

**1978-79**  
**ANNUAL**  
**REPORT**



WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION ORGANIZATION  
245 S.E. 2nd  
HILLSBORO, OREGON 97123  
(503) 648-6646

*During Fiscal Year 1979, Washington County Community Action Organization strengthened its ability to positively impact the lives of low income people by improving both its programs and management capabilities, and by successfully influencing the State Legislature.*

*In spite of a significant reduction in CETA funding, all major programs continued at or above last year's levels. The only exception to the pattern was the Emergency Shelter House, whose operation was interrupted for several months because of the CETA cuts. The pause, however, seems to have turned out for the benefit of the Shelter House as Community Development Block Grant, United Way, County and City of Hillsboro monies, and a Jesuit Volunteer were obtained to help secure its ongoing operation.*

*Efforts to strengthen the Agency's Management capabilities centered on starting a 4 Year Planning Process, purchasing an office building, and improving our Zero Based Budget Process and Management By Objective program monitoring.*

*WCCAO's clients and staff assumed a leadership role in the '79 State Legislature which included focusing on passage of HB 2244, the tax credit for crop gleaning; HB 456, the Adult & Family Service Bilingual Bill; and the Executive Director's chairmanship of the CAP Director's Legislative Review Committee.*

*We are looking forward to FY 80 with great optimism and a commitment to further strengthen our ability to impact the lives of low income people. CETA funding should stabilize; funding from CSA, HEW, DOE and local government should increase; and, new funding will be coming from the Community Development Block Grant and United Way. We will be starting a Farmworker Housing Planning Effort, completing a study of the needs of the Chicano community, purchasing a house for the Emergency Shelter House, and again, expanding the Head Start program. Administratively, a multi-year planning process will be undertaken, program evaluations will be conducted and the purchase of the office building will be finalized.*

*We are proud of our accomplishments over the past year, and confident of our continued growth and development. We hope that we can continue to count on your cooperation and support.*

Sincerely,



Gordon J. Molitor  
Executive Director



Tom Clark  
WCCAO Board Chairman

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>I. PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS . . . . .</b>	<b>2</b>
Bilingual/Bicultural Program . . . . .	3
Community Food & Nutrition Program . . . . .	3
Dentures Program . . . . .	3
Emergency Assistance . . . . .	4
Emergency Shelter . . . . .	4
Energy Program . . . . .	4
Head Start . . . . .	4
Housing . . . . .	5
Retired Senior Volunteer Program . . . . .	5
Rural Awareness Project . . . . .	5
Summer Youth Program . . . . .	6
Volunteers in Service to America . . . . .	6
Welfare Hotline . . . . .	6
 <b>II. PROGRAM ACHIEVEMENTS . . . . .</b>	 <b>7</b>
Health . . . . .	8
Basic Material Needs . . . . .	9
Education . . . . .	11
Self Empowerment . . . . .	12
Advocacy . . . . .	14
 <b>III. FINANCIAL REPORT</b>	
Budget . . . . .	15
Source . . . . .	16
Economic Impact . . . . .	17

In addition to this Annual Report, interested persons may obtain our Program Directory and our Annual Audit.

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### *BILINGUAL/BICULTURAL PROGRAM*

There is a need for effective communication between public service agencies and non-English speaking persons in Washington County. This program examines the Social Service needs of low-income, non-English speaking persons. It provides translation services that allow low-income, non-English speaking individuals an opportunity to address their own needs.

...COMMUNICATION FOR  
NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS...

...IMPROVE NUTRITION  
AND REDUCE HUNGER...

### *COMMUNITY FOOD AND NUTRITION PROGRAM*

The Community Food and Nutrition Program consists of a number of activities that improve nutrition and reduce hunger among Washington County's poor.

A Crop Gleaning project provides fresh fruits and vegetables which have been donated by farmers.

Financial support is given to local food closets to distribute high protein foods to low-income persons.

The Community Food and Nutrition Program also advocates the needs of low-income persons before the State Legislature and other governmental bodies.

