,307	(23,195)
Employee Benefits	120,450	101,728	(18,722)
Retirement Benefits	14,316	10,955	(3,361)
Workers' Comp	-	15,000	15,000
Contract Services & Consulting	19,500	17,500	(2,000)
Bookkeeping Services	33,986	33,986	0
Payroll Services	-	3,309	3,309
Legal Services	-	1,000	1,000
Information Technology	36,560	36,560	0
Vehicle Operations	32,861	22,000	(10,861)
Vehicle Purchase & Leasing	-	0	0
Professional Development & Training	19,000	15,000	(4,000)
Storage Rental	-	2,000	2,000
Office Supplies	23,000	23,000	0
Program Supplies	-	40,000	40,000
Facilities Maintenance	40,000	40,000	(0)
Garbage & Utilities	47,401	47,401	(0)
Meetings Expense	10,100	8,000	(2,100)
Telecommunications	13,500	15,000	1,500
Printing & Copying	10,500	10,500	0
Postage & Delivery	7,742	7,742	0
Advertising	16,073	12,000	(4,073)
Event Expense	-	40,000	40,000
Licenses & Fees	-	1,500	1,500
Bank Charges & Merchant Fees	26,000	26,000	0
Insurance	42,225	38,000	(4,225)
Dues & Subscriptions	23,500	23,500	(0)
Depreciation & Amortization Expense	57,360	57,360	0
Interest Expense	56,382	56,382	0
Miscellaneous Expenses	2,719	10,000	7,281
In-Kind Assistance	943,913	344,396	(599,517)
Client Fee Assistance	40,000	70,000	30,000
Total Expenses	2,917,103	2,187,925	(530,464)
Change in Net Assets	209,262	106,607	(102,655)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

updated February 2021



ROZ BABENER

Board Chair Emeritus & Founder
4155 SW Patrick Place
Portland, Oregon 97239
503.329.5588 (c)
roz755@aol.com

NICHOLAS SHEPHERD

Board President
Partner, Irvine and Company CPA's
345 NE 102nd Ave
Portland, OR 97220
503.407.3688 (c)
503.252.8449 (w)
nick@irvinecpas.com

JOHN WITHERSPOON

Board Vice-President
Attorney at Law
Partner, McEwen Gisvold LLP.
1600 Standard Plaza, 1100 S.W. 6th Avenue,
Portland, Oregon 97204
503-412-3520 (d)
503.593.7772 (c)
johnw@mcewengisvold.com

RAY ANDERSON

Board Secretary
Retired, Intel Corporation
12329 NW Sargent Lane
Portland OR 97231
503.467.9362 (c)
503.296.0439 (h)
rayjanderson@comcast.net

GABE WELLS

Board Treasurer
VP, Business Client Advisor
Summit Bank
222 SW Columbia St, Suite 200
Portland, OR 97201
971.940.1915(o)
503-828-8010 (c)
gwells@sbko.bank

JACK HEIMS

Board Exec Committee, Member at Large
Retired, Healthcare Executive
614 NW 11th Ave
Portland, OR 97209
503-315-2004 (h)
heimsjack@gmail.com

DARRELL NELSON

Manager, Community Relations & Events
NW Natural
220 NW Second Ave
Portland, OR 97209
503.220.2347
drn@nwnatural.com

ANN KIRBY, MS, MPA, BSN

Executive Director Care Management -
Oregon
Providence Health and Services
4400 NE Halsey St., Bldg 2, Ste 599
503.893.6011 (o)
503.718.1524 (c)
annette.kirby@providence.org

TOD BRESLAU

Broker, Premiere Property Group
Managing Partner, Jupiter Hotel
1201 NE Lloyd Blvd. Ste 115
Portland, OR 97232-1823
503-740-4888
tbreslau@aol.com

JERRY WALKER

Owner, HCMA-Portland
3203 NE 15th Avenue
Portland, OR 97212
503.493.0813 (o)
503.705.4624 (c)
jerry@hcmaltd.com

KATIE MCRAE

Retired, Providence Health & Services
321 SE 47th Ave
Portland, OR 97215
503.358.8401
rogerandkatie@comcast.net

APRIL DOLL

Professional Organizer
255 SW Harrison St 7H
Portland, OR 97201
503-490-8382
aprilmdoll@gmail.com

COLLEEN HARRIS

President, Harris WorkSystems, Inc.
11530 SW Tiedeman Ave
Tigard, OR 97223
503-643-3018
colleenh@harrisworksystems.com

SHARETTA BUTCHER

Community Care Director
North by Northeast Community Health
Center
1734 N Webster St., Portland, OR
97217
503-946-5680
sbutcher@nxneclinic.org

JOHN MIDDLETON

Vice President of Operations
Direct Transport
27600 SW 95th Ave Wilsonville OR
97070
503-783-2600
johnm@direct-transport.com

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date:

MAY 08 2006

OREGON COMMUNITY WAREHOUSE INC
2267 N INTERSTATE
PORTLAND, OR 97227-0000

Employer Identification Number:
93-1310582

DLN:
17053091724026

Contact Person:
ERIC J BERTELSEN ID# 31323

Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500

Public Charity Status:
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

Dear Applicant:

Our letter dated June 2001, stated you would be exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and you would be treated as a public charity, rather than as a private foundation, during an advance ruling period.

