

**Communnity Action Advisory Board  
Program Summary Report 2016-2017**

Provider	Program	Outcomes	Annual Proposed	YTD	Budget	YTD	% Spent
<b>211info</b>	<b>211info Specialist</b>	Individuals have increased awareness of services via telephone	6,200	1485	\$64,000	\$16,000	25%
Provides free and easy access to referrals for food, shelter, housing, foreclosure assistance, health care, and more.		Individuals have increased awareness of services via website	8,000	1499			
		Number of Clark County calls received	7,130	2028			
<b>Columbia River Mental Health Services</b>	<b>Hopechange Employment Navigator</b>	Individuals received direct job placement	25	5	\$107,000	\$25,405	24%
Supported employment for individuals with a disability.		Individuals completed employment training	40	17			
		Individuals maintained employment for at least 90 days	6	0			
<b>Community Housing Resource Center</b>	<b>Families to Financial Self-Sufficiency</b>	Increased understanding of credit reports	500	38	\$60,000	\$10,924	18%
Provides financial education and counseling to reduce financial barriers and increase housing stability.		Improved understanding of debtor legal rights	500	38			
		Credit Rating improves	85	20			
<b>Community Services NW</b>	<b>SOAR</b>	Community-wide SOAR apps supported	30	5	\$65,000	\$20,468	31%
Administers the local SOAR program and helps individuals who are homeless apply for SSI/SSDI using the SOAR process.		SOAR applications filed	20	5			
		SOAR participant housing stabilizes and income increases	20	5			
<b>Council for the Homeless</b>	<b>Community Plannig</b>				\$100,000	\$25,581	26%
Facilitates the Coalition of Service Providers, homeless task force meetings and the annual point-in-time count. Full responsibility for the annual HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) grant.							
<b>Council for the Homeless</b>	<b>Housing Solutions Center</b>	Households are assessed for housing programs	1,000	280	\$277,400	\$53,834	19%
Assesses the housing stability needs of households who are homeless or at-risk and connects them to emergency shelter, rapid re-housing and other housing programs.		Households are placed in housing programs*	200	82			
		Households are diverted from the system through navigation	60	18			
<b>Council for the Homeless</b>	<b>HMIS</b>	System Data Quality average is above an A	94% = A	94.46%	\$60,000	\$16,350	27%
Funds the data collection system of all publically funded homeless and community action programs. Collects for assessment and analysis of needs and services.							
<b>Impact NW</b>	<b>Rapid Re-housing Program</b>	Households served & housed within 30 days of program entry	2	0	\$16,265	\$890	5%
Provides rapid re-housing assistance for households who are literally homeless.		Households exit to permanent housing	2	0			
		Households do not re-entry w/i 6 mos of program exit	2	0			
<b>Impact NW</b>	<b>Permanent Supportive Housing</b>	Households served	3	1	\$52,000	\$4,617	9%
Provides permanent supportive housing for people who are highly vulnerable, have a disability and have been homeless for an extended period of time.		Households maintain or increase income	3	2			
		Households remain housed for one year	2	0			
<b>Janus Youth Programs</b>	<b>The Oaks Shelters</b>	Youth received emergency temporary shelter	325	80	\$53,500	\$8,560	16%
Shelter services for youth who are single and homeless provided at two locations.		Youth received independent life skills	315	73			
		Youth continued education through onsite tutoring	50	15			
<b>Janus Youth Programs</b>	<b>The Perch</b>	Youth connected to mainstream resources	200	42	\$70,000	\$19,345	28%
Funds the drop-in center for youth (ages 16- 24) who are homeless.		Youth obtain employment	15	4			
		Youth obtain permanent housing	20	3			
<b>Janus Youth Programs</b>	<b>The Nest Rapid Re-housing Program</b>	Households served & housed w/i 30 days of program entry	5	1	\$58,334	\$17,880	31%
Provides rapid re-housing assistance for youth headed households.		Households exit to permanent housing	4	0			
		Households do not re-entry w/i 6 mos of program exit**	4	1			
<b>Partners in Careers</b>	<b>Career Academy</b>	Individuals were unemployed and obtained a job	72	0	\$100,000	\$4,553	5%
Employment services and supports using a two-generation approach.		Individuals increased employment income	96	0			
		Youth participants graduated from school	45	0			

\* Dependent on housing program capacity.

\*\* This outcome includes households entering the program from previous years.

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<b>The Salvation Army</b>	<b>Emergency Funds for Dislocated Families</b>	Households received emergency rent assistance		0	\$5,000	\$0	0%
Assistance to renters evicted due to building safety violations.							
<b>Second Step Housing</b>	<b>Resident Sufficiency Program</b>	Households served	20	6	\$70,000	\$17,111	24%
Supported housing with case management for persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.		Households exit to permanent housing	15	1			
		Households do not re-entry w/i 6 mos of program exit**	15	3			
<b>Share (6/30/15-6/30-16)</b>	<b>Rent Well 2015</b>				\$30,000	\$29,365	98%
Administers the community-wide Rent Well tenant education program and landlord guarantee by supporting instructors and sustaining the program infrastructure.							
<b>Share</b>	<b>Hunger Response</b>	Individuals received hot meals	3,000	1075	\$65,000	\$16,234	25%
Provides meals to the public (Hot Meals), weekend food packages for students (Backpack), and breakfast/lunch for children in the summer (Summer Meals).		Students served throught the Backpack program***	2,000	359			
		Summer breakfast/lunches provided through Summer Meals	25,000	0			
<b>Share</b>	<b>Individual Development Accounts (IDA)</b>	Individuals enrolled and made a deposit	46	25	\$65,000	\$15,726	24%
Structured savings program to promote self-sufficiency and moving out of poverty. Savings used for home purchase, education, or starting a business.		Participants increased their savings through IDA	46	88			
		Households who purchased an asset this contract year**	13	5			
<b>Share</b>	<b>Shelter System</b>	Individuals are provided shelter	1,400	547	\$514,682	\$226,801	44%
Supports year-round emergency shelter at three facilities and winter shelter at two sites from November through March.		Households move into permanent housing	250	34			
		<b>Share</b>	<b>Rent Well 2016</b>	Certified Rent Well instructors	15	0	\$26,500
Administers the community-wide Rent Well tenant education program and landlord guarantee by supporting instructors and sustaining the program infrastructure.		Students receive Rent Well certificates	100	98			
		Students reports increased knowledge	85	98			
<b>Share</b>	<b>Lincoln Place (opened Feburary 2016)</b>	Individuals are stably housed for 6 mos	25	0	\$83,000	\$19,585	24%
Supports the operation of a permanent supportive housing, housing first model building for individuals who are highly vulnerable and living on the streets.		Individuals are stably housed for one year	22	0			
		Individuals maintain or increase income	25	0			
<b>Share</b>	<b>Day Center</b>	Individuals receive housing case management support	50	8	\$122,500	\$40,647	33%
Supports the operation of a day center for people who are homeless. The center provides a safe, supportive environment with a focus on meeting basic needs.		Individuals decrease barriers to housing	45	1			
		Individuals obtain housing	25	2			
<b>Share</b>	<b>Bridging the Gap</b>	Households served	3	2	\$48,000	\$15,533	32%
Engages individuals who are chronically homeless to understand their needs and permanently house them through a Housing First model.		Households maintain or increase income	3	2			
		Households remain housed for one year**	2	3			
<b>Volunteer Lawyers Program</b>	<b>Access to Justice</b>	Individuals resolve legal issues	100	20	\$75,000	\$17,842	24%
Supports a variety of legal assistance for people who are low-income and/or homeless, including Homeless Court, legal clinics and self-help assistance.		Individuals facing eviction do not enter homeless system	50	8			
<b>YWCA</b>	<b>SafeChoice Domestic Violence Program</b>	Individuals received emergency shelter services	115	30	\$101,274	\$26,125	26%
24-hour crisis line, shelter, and advocacy for survivor's of domestic violence and their families.		Individuals received domestic violence legal advocacy	500	113			
		Households exit to safe and stable housing	40	4			

\*\* This oucome includes households entering the program from previous years.

\*\*\* The Share Backpack program reports on the school year. Only new participants are identified in future quarters.

**Communnity Action Advisory Board  
Program Summary Report 2016-2017**

**CHG**

Provider	Program	Outcomes	Annual Proposed	YTD	Budget	YTD	% Spent
<b>Council for the Homeless</b>	<b>Emergency Motel Vouchers</b>	Households receive motel vouchers	15	10	\$10,000	\$2,293	23%
Provide temporary hotel/motel vouchers for households who are unable to stay in an emergency shelter or have been identified as needing shelter by the law enforcement.		Number of motel voucher nights	40	18			
<b>Impact NW</b>	<b>TANF Rapid Re-housing Program</b>	Households Served and housed w/i 30 days of entry	5	0	\$38,735	\$1,598	4%
Provides rapid re-housing assistance for households who are literally homeless and receiving TANF.		Households exit to permanent housing	4	0			
		Households do not re-entry w/i 6 mos of program exit	3	0			
<b>Janus Youth Programs</b>	<b>Alliance Program</b>	Households Served and housed w/i 30 days of entry	3	2	\$41,669	\$11,373	27%
Provides rapid re-housing assistance for individuals or parents under the age of 25, who are literally homeless and receiving TANF.		Households exit to permanent housing	3	1			
		Households do not re-entry w/i 6 mos of program exit**	2	1			
<b>Share (1/1/2016-6/30/2016)</b>	<b>Housing &amp; Essential Needs (HEN)</b>	Households increase housing stability	250	167	\$690,746	\$193,190	28%
Provides rent assistance and essential needs for persons who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness and deemed eligible for HEN by DSHS.		Households receive essential need items	150	98			
					----- 6 month contract		
<b>Share</b>	<b>ASPIRE Permanent Supportive Housing</b>	Households served	18	14	\$200,000	\$57,251	29%
Provides permanent supportive housing to households who are literally homeless with high housing barriers and someone with a disability.		Households maintain or increase income	15	13			
		Households remain housed for one year**	15	14			

\*\* This outcome includes households entering the program from previous years.