...DENTAL WORK FOR  
THE ELDERLY...

### *DENTURES PROGRAM*

The Dentures Program screens persons applying to the Washington County Dental Association for low-cost dentures.

The program also provides financial assistance to some elderly persons in need of dentures or dental work.

*EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE*

The Emergency Assistance Program helps low-income persons with emergency needs including food, heating fuel, medical and clothing.

... HELP WITH EMERGENCY  
NEEDS

*EMERGENCY SHELTER*

The Emergency Shelter House provides temporary housing for indigent persons without a place to stay. Assistance is provided to help these persons find permanent housing and employment.

This past year Shelter House staff were successful in obtaining \$103,000 from the Washington County Community Development Block Grant to purchase a new Shelter House. In addition, a commitment from United Way was obtained to subsidize the Shelter House program at the rate of \$20,000 per year.

... TEMPORARY HOUSING ...

... ENERGY-RELATED  
SERVICES

*ENERGY PROGRAM*

The Energy Program provides energy related services to elderly and low-income persons. The two services provided are weatherization and wood gleaning.

Weatherization consists of weather-stripping, installing vapor barriers, insulation and storm windows.

Wood gleaning is a project that stockpiles donated wood for use by low income residents. Priority is given to the elderly and handicapped.

This past year the Energy staff submitted a proposal to CETA to solarize as well as weatherize low-income homes.

... PRE-SCHOOL  
LEARNING ...

*HEAD START*

The Head Start Program involves four and five year old, low-income children in a pre-school learning experience that includes health care. A major emphasis is placed on parental involvement in the learning experience of the child.

Children attend a center-based program four days a week for two weeks and the teachers make regular home visits and arrange field trips.

...LOW - INCOME HOUSING...

*HOUSING PROGRAM*

The Housing Program focuses on acquiring available federal, state, and local monies for the construction or repair of low-income housing. In addition, tenant's rights information is distributed and low-income renters are assisted with landlord problems.

...TENANT'S RIGHTS...

...MEANINGFUL  
OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR THE RETIRED...

*RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM (RSVP)*

Career retirement combined with separation from family and loss of friends deprives older adults of contact and meaningful activities. The Retired Senior Volunteer Program helps people of retirement age recognize and develop personally satisfying roles in the community through volunteer services. Volunteer opportunities are arranged to match the interest, abilities and physical capacities of senior citizens. Volunteers work at publicly owned and operated facilities as well as local projects sponsored by non-profit organizations.

...INCREASING PUBLIC  
AWARENESS...

*RURAL AWARENESS PROJECT*

The Rural Awareness Project increases public awareness of problems facing low-income and minority persons. This is done through the publication of the bilingual (Spanish/English) "Rural Tribune," and by printing documents, flyers, announcements, and newsletters for low-income groups.

This past year, the Rural Awareness Project became independent of WCCAO. It is now a part of the recently incorporated Washington County Community Development Corporation, operating a Print Media Resource Center and the Bilingual Press Service.

### *SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM*

The Summer Youth Program helps finance recreational activities for low-income youth during the summer months. Camping, swimming, and gymnastics are examples of the kind of activities the children engage in.

... RECREATION FOR YOUTH ...

... VOLUNTEERS DEVELOP RESOURCES ...

### *VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE TO AMERICA (VISTA)*

The VISTA program places volunteers in a number of different agencies or activities that service low-income persons. Senior Centers, Head Start Centers, Migrant Farmworker Camps, are some of the places in Washington County where VISTAs help develop needed resources for low-income persons. This past year arrangements were completed to include Jesuit Volunteers as part of WCCAO's volunteer program.

... ADVOCATES FOR WELFARE RECIPIENTS ...

### *WELFARE HOTLINE*

The Welfare Hotline responds to questions and concerns regarding the Welfare program including Food Stamps. The Hotline staff acts as advocates for needed welfare policies. Testimony on Legislative issues dealing with Welfare at both the state and federal levels is prepared by the Hotline office. A "Welfare Rights Handbook" is made available to low-income persons.