Based on the information you submitted, you are classified as a public charity under the Code section listed in the heading of this letter. Since your exempt status was not under consideration, you continue to be classified as an organization exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Code.

Publication 557, Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization, provides detailed information about your rights and responsibilities as an exempt organization. You may request a copy by calling the toll-free number for forms, (800) 829-3676. Information is also available on our Internet Web Site at www.irs.gov.

If you have general questions about exempt organizations, please call our toll-free number shown in the heading.

Please keep this letter in your permanent records.

Sincerely yours,



Lois G. Lerner
Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements



COVID-19 Response

Community Warehouse quickly responded to the COVID-19 pandemic by temporarily suspending regular operations on March 16, 2020. The nature of our service requires close contact with used goods and people (over 2,000 unique contacts per week!), so we made the decision to protect public health until we could create a plan for modified service.

Unfortunately, closing to the public meant losing our earned revenue: Estate Store sales and fees for service. Due to these losses and the postponing of our biggest fundraising event, the Board made the difficult decision to furlough 75% of our staff.

When state officials issued the “Stay Home, Save Lives” Executive Order on March 24, our remaining staff worried: “How do you stay at home if you have nothing at home?” We had to ensure people had the basic essential items, especially a place to sleep that was comfortable. In less than a week, six staff members formulated a plan for modified client services: Home2Go kits. These kits were composed of a dresser filled with brand-new, essential items for every household – including pots and pans, silverware, a set of dishes, towels, bedsheets, and an air mattress, designed to give clients an opportunity to cook their own meals and have a safe place to sleep. Beginning March 30, we offered no-contact pickup and delivery of Home2Go kits for partner agencies and clients.

“There was a time when I was a housesitting (read: homeless) single mom who would have broken into tears to have been offered this dresser kit. They make my heart happy- as does your continued efforts.”
– Donor

Once the Home2Go program was operational, our next goal was to bring staff back to work. Week by week in April, we brought staff back to support the Home2Go program. By mid-May, all our staff were back. We utilized the time we were closed to the public by painting a mural in our Family Welcome Room, installing pallet racks for mattress storage, creating sanitation stations, and more. We provided support and advice to other furniture banks across the country on how to respond to the pandemic and safely provide services.



Full-Service Delivery Model

In June, Community Warehouse began accepting a limited list of donations from the public. After distributing over 450 Home2Go kits, we phased out the program in July. In August, CW shifted our services to a full-service delivery model. CW staff members would contact each client over the phone to discuss furniture needs and schedule a delivery. Staff picked out the furniture, loaded it into the truck, and delivered it to the first room of the home. (Clients were not visiting the Warehouse for appointments, and case managers were not having to coordinate transportation and delivery of the furniture to clients' homes.) We furnished homes for 20 families per week with the delivery-only model.

Oregon Health Authority "Health Equity" Grant

CW applied for and received a \$112,900 grant through OHA in September 2020. The grant was created to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 and especially serve Black and Indigenous populations in the State of Oregon. Our application focused on the needs of the Native populations we serve and of our own staff to continue working successfully and safely. We received 100% of the funding we requested for:

- Guaranteed services (waived program fees) for Native American clients
- Professional cleaning and sanitization of both Warehouses and our vehicle fleet
- Gift cards for clients to obtain necessary cleaning supplies to combat COVID-19
- New pillows for clients (used pillows are susceptible to spreading disease)
- PPE & safety protocol training for staff
- Stipend for CW staff child care support to ensure consistent staffing & service

Executive Director Transition

After 6 years at CW, Dunetchka Otero-Serrano stepped down at the end of December 2020 to step up as the new Executive Director at the YWCA of Clark County. Former Development Director Anna Kurnizki became CW's Interim Executive Director for 5 months; she was promoted to the permanent position by the Board of Directors in May 2021. Read more about our leadership transition [here](#).

Current Services

On July 13, 2021, Community Warehouse began welcoming clients and case managers back to the furniture banks for in-person appointments. This has increased the number of appointments from 20 to 35 per week. Our subsequent goals in the coming months are to 1) resume donation pickup services and 2) increase services to pre-pandemic levels – 55 households per week.

Community Warehouse continues to safely and efficiently furnish the houses of families living, working, and schooling from home during the pandemic. We are excited to welcome clients back to our furniture banks and to bring community members together once the pandemic subsides. Our dedicated staff have continued delivering furniture as frontline workers. We have not had a single COVID case among our program team.

Your Investment

People face additional barriers to receiving furniture during the COVID-19 pandemic, and our top priority is to ensure safe and equitable access to furniture bank services. Visit our website to stay updated: communitywarehouse.org

Your past investments in Community Warehouse have helped us quickly pivot and respond to the needs of our community. Thank you for helping local families create stable homes and brighter futures.

"I went from being in prison last year to having my own place. Literally we'd be moving in right now with just blankets and pillows. So right now this is huge. It helps with my kids confidence that I can do things for them, that I can take care of them. It helps with everything. Just knowing that this part is taken care of, I can go to work now. And make sure we live life."

- Anthony (his kids are 16, 12, and 8)

