



Washington County,

A GREAT PLACE  
TO SPEND  
THE SUMMER  
UNLESS.....

**.....YOU HAPPEN TO BE  
HUNGRY OR HOMELESS.  
THEN, IT'S NO PICNIC.**

The warm, lazy days of summer bring no vacation from poverty. Not even here in lush Washington County, the richest county in Oregon.

More than 30,000 of our neighbors grapple with the problems of poverty every day. Young and old, men, women and children, they often go without medical care or enough to eat. New shoes are a luxury they cannot afford. Some are even homeless.

For example, last year 4,124 homeless people sought help from Washington County Community Action's Housing and Emergency Services program. We were able to temporarily house 639 of these people - mostly families - at our Shelter Home in Hillsboro. **But four times that number were turned away because we didn't have the resources to help.**

Calls for all kinds of assistance have increased as the number of poor people in our county continues to grow - we expect that number to reach more than 34,000 by 1991. Yet, at the same time, federal and state dollars for human services have been cut drastically.

And so, we at Washington County Community Action must increasingly look to concerned people like you to help us lend a helping hand to our needy neighbors. We do this in a variety of ways:

- Through our Shelter Home for families and Emergency Services.
- Through Weatherizing of low income homes.
- Through Head Start for pre-schoolers and the Retired Senior Volunteer Program.
- Through loans of needed Medical Equipment (walkers, canes, wheelchairs, etc.) and educational workshops on Fair Housing.
- Through a volunteer-operated Transportation Service for seniors and the handicapped.
- Through the Tualatin Valley Food Center which coordinates the distribution of donated food throughout the county, including USDA Commodities and our recent migrant crisis.

**Many of these programs would not be possible without the volunteer time and financial assistance of private citizens like you. That's why we are asking for your help. Today.**

Poverty does not go away in the summertime.

Your donation of \$100, \$50, \$25, or whatever you can afford, is needed **right now.**

Please fill out the donation envelope directing Community Action to use your contribution for the service of your choice right here in Washington County.

You'll note that Community Action places a strong emphasis on self-help and self-sufficiency. In fact, we find that most needy people are not looking for a handout. They just need a hand-up.

So thanks for lending your hand. Your willingness to share will help make this a better summer for some of our less fortunate neighbors.

Sincerely,



Jerry Arnold  
WCCAO Board Chair

P.S. Remember, no gift is too small - and your contribution may be tax deductible. Thanks again for your help.