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# HEALTH

*Programs contributing to the promotion and maintenance of mental and physical health.*

## PROGRAM

## 1978-79 ACHIEVEMENTS

### DENTURES PROGRAM

- 16 elderly persons were screened and awarded low-cost dentures.
- Financed the purchase of dentures for 10 elderly persons.

### HEAD START PROGRAM

- Provided outreach assistance to the County Health Department for the immunization of low-income children in Washington County.
- Provided health screening (medical and dental) and follow-up care to 162 low-income children.

### EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

- Provided \$139 in loans to low-income persons with emergency medical needs, e.g., money to buy needed medication.

# BASIC MATERIAL NEEDS

*Providing food, clothing, shelter, household goods, and transportation to low-income persons.*

## PROGRAM

## 1978-79 ACHIEVEMENTS

### COMMUNITY FOOD AND NUTRITION PROGRAM

- 65,106 pounds of food were gleaned from 40 farmers and distributed to 545 low-income persons. This is the equivalent of \$20,000 in food.
- 7,093 pounds of salvageable food, 288 cases of canned food and 795 loaves of bread were distributed to low-income persons. This is the equivalent of \$4,384 in food.
- High protein supplements were purchased for 1,010 emergency food baskets which were distributed to 3,325 low-income persons by local food closets. This is the equivalent of \$17,655 in food.

### EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

- Provided \$51,046 in loans for heating fuel, utilities, and rent to 1,590 low-income persons.
- Provided \$5,439 in food vouchers and loans to 921 low-income persons.
- Provided \$125 in clothing loans to 13 low-income individuals.

**EMERGENCY SHELTER**

- 256 low-income persons were provided shelter.

**ENERGY PROGRAM**

- Weatherized 180 low-income homes.
- Delivered 230 cords of wood to low-income families.

**HOUSING PROGRAM**

- Provided over 1,000 hours of staff time to Washington County for the successful acquisition of a \$1.9 million Community Development Block Grant to be used for low-income housing and social service projects.
- Established a Tenant's Rights Project that responded to 170 tenants calls, helped organize tenants groups and distributed 1,000 Tenant's Rights brochures.
- Established a Farmworker Housing Task Force and applied to the Washington County Community Development Block Grant Policy Board for funds to develop a comprehensive strategy to improve farmworker housing conditions.

**WELFARE HOTLINE**

- Contracted with the State of Oregon to provide a Food Stamp Mobile and two Spanish translators to work with the Washington County Food Stamp Office in meeting the needs of migrant farmworkers.
- Represented 10 clients at Fair Hearings on their federal basic needs subsidies.

# EDUCATION

*Providing educational opportunities to low-income persons.*

## PROGRAM

## 1978-79 ACHIEVEMENTS

### COMMUNITY FOOD & NUTRITION PROGRAM

- Provided financial assistance to Portland Community College for the implementation of a Migrant Nutrition Education Program which reached 82 migrant farmworkers in Washington County.

### HEAD START PROGRAM

- Provided 162 low-income families with a complete program of pre-school education including health care and parental counseling.
- Published a monthly newsletter for all the parents having children in the program.

### SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM

- Financed the involvement of 757 low-income youths in various summer recreation/education programs, e.g., camping, swimming, gymnastics.

# SELF EMPOWERMENT

*Enabling low-income persons to satisfy their own needs.*

## PROGRAM

## 1978-79 ACHIEVEMENTS

### BILINGUAL/BICULTURAL PROGRAM

- 376 written and oral translations were provided agencies including the Public Defener's Office, Courts, other social service agencies, Police Department, Neighborhood Organizations, and a number of low-income Spanish-speaking individuals.
- Translated an Automobile Handbook into Spanish. This book explains everything from how to obtain a driver's license to how to obtain car insurance.
- A Housing Handbook was translated into Spanish that explained everything from renter's rights to how to go about financing a home purchase.
- Provided technical assistance to Centro Cultural in drafting new organizational procedures. Centro Cultural is a non-profit corporation in Cornelius that services the needs of low-income Spanish-speaking persons.