**ESG**

Provider	Program	Outcomes	Annual Proposed	YTD	Budget (18 months)	YTD	% Spent
<b>Share (1/1/2015-5/31/2016)</b>	<b>ASPIRE PROS</b>	Households served	45	56	\$288,735	\$233,744	81%
Provides rapid re-housing and prevention assistance to households who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness.		Households maintain housing for 6 mos**	42	44			
		Households maintain housing for 1 year**	38	36			
<b>Share (1/1/2016-6/30/2017)</b>	<b>Prevention Program</b>	Households increase income	19	0	\$277,500	\$0	0%
Provides rent assistance, eviction prevention services, and other supports to prevent homelessness for households at-risk of homelessness.		Households exit to permanent housing	20	0			
		Households do not re-entry w/i 6 mos of program exit**	18	0			
<b>Share (1/1/2016-6/30/2017)</b>	<b>FAST Rapid Re-housing Program</b>	Households increase income	23	0	\$255,000	\$12,858	5%
Provides rapid re-housing assistance for households who are literally homeless.		Households exit to permanent housing	24	0			
		Households do not re-entry w/i 6 mos of program exit**	21	0			

\*\* This outcome includes households entering the program from previous years.

# MEMO

TO: Community Action Advisory Board

FROM: Samantha Whitley

RE: Emergency Food and Shelter Program

DATE: June 30, 2016

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On May 25, 2016, Clark County was notified by the National Emergency Food and Shelter Program that we were not awarded an allocation for Phase 33 EFSP formula funds. The program allocates funding based on number of people who are unemployed, the unemployment rate and the poverty rate.

To be awarded formula funding, a county must meet the minimum in two out of three categories. The minimum formula requirements and Clark County's numbers are shown below:

<b>FORMULA (in order for a jurisdiction to qualify):</b>	<b>Phase 33</b>
300 persons unemployed minimum 7.6% unemployment rate minimum or 17.6% poverty rate minimum	15,280 persons unemployed 7.3% unemployment rate (did not meet threshold) 11.8% poverty rate (did not meet threshold)

The National Board advised that Clark County may be able to receive funding through the Washington State Set Aside Committee. Jim Cooper, with United Way of Washington has been contacted multiple times to inquire about how Clark County may receive funding but he has been unresponsive to date. We do not know what funding might be available or when that funding might be available. As soon as further information about Phase 33 funding is provided, the CAAB will be updated and asked to make an allocation decision.

Thank you!





proud past, promising future

## NEWS RELEASE

June 30, 2016

Contact: Rebecca Royce, Community Services  
(360) 397-2075 ext. 7863; [rebecca.royce@clark.wa.gov](mailto:rebecca.royce@clark.wa.gov)

### **County seeks applicants for Community Action Advisory Board**

Vancouver, WA – The county manager is seeking applicants for a low-income representative opening on the Community Action Advisory Board (CAAB). The opening is for CAAB District 2, which is roughly east of Interstate 205 between 18<sup>th</sup> and 99<sup>th</sup> streets and roughly east of 164<sup>th</sup> Avenue from south of 159<sup>th</sup> Street to the Columbia River.

The term of the vacant seat is through Dec. 31, 2018, with the opportunity for re-appointment to two additional three-year terms. Applicants may not be employed by Clark County or a board member of an agency receiving money administered by the advisory board. Reasonable expenses such as childcare costs or transportation may be reimbursable for this position.

The nine-member board makes recommendations regarding local government funding for basic and essential housing, health and safety needs. The board also financially supports programs that remove obstacles to self-sufficiency for low-income communities, families and individuals.

Clark County encourages people with diverse backgrounds, experiences and perspectives to apply.

People interested must submit an application, resume and nomination letter. For details, go to [clark.wa.gov/community-services/community-action-advisory-board](http://clark.wa.gov/community-services/community-action-advisory-board) or contact Rebecca Royce, Clark County Community Services, P.O. Box 5000, Vancouver 98666-5000 or [rebecca.royce@clark.wa.gov](mailto:rebecca.royce@clark.wa.gov).

Deadline is Friday, July 29.

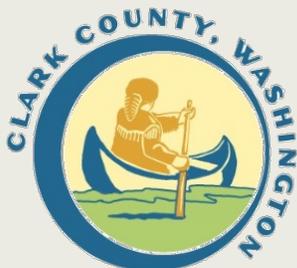
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# CLARK COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM



2015 Share Hunger Response Hot Meals Program

## 2015 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



# CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COUNCILORS

Marc Boldt, Chair

Jeanne Stewart, District 1

Julie Olson, District 2

David Madore, District 3

Tom Mielke, District 4

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends of Community Action:

Clark County has nearly 55,000 individuals in poverty. The Department of Community Services has been working to better coordinate and integrate health and human services through Early Adopter for full Medicaid integration to improve people's physical and social well-being. The Department partners with several nonprofit organizations to provide programs that help families attain economic security. The following are two examples of the extensive programs that serve those most in need:

- The Homeless Employment Navigator program through Columbia River Mental Health Services works with people experiencing homelessness to gain employment by providing employment focused supports. Individuals receive employment and educational training plans, vocational assessments and resume development. Of the 100 individuals assisted in 2015, all obtained skills required for employment, 62 obtained employment with 45 of those individuals maintaining employment for at least 90 days; and,
- The Share, Salvation Army and Janus Youth Ending Family Homelessness programs served 50 households with rent assistance and supportive services. All families were recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and were supported through a collaboration of service providers including Partners in Careers, WorkSource, YWCA, DSHS and school district homeless liaisons. Over 92% of the households maintained housing stability for at least six months.

The Community Action Program conducts a Community Needs Assessment (CNA) every three years to better understand the service gaps and common challenges in the community for funding prioritization. The CNA includes information about the current demographics of people living below the Federal Poverty Limit, an analysis of the causes and conditions of poverty, and community feedback via a Survey of Needs completed by people who are low-income. The next CNA will be conducted during the summer of 2016 and we hope you will participate.

Thanks to the volunteers and staff of the many organizations that collaborate with Community Action, we continue to provide innovative services to improve the lives of those in our community.

Sincerely,



Vanessa R. Gaston, Director  
Clark County Department of Community Services



# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Community Action Advisory Board.....	4
2015 Board Members .....	4
From the Board Chair .....	4
Community Action.....	5
Funding.....	6
Access .....	8
Health.....	10
Housing.....	11
Safety .....	15
Self-Sufficiency .....	17
Poverty in Clark County.....	19
Community Data .....	22
Partnerships .....	24
Contact Information .....	25

## **COMMUNITY ACTION ADVISORY BOARD**

The [Community Action Advisory Board](#) (CAAB) is comprised of nine members representing a cross-section of the community. Board members include citizens who are low-income or have experienced poverty, elected public officials, and representatives from the private sector.

The Advisory Board conducts a Needs Assessment and Survey of Needs to provide direction for making recommendations for funding programs sponsored by community-based organizations. All services funded through the CAAB must address essential human needs and assist in moving people towards self-sufficiency.

### **2015 BOARD MEMBERS**

#### **Elected Officials:**

Mavis Nickels, District 1  
Julie Rotz, District 2  
Anne McEnery-Ogle, District 3

#### **Citizen Representatives:**

Melodie Pazolt, District 1  
Armando Herrera, District 2  
Paula Martin, District 3

#### **Representatives of the Low-Income Community:**

Lydia Sanders, District 1  
Jessica Ghiglieri, District 2  
Sheree Thun, District 3

### **FROM THE BOARD CHAIR**

Dear Friends of Community Action:

The CAAB works in conjunction with staff to address the causes of poverty in Clark County. Every attempt is made to remove barriers to self-sufficiency. With limited resources and an abundance of challenges, the CAAB, with excellent staff support, has been successful at identifying programs that assist with meeting basic needs such as food and shelter. By utilizing innovative models of support service and best practices such as Trauma Informed Care, the CAAB and Clark County Department of Community Services staff has been able to make programs available that address long-term, multi-generational poverty.

The Report to the Community provides information that will increase the public's awareness of poverty related issues in Clark County. I wish to thank County staff for their support and hard work on behalf of the Board and all residents of Clark County.

Sincerely,  
Lydia Sanders, Chair  
2015 Community Action Advisory Board



## **COMMUNITY ACTION**

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.

Source: Community Action Partnership

Objectives of the Clark County Community Action Program:

- To promote institutional and community changes which address the causes of poverty, and to remove barriers to self-sufficiency faced by low-income communities, families, and individuals;
- To reduce the impact of poverty on communities, families, and individuals by providing resources for services which are responsive to their needs;
- To promote innovative approaches to addressing the causes and impacts of poverty in the community;
- To serve as a catalyst for community efforts to leverage additional resources which address the causes and impacts of poverty; and
- To make recommendations or take other action on any other subject as referred by the Commissioners or jointly by the Commissioners and one or more city governments.

Source: Clark County Community Action Advisory Board By-laws



# **FUNDING**

Clark County's Community Action Program is comprised of many funding sources focused on providing services to households with moderate, low, and very low incomes.

## **Local**

Clark County receives local funding from property taxes and document recording fees. Local funding is dedicated for specific types of programs that aim to end homelessness and support domestic violence survivors.

- House Bill (HB) 2060 Document Recording Fee
- House Bill (HB) 2163 Document Recording Fee
- House Bill (HB) 1359 Document Recording Fee
- Human Services Fund
- Marriage License Fee

## **State**

The Washington State Department of Commerce provides funding to the County for programs that help end homelessness and meet community members' basic needs.

