

## Economic Insecurity in Washington County – Fall 2003

### Washington County Between 1990 – 2000 *(Census data)*

- The county's population grew 43% (312,000 – 445,000)
- The poverty population grew 74% (18,700 – 32,500)
- The total % of people living in poverty grew from 6.5% to 7.7%
- The total % of minorities grew from 10% to 23%
- The Latino population increased 250%
- All other minorities, combined, increased 200%
- White population increased 25%

### United States Between 2000 – 2002

- The country's (US) population decreased by 881,876
- The poverty population grew 3% or 863,273
- The total % of people living in poverty maintained at 12%
- The total % of minorities decreased from 25% to 24%
- The Latino population maintained at 13%
- All other minorities, combined, increased from 18% to 20%
- White population increased from 75% to 76%

### Washington County Between 2000 – 2002

- The county's (Washington Co.) population grew 5% to 23,820
- The poverty population grew 36% to 11,623
- The total % of people living in poverty grew from 7% to 9%
- The total % of minorities grew from 18% to 20%
- The Latino population increased from 11% to 13%
- All other minorities, combined, increased from 7% to 8%
- White population decreased from 82% to 80%

### 2003 For a mother and two children (3):

- Welfare would pay \$6,036 if they have no work
- They would be able to receive about \$366/ month in food stamps (\$4,392 annually)
- Full time employment at minimum wage (\$6.90/hr) would gross \$14,352 annually
- The Federal poverty rate is \$15,260 annually or \$7.34/hr.
- To be eligible for LIEAP they can earn \$29,603 annually (\$14.23/hr) or 60% of median income
- To afford housing in Washington County they need to earn \$31,803 or \$15.29/hr

### In addition

- In 2002 154,000 people in Washington County filed income tax returns and 78,500 had incomes of less than \$30,000
- Eligibility for any public assistance is lost at \$13.57/hr (\$28,231 annual income) or 185% of poverty
- Families lose the following benefits when their income reaches the specified benchmarks:
  - Employment Related Day Care \$1,908 per month (\$22,896/yr)
  - Food Stamps \$2,316 per month (\$27,792/yr)
  - Section 8 \$2,467 per month (\$29,600/yr)
  - Oregon Health Plan \$2,316 per month (\$27,792/yr)

*Note: some of the families we serve are undocumented and may not be eligible to receive any of these benefits regardless of their income.*