### HEAD START PROGRAM

- Distributed a Social Services Directory to parents of children in the program.
- Involved 110 parents in helping in the classroom, fundraising, helping the health coordinator, and serving on the Policy Council.

## RURAL AWARENESS PROJECT

- WCCAO contributed \$1,700 to establish a bilingual (Spanish/English) newspaper at the newly formed Washington County Community Development Corporation.
- 10 issues of the Spanish/English newspaper “The Rural Tribune” were published with a circulation of 10,000 copies.
- Assisted the Colegio Cesar Chavez in starting a bilingual newspaper.

## RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM (RSVP)

- 426 Senior Citizen Volunteers donated 181,476 hours of service to schools, health projects, and food drives. Using the minimum wage, this translates into \$526,280 of service to Washington County.
- Grandma’s Corner, a store selling items handmade by Senior Citizens, continued to receive support from the RSVP program. Besides selling handmade items by Senior Citizens, the store serves as a social gathering place for Seniors.

## VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE TO AMERICA (VISTA)

- WCCAO-placed VISTAs:
- Assisted the development of an educational demonstration project on methods for crop gleaning, growing vegetables, and the low-cost purchasing and preservation of food.
  - Helped develop a parent-child resource center to serve low-income families (156 families served).
  - Wrote and printed a brochure on legal rights and services for farmworkers.
  - Organized a group of 20 volunteers to aid battered women who seek shelter and support.

## WELFARE HOTLINE

- Responded to 1,544 client calls.

# ADVOCACY

*Advocating policy or resource allocation changes that would benefit the poor.*

## PROGRAM

## 1978-79 ACHIEVEMENTS

### BILINGUAL/BICULTURAL PROGRAM

- A survey of the Social Service needs of Spanish-speaking persons in Washington County was partially completed (80 interviews completed).
- Clients and staff participated in the successful passage of Oregon Senate Bill 456 which requires Adult and Family Services to provide bilingual caseworkers and materials.

### EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND ENERGY PROGRAMS

- Clients and staff participated in the successful effort to obtain the passage of Oregon House Bill 2661. This Bill gives the Public Utilities Commissioner the power to prohibit utility cut-offs.

### COMMUNITY FOOD AND NUTRITION PROGRAM

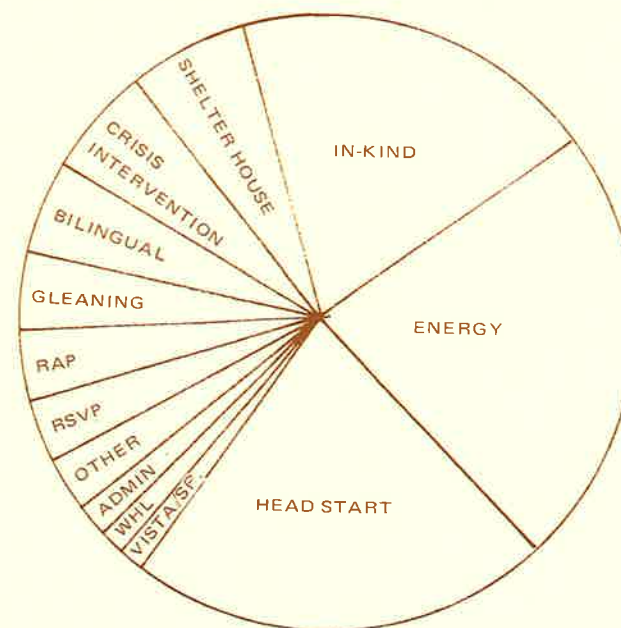
- Clients and staff participated in the successful passage of Oregon House Bill 2255, which gives tax credits to farmers who donate part of their crops to low-income persons and limits gleaner and donor liability.
- Clients and staff provided information and assistance to U.S. Congress on the development of a National Crop Gleaning Bill.
- Clients participated in a food stamp meeting at the State Capital which resulted in the Governor initiating a statewide food drive for low-income persons.