- Consolidated Homeless Grant (CHG)
- Community Services Block Grant-State (CSBG-State)

## **Federal**

Clark County receives grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Services include rental assistance, development of affordable housing, energy assistance, home weatherization, and self-sufficiency programs.

- Community Services Block Grant-Federal (CSBG-Federal)
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Weatherization (WX)

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### The Value of Volunteers

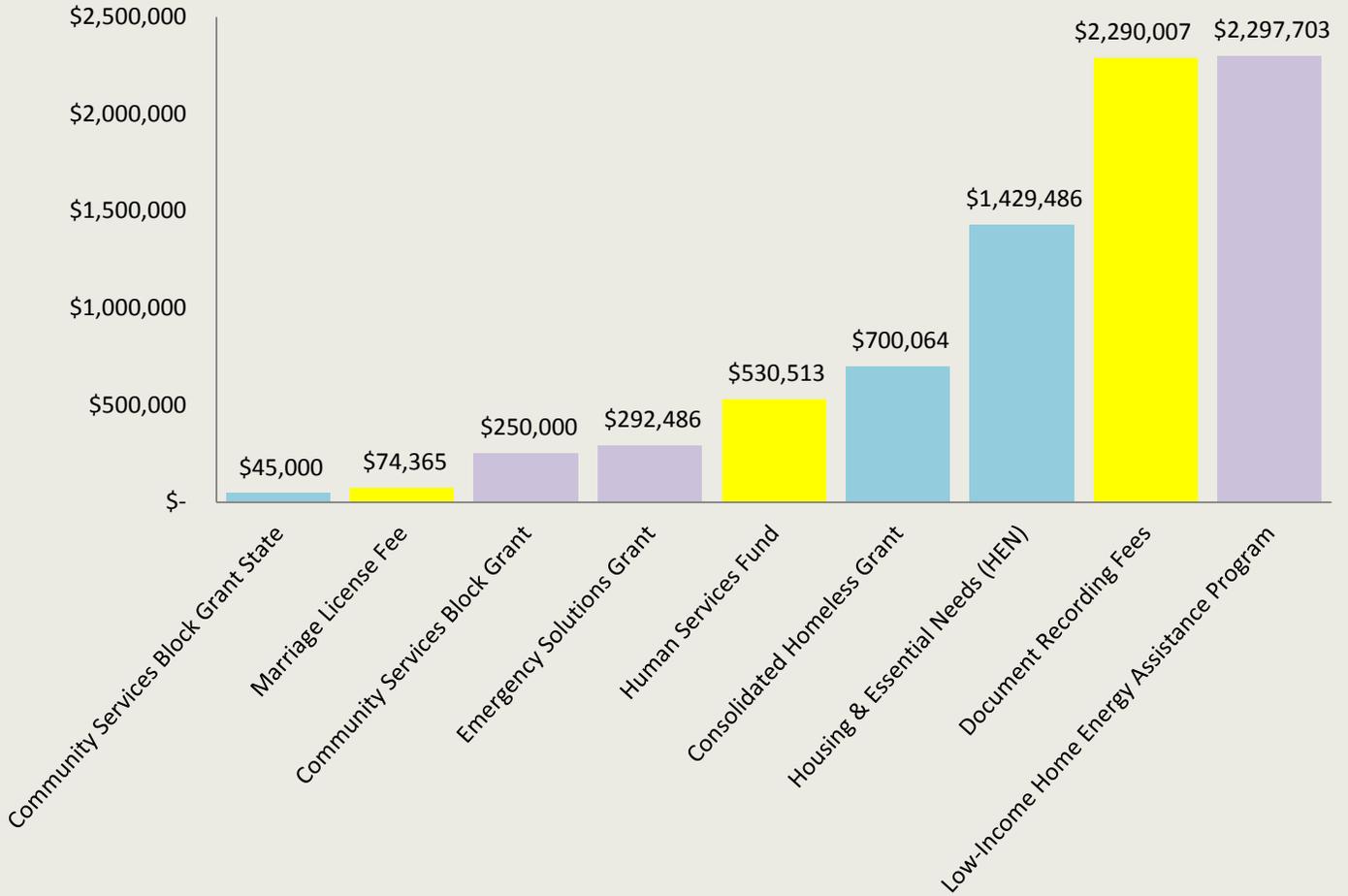
The Clark County Community Action Program had 28 individuals who are low-income participate in formal community boards or provide input on decision-making and policy-setting through Community Action efforts.

In 2015, programs funded through Community Action utilized nearly 55,665 volunteer hours to help operate their programs. This is equivalent to 27 full-time positions at a value of nearly \$1.3 million.

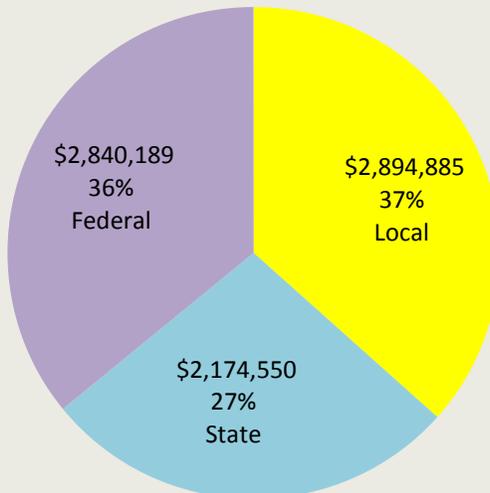
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## FUNDING (continued)

### 2015 Community Action Funding



### 2015 Funding Sources



## ACCESS

Navigating complex systems can be challenging. The following programs provide guidance to households seeking services.

### Community Education

- Community Housing Resource Center, Foreclosure Assistance Program
- Rent Well Tenant Education

### Information and Referral

- 211 info

### Homeless Services

- Council for the Homeless, Housing Solution Center (HSC)
- Janus Youth Programs, The Perch
- Janus Youth Programs, Yellow Brick Road
- Share, Bridging the Gap

### Targeted Populations

- Community Services Northwest, SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR)

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#### Success Story

When “Shannon” met staff at the Council for the Homeless Housing Solutions Center (HSC) she was living doubled up at a friend’s home with her adult daughter and her grandchild. With over ten people in a two bedroom home, the housing situation was not sustainable and Shannon and her family needed to move out. Shannon was struggling to find housing rental options because of owed debt to a landlord and a poor credit report. The HSC connected Shannon to the Community Housing Resource Center (CHRC) who helped her negotiate the landlord and credit debt down, then pay off the debts using private funds. Once the housing barriers were resolved the HSC helped Shannon identify leads on apartments to rent and strategies to successfully rent in a tight market. Now, after pooling resources she and her two kids, plus her granddaughter are living together in a stable housing situation.

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In 2015, the Washington State minimum wage was **\$9.47** per hour.

However, the living wage for a single adult with one child was

**\$24.30.**

Sources:  
Washington State  
Department of Labor &  
Industries

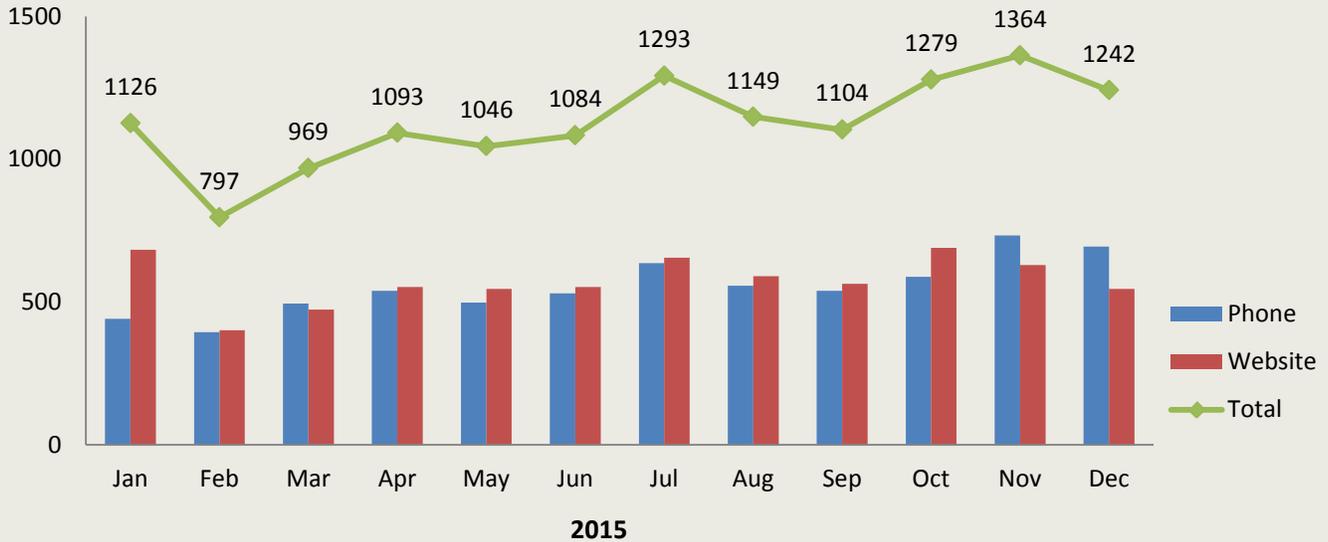
U.S. Dept. of Labor  
Bureau of Labor Statistics  
(calculated using CPI for 2<sup>nd</sup>  
half of 2015).

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## ACCESS (continued)

### 211info Contacts

Clark County Social Services' Information and Referral Source



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### The Housing Solutions Center (HSC)

The HSC was created in 2013 to serve as the community's coordinated entry and assessment response to homelessness. The HSC assesses the housing barriers for those needing housing and places them in the most appropriate type of assistance, when available.

Over the course of 2015, the HSC screened 3,321 households for eligibility and placement in 38 different housing and shelter programs. Based on the screenings, the HSC placed 1,178 households in emergency shelter, 206 households in short-term motels, and 616 households into rent assistance housing programs.

The housing navigation focus of the HSC, which helps people connect to mainstream resources in the community, like behavioral health support, DSHS assistance and/or clothing, served 799 households. In addition, 157 households were stably housed as a result of their work with the navigation program.

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## HEALTH

Clark County's Community Action Program supports programs promoting good health. According to the last Community Action Survey of Needs conducted in 2013, respondents indicated that food and dental services were the top two community needs.

### **Food Assistance**

- Clark County Food Pantries
- Clark County Food Bank, Fresh Alliance
- Share, Backpack Program
- Share, Hot Meals
- Share, Summer SLAM

### **Dental Services**

- New Day Dental, First Impressions

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In 2015, the Clark County Food Bank distributed **5 million** meals to **28,000** families through a network of **34** partner agencies. Of those receiving food, **36%** were children and **18%** were seniors.

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### Success Story

New Day Dental provides free dental services in partnership with the Free Clinic of Southwest Washington for people in search of employment and working with local employment programs. "Jessica" is a single mother of seven who had severe decay and chipping of her front tooth causing her to lack confidence in public. Once her dental needs were met, Jessica was able to secure full time employment as a Certified Nursing Assistant making \$11.10 per hour.

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Source:  
Clark County Food Bank

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## HOUSING

Housing assistance is provided through several types of programs: emergency shelter/motel vouchers, transitional housing, prevention, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing. Each program targets a specific demographic of those in need, but all must meet strict income and housing status guidelines.

### **Emergency Shelter/Motel Vouchers**

Emergency shelters provide congregate living facilities where households may reside for up to 90 days. Motel vouchers provide up to 90 nights of shelter in a local motel for highly vulnerable households.

- Council for the Homeless Housing Solutions Center, Coordinated Motel Vouchers Program
- Janus Youth, The Oaks Shelters
- Share, Emergency Shelters (Share Orchards Inn, Share Homestead, Share House)
- YWCA, SafeChoice Domestic Violence Shelter
- Winter Hospitality Overflow (WHO)

### **Transitional Housing**

Transitional housing provides a congregate or single unit living facility where households may reside for up to 24 months.

- Second Step Housing, Resident Self-Sufficiency Program

### **Prevention**

Prevention programs provide rent assistance and supportive services to households who are at-risk of homelessness to prevent them from becoming homeless. Households assisted include those who have three-day pay or vacate notices or those who are couch-surfing with family or friends. Assistance is provided for up to 24 months.

- Impact Northwest, Homelessness Prevention & Stabilization Program
- Janus Youth, Bridges Program
- The Salvation Army, Moving Forward Together Program
- The Salvation Army, Dislocated Families Fund
- Share, Prevention Re-Housing Options for Self-Sufficiency (PROS) Program
- Share, Fresh Approach to Stable Transitions (FAST) Program
- Share, Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Program

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In September 2015, the Clark County rental vacancy rate was **3.5%**.

This compares to Washington State's vacancy rate of **3.4%**.

The Fair Market rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Clark County was **\$944**.

Sources:  
Runstad Center for Real Estate Studies, University of Washington, WA Apartment Market, Fall 2015

U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development (HUD), <https://www.clark.wa.gov/site/all/files/community-services/HOME/2015IncomeandRentLimitswithutilityallowance.pdf>

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## HOUSING (continued)

### **Rapid Re-housing (RRH)**

Rapid re-housing (RRH) programs provide rent assistance and supportive services to households who are homeless. The programs move households into stable housing and assist them for up to 24 months. Households assisted include those who are living in cars, on the street, in places not meant for habitation, or in emergency shelters.

- Community Services NW, Re-Entry Housing Program
- Janus Youth, The Alliance Project
- Janus Youth, The Nest Program
- The Salvation Army, Ending Family Homelessness (EFH) Program
- Share, Prevention Re-Housing Options for Self-Sufficiency (PROS) Program
- Share, Ending Family Homelessness (EFH) Program
- Share, Ending Family Homelessness (EFH) Match Program
- Share, Fresh Approach to Stable Transitions (FAST) Program
- Share, Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Program

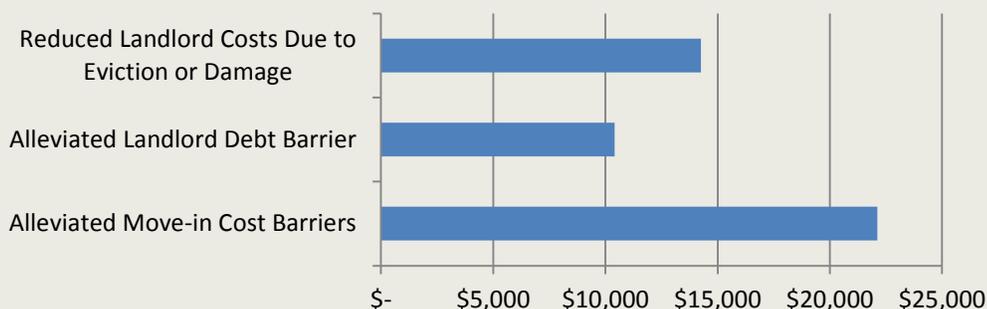
### **Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)**

Permanent supportive housing (PSH) programs provide long-term, non-time limited, scattered-site or site-based housing with ongoing supportive services for households who are most vulnerable and have living on the streets for an extended period of time. Vulnerabilities may include serious mental health symptoms, co-occurring disorders, and chronic health challenges. Many people served through PSH are chronically homeless.

- Community Services NW, Re-Entry Permanent Supportive Housing Program
- Community Services NW, Welcome Home Program
- Share, ASPIRE Program
- Share, Bridging the Gap Program

### **Landlord Risk Mitigation Funds**

A Landlord Risk Mitigation Fund has been provided to each agency that provides County-funded Prevention, RRH, and/or PSH programs to households who are at-risk of homelessness or are homeless. Landlord Risk Mitigation Funds must be used as a tool to increase or sustain the number of housing options for program-eligible households with multiple barriers to obtain stable housing.



## HOUSING (continued)

### Vacancy Rate and Average Rent (2 Bed/1 Bath units)

Vancouver, WA 2004-2014



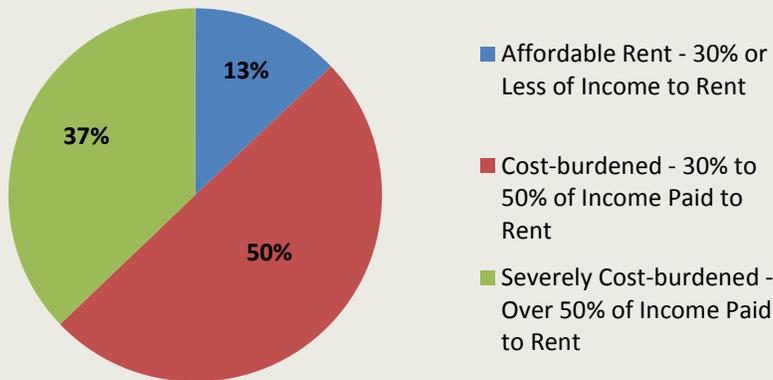
Source: Norris, Beggs & Simpson, Multifamily Reports



From 2013-2015, rents increased an average of 42%

### 2015 Clark County Renters 0% - 50% Area Median Income (AMI)

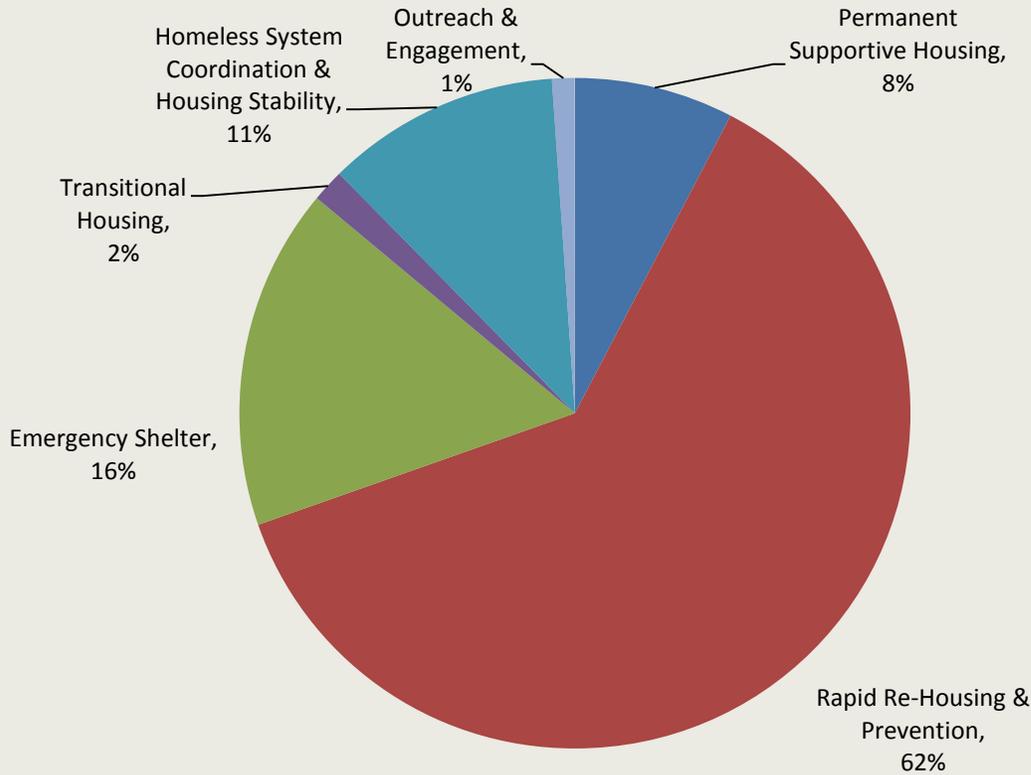
Total: 19,695 Households



Source: 2015 Washington State Housing Needs Assessment, Clark County

## HOUSING (continued)

### 2015 Funding Allocation



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#### Success Story

“Jackie” entered the Bridges Program after receiving a notice to vacate her property. Jackie’s troubles began when her husband was incarcerated and she faced the daunting task of finding a job and child care for her two children, one of whom has health complications. She had no idea where to start and had no money to pay her rent. The Bridges Program was able to quickly act as a liaison between Jackie and the landlord to negotiate a longer move-out period. Then, they worked with Jackie to re-house her family in a new, stable apartment and identify safe childcare for her children while she searched for a job. By partnering with WorkSource, after just a few months, Jackie was able to obtain almost full-time employment and remain stably housed after over a year. Lastly, her husband was released from jail early because he had a release address to go home to and exhibited good behavior.