### WELFARE HOTLINE

- Clients and staff provided testimony at legislative hearings in favor of paying 100% of State Sub-sistence Standards to qualified low-income persons.

# 1978-79 BUDGET

PROGRAM	BUDGET	PERCENTAGE
Energy	\$228,987.00	23.16%
Head Start	\$201,347.00	20.36%
In-Kind	\$179,793.00	18.19%
Shelter House	\$61,742.00	6.25%
Crisis Intervention	\$60,000.00	6.06%
Bilingual	\$53,101.00	5.38%
RAP	\$40,395.00	4.09%
Gleaning/CFNP	\$39,555.00	4.01%
Other Programs	\$34,493.00	3.48%
R.S.V.P.	\$31,924.00	3.23%
Administration	\$25,340.00	2.57%
Welfare Hotline	\$18,055.00	1.83%
VISTA/Senior	\$13,820.00	1.39%
	<b>\$988,552.00</b>	<b>100%</b>



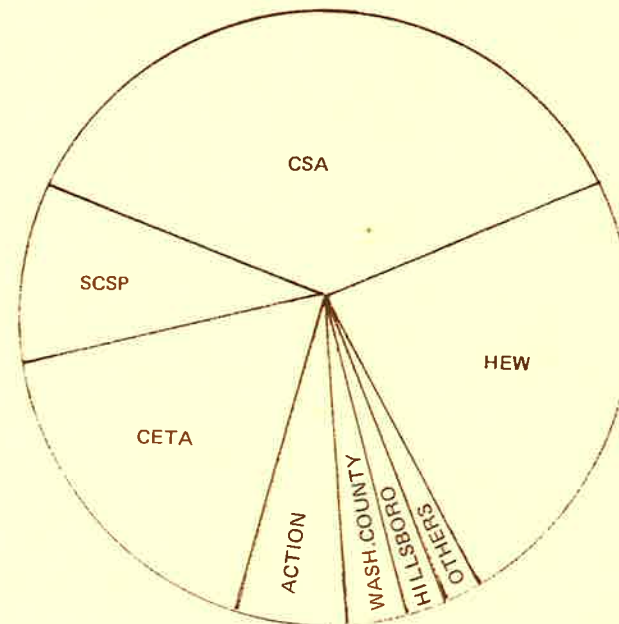


# 1978-79 BUDGET SOURCE

SOURCE	FEDERAL SHARE	LOCAL SHARE	TOTAL <sup>1</sup>	%
CSA	\$292,170.00	\$62,109.00	\$354,279.00	25.9%
HEW	\$201,347.00	\$55,659.00	\$257,006.00	26.0%
CETA <sup>2</sup>	\$179,291.00	—0—	\$179,291.00	18.1%
SCSP	\$94,389.00	—0—	\$94,389.00	9.5%
ACTION	\$40,767.00	\$15,851.00	56,618.00	5.7%
Washington County	—0—	\$24,000.00	\$24,000.00	2.4%
City of Hillsboro	—0—	\$14,400.00	\$14,400.00	1.5%
Other	\$795.00	\$7,774.00	\$8,569.00	0.9%
	\$808,759.00	\$179,793.00	\$988,552.00	100%

1) All figures unaudited

2) Approximate figures



**1978-79**

**WCCAO**

**ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:**

**\$ 2,965,656 TO THE WASHINGTON COUNTY ECONOMY**

**2,500 LOW-INCOME FAMILIES SERVED**

**118 PEOPLE EMPLOYED**

\*Money spent in Washington County's Economy has a multiplying effect. Economists estimate the multiplier to be between 3 and 7. The most conservative figure, 3, indicates that Washington County Community Action Organization contributed \$3 million to the County's economy in 1978-79.