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## SAFETY

Clark County provides increased safety through domestic violence and stalking advocacy, homeless outreach and energy assistance programs.

### **Advocacy**

- YWCA, SafeChoice Domestic Violence Advocacy

### **Energy Assistance**

- Clark County, Other Emergency Services (Heating Repair)
- Clark Public Utilities, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

---

In 2015, Clark County, working in tandem with Clark Public Utilities, provided **4,033** households with assistance in heating their homes. **85%** utilized electricity as their main heat source; **12%** were gas customers and **3%** used other sources such as wood, propane, or oil.

Source:  
2015 LIHEAP Client  
Characteristics Report,  
WA Dept. of Commerce

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### Success Story

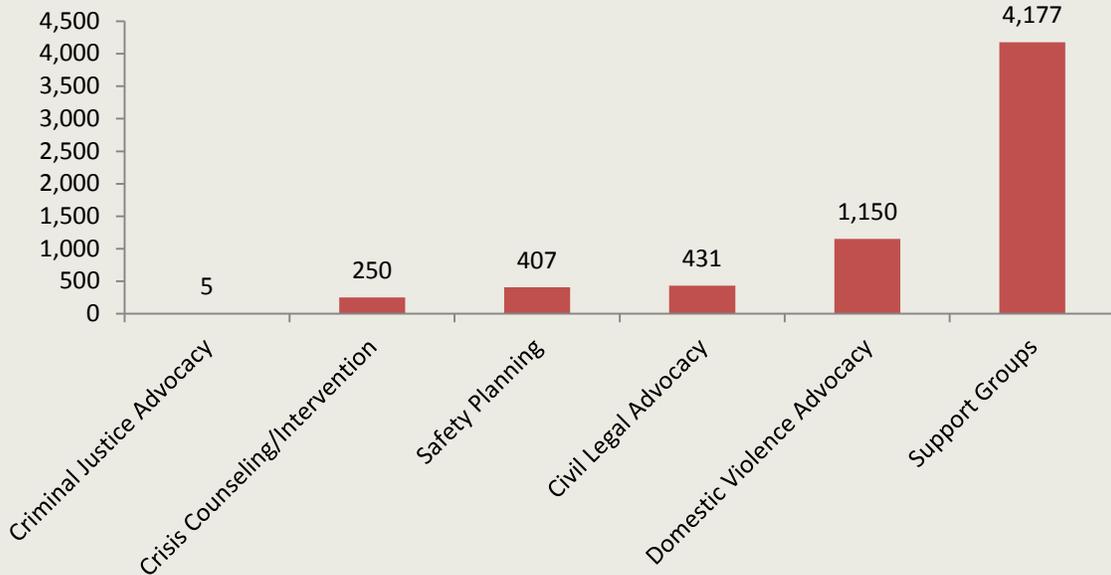
“Julia” and her young son came to the SafeChoice domestic violence shelter after fleeing a five year abusive marriage. She had endured many forms of abuse including financial, emotional, and physical. The family received food, clothing and hygiene items while in shelter. At the beginning of their stay, Julia utilized the Child Advocacy Program frequently so she could meet with advocates for safety planning and support. She worked closely with the Family Support Advocate receiving parental support, housing assistance, and other resources. During their stay, Julia was able to secure safe child care, buy a car, and participate in an employment assistance program resulting in nearly full time employment. Julia and her son were referred to a local housing program and secured safe and stable housing. For every \$1 spent to help Julia, the return on investment is \$3.65.

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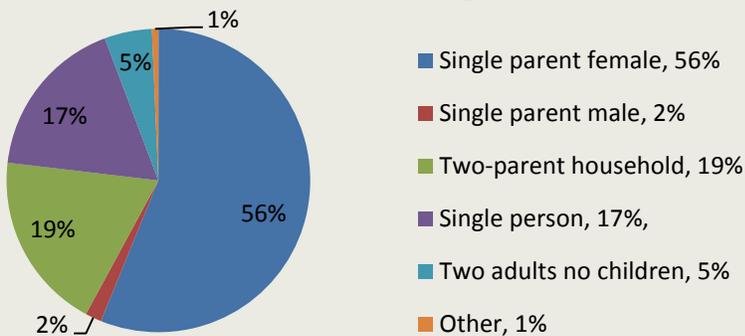
## SAFETY (continued)

### YWCA SafeChoice Program Advocacy

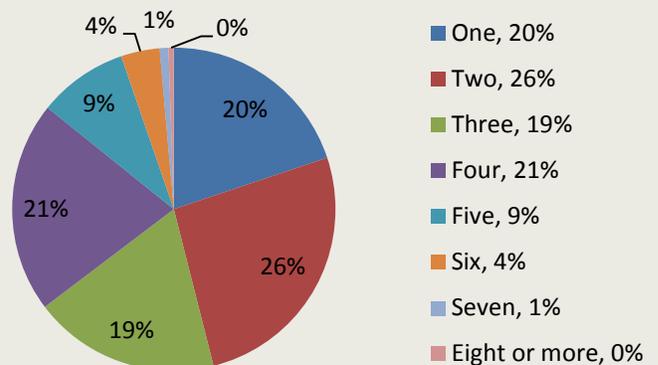
1,026 Individuals received advocacy services



### Family Types Accessing SafeChoice Domestic Violence Programs



### Size of Families Accessing SafeChoice Domestic Violence Programs



## SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Self-Sufficiency programs assist participants and their families make choices that will lead to self-reliance. Programs help people reduce barriers to move towards employment and stable housing.

### **Education and Employment**

- Big Brothers Big Sisters, Finish Strong
- Columbia River Mental Health, Homeless Employment Navigator (HEN)
- Partners in Careers, YouthFirst

### **Financial**

- Share, Individual Development Account (IDA) Program

### **Legal Assistance**

- Volunteer Lawyers, Homeless Court
- Volunteer Lawyers, Volunteer Lawyers Program
- Washington Department of Veteran Affairs, Veterans Incarcerated Project
- YWCA, SafeChoice Domestic Violence Program

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Clark County's December 2015 unemployment rate was **4.8%**.

Washington State's unemployment rate was **5.8%**, and the national average was **5.2%**.

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### Success Story

“Travis” is a 14-year old high school student participating in Big Brothers Big Sisters’ Finish Strong program where youth at risk of not graduating are paired with adult mentors. Travis comes from a single parent family while his step-dad is in jail. Travis has been diagnosed with Asperger’s Syndrome and is enrolled in an Individual Education Program due to his academic struggles. Travis’ mentor has accompanied him to Finish Strong events such as the Washington State University Vancouver tour and regularly talks to Travis about school, grades and his future goals. Due to the support Travis received from his mentor, he is interested in participating in the Running Start program and wants to become an electrician.

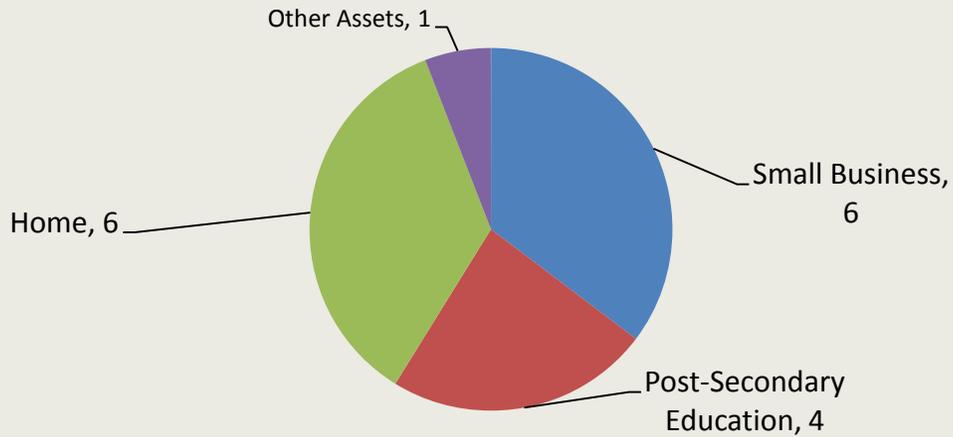
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Source:  
U.S. Department of  
Labor, Bureau of Labor  
Statistics

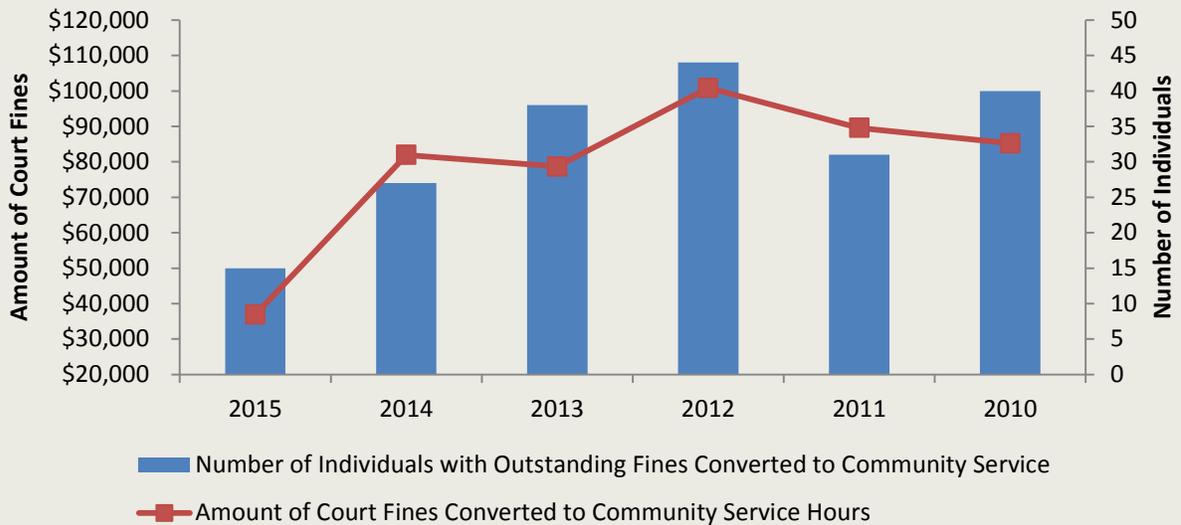
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## **SELF-SUFFICIENCY** (continued)

### **Share IDA 2015 Program Purchases** 17 Households Completed the Two-year Program



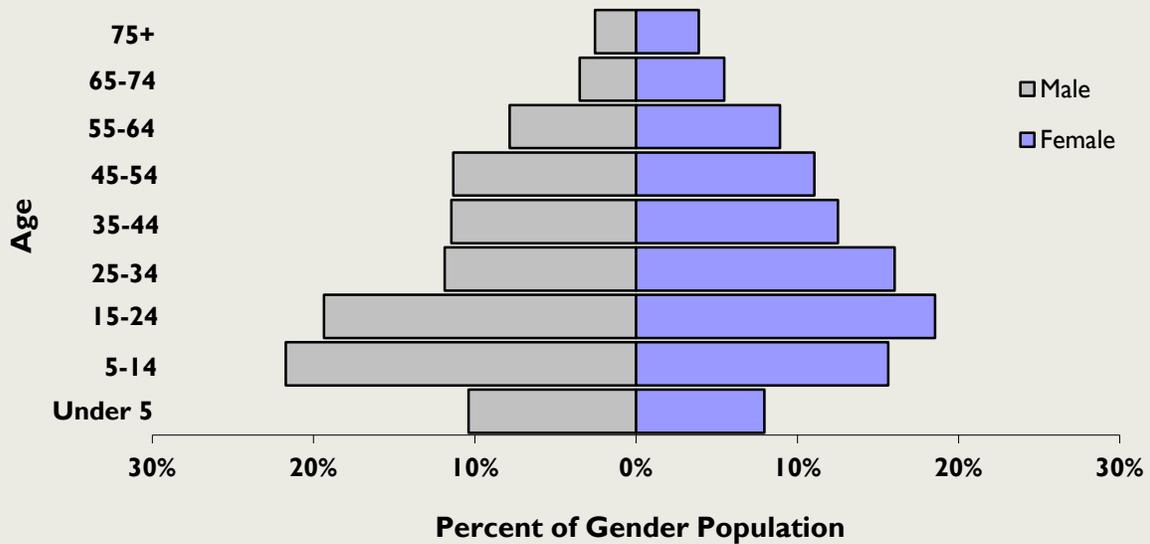
### **Volunteer Lawyers Program** **Homeless Court Converted Fines**



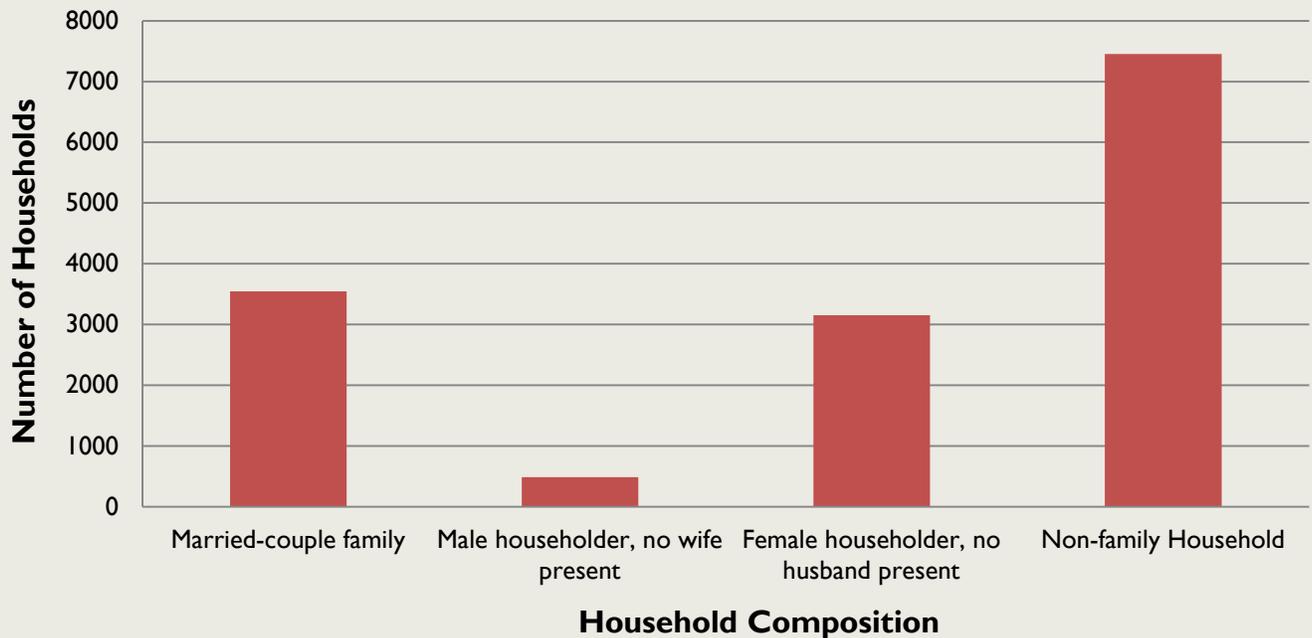
## POVERTY IN CLARK COUNTY

Based on the most recent American Community Survey data from 2014, there were over 14,600 households in Clark County who earned less than the Federal Poverty Level adjusted for family size. This equals \$24,250 per year, or approximately \$2,000 per month, for a family of four.

**Number of Men and Women Living Below Poverty  
in Clark County: 2014**

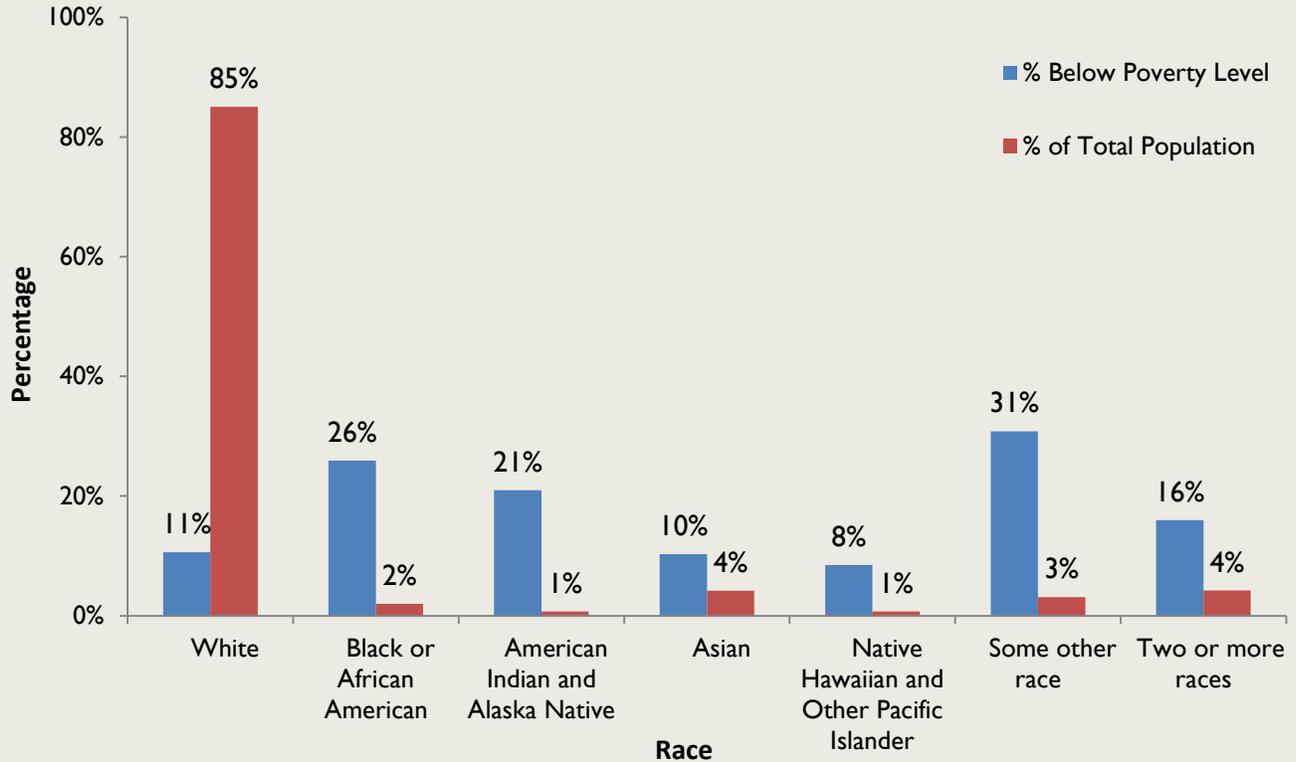


**Households Living in Poverty: 2014**

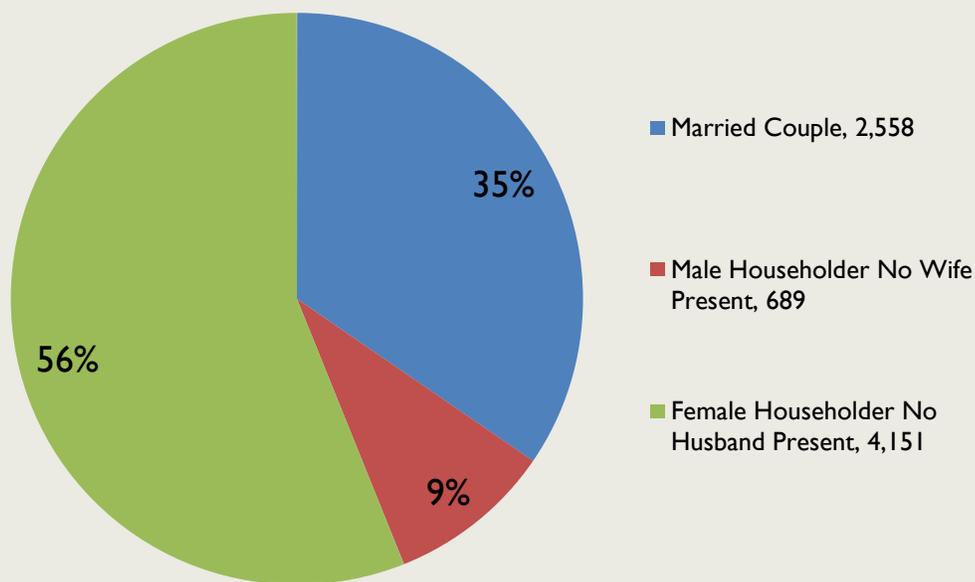


## POVERTY IN CLARK COUNTY (CONTINUED)

Percent Race/Ethnic Groups Living in Poverty: 2014

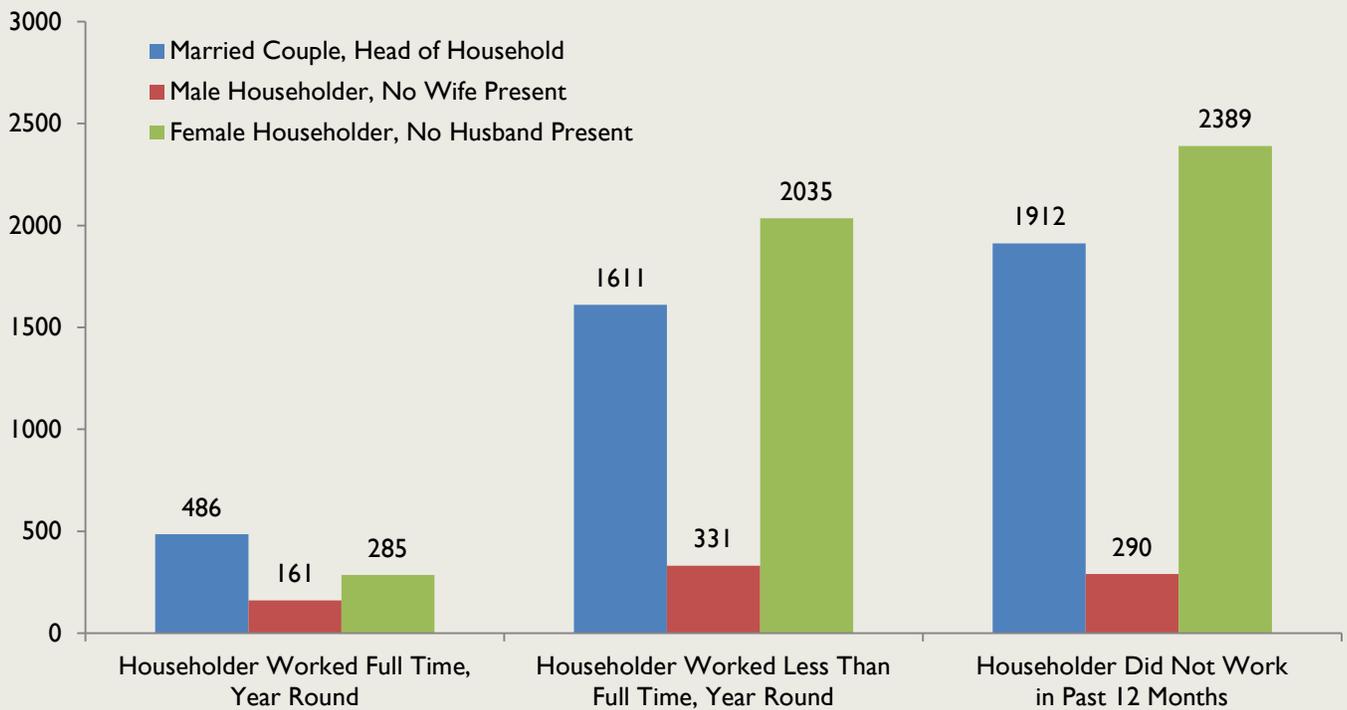


Clark County Families with Children Under 18 Living Below Poverty: 2014  
7,398 Total Households with Children

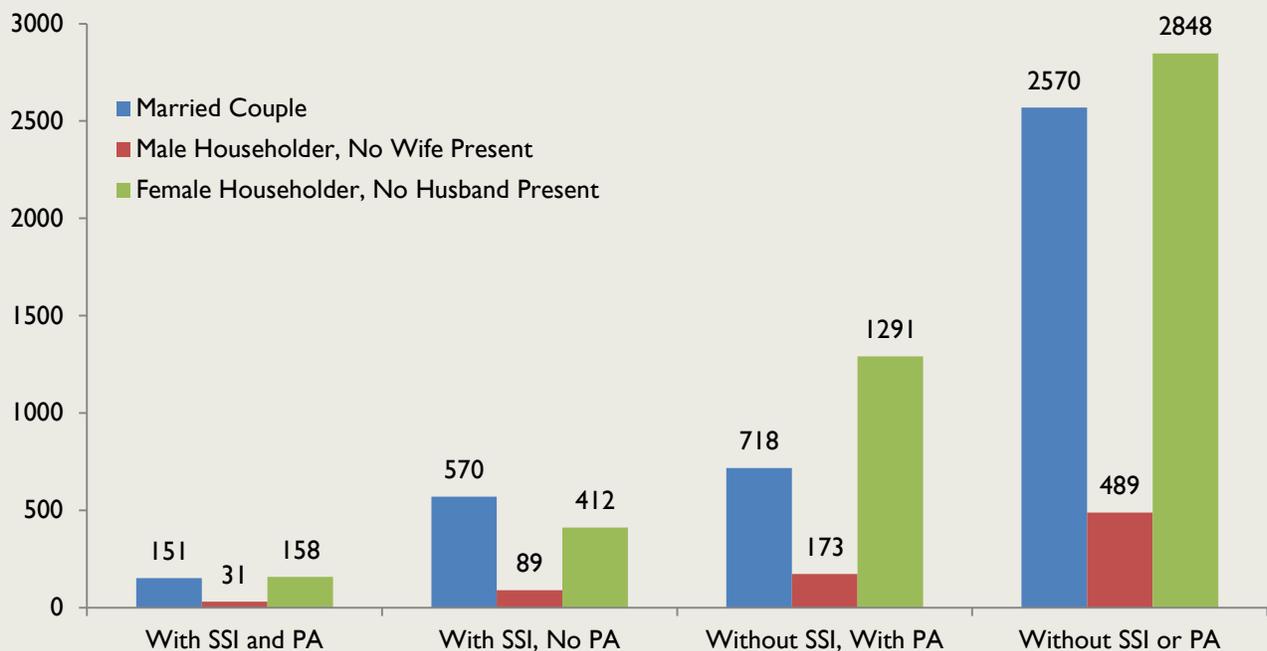


## POVERTY IN CLARK COUNTY (CONTINUED)

### Breakdown of Employment Hours of Families Living Below Poverty: 2014



### Families Living Below Poverty Level by Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Public Assistance (PA): 2014



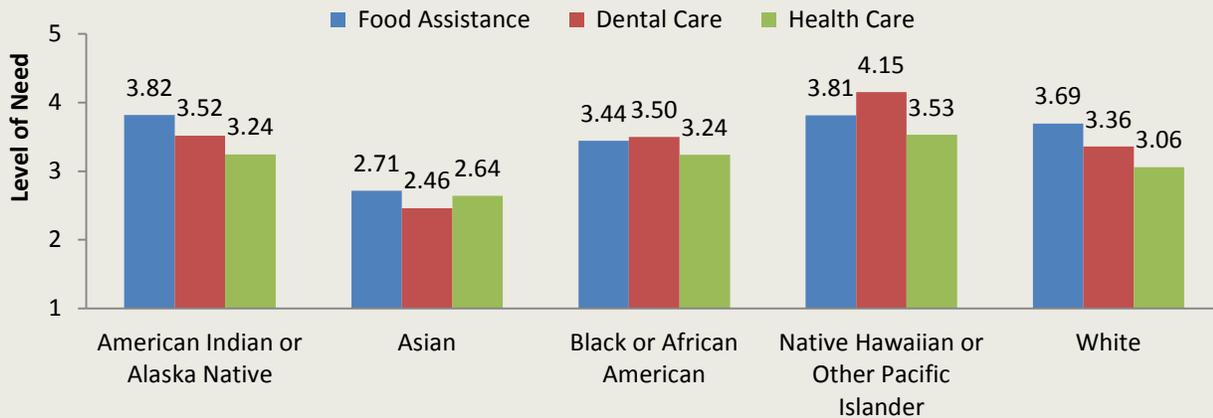
# COMMUNITY NEEDS SURVEY DATA

Clark County conducts a Survey of Needs assessment every three years. Participation is completely voluntary. Below are the results from the survey completed in summer 2013, with 816 responses. Households were asked to rank their need in 25 categories. Five represents the highest level of need, and zero represents no need. Average income of all respondents equals \$1,220.10 per month. To view the complete Community Needs Assessment for Community Services Block Grant funding in Clark County, visit <https://www.clark.wa.gov/community-services/community-action-documents>.

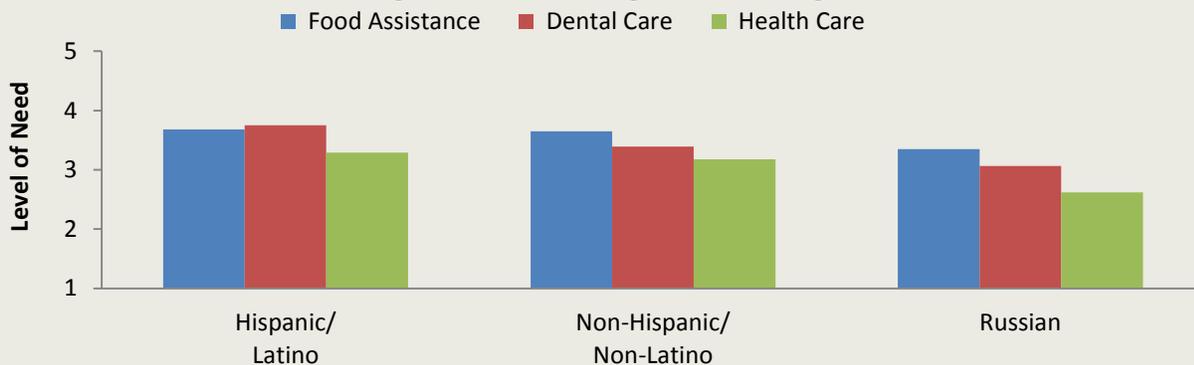
## Top Five Household Needs

- Food Assistance
- Dental Care
- Health Care
- Prescription Medication
- Clothing

## Top 3 Needs by Race

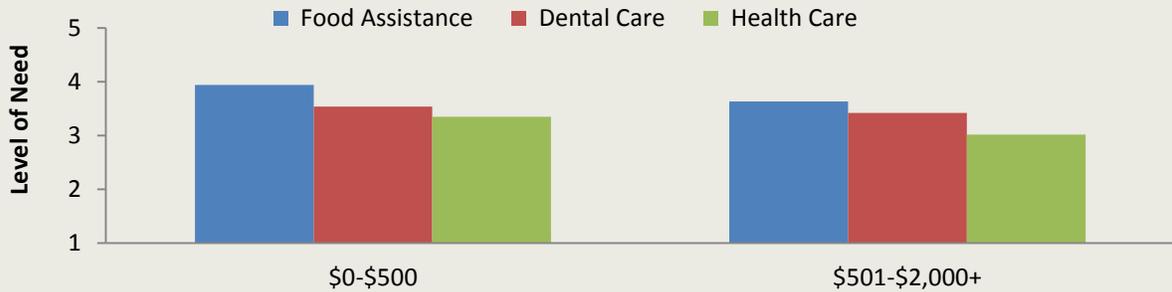


## Top 3 Needs by Ethnicity

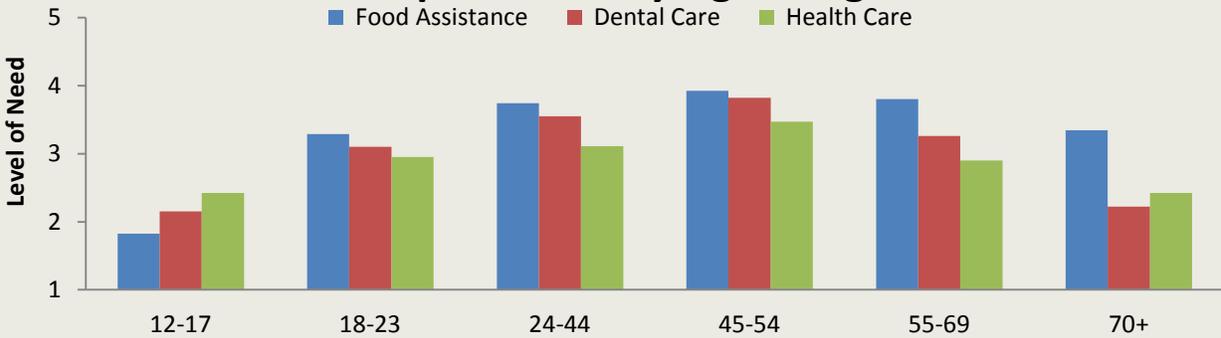


# COMMUNITY NEEDS SURVEY DATA (continued)

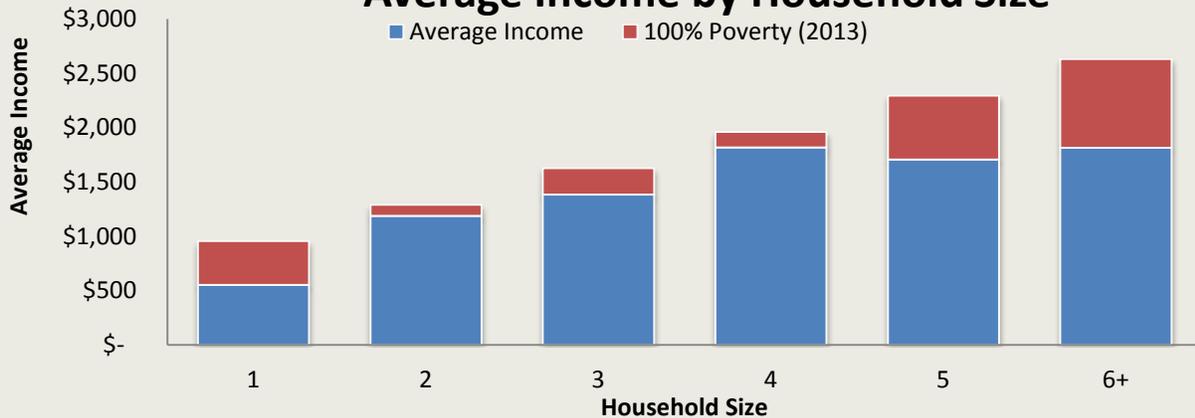
## Top 3 Needs by Income Range



## Top 3 Needs by Age Range



## Average Income by Household Size



## **PARTNERSHIPS**

### **FAITH BASED**

Friends of the Carpenter  
360-750-4752  
[www.friendsofthecarpenter.org](http://www.friendsofthecarpenter.org)

Lutheran Community Services NW  
360-694-5624  
[www.lcsnw.org/vancouver](http://www.lcsnw.org/vancouver)

The Salvation Army  
360-892-9050  
[www.vancouver.salvationarmynw.org](http://www.vancouver.salvationarmynw.org)

St. Andrew Lutheran  
360-892-7160  
[www.salcvan.org](http://www.salcvan.org)

St. Joseph's Catholic  
360-696-4407  
<http://stjoevan.org/>

St. Paul Lutheran  
360-693-3531  
[www.stpaulvancouver.com](http://www.stpaulvancouver.com)

St. Vincent DePaul  
360-694-5388  
[www.svdpvancouverusa.com](http://www.svdpvancouverusa.com)

### **HEALTH SERVICES**

Free Clinic of SW Washington  
360-313-1390  
[www.freeclinics.org](http://www.freeclinics.org)

New Day Community Dental  
360-892-7107  
[www.newdaydental.org](http://www.newdaydental.org)

### **NON-PROFIT**

211 info  
2-1-1  
[www.211info.org](http://www.211info.org)

Big Brothers Big Sisters  
360-891-8382  
[www.bbbsnorthwest.org](http://www.bbbsnorthwest.org)

Clark County Food Bank  
360-693-0939  
[www.clarkcountyfoodbank.org](http://www.clarkcountyfoodbank.org)

Columbia River Mental Health  
360-993-3000  
[www.crmhs.org](http://www.crmhs.org)

Community Housing Resource Center  
360-690-4496  
[www.homecen.org](http://www.homecen.org)

Community Services NW  
360-397-8484  
[www.communityservicesnw.org](http://www.communityservicesnw.org)

Consumer Voices are Born (CVAB)  
360-397-8050  
<http://www.cvabonline.com/>

Council for the Homeless  
360-993-9561  
[www.councilforthehomeless.org](http://www.councilforthehomeless.org)

Housing Solutions Center  
360-695-9677  
[www.councilforthehomeless.org](http://www.councilforthehomeless.org)

ESD 112  
360-750-7500  
[www.esd112.org](http://www.esd112.org)

Impact NW  
503-988-6000  
<http://impactnw.org/>

Inter-Faith Treasure House  
360-834-4181  
[www.ifth-cw.org](http://www.ifth-cw.org)

Janus Youth Programs  
503-233-6090  
[www.janusyouth.org](http://www.janusyouth.org)

Lifeline Connections  
360-397-8246  
[www.lifelineconnections.org](http://www.lifelineconnections.org)

Metropolitan Family Service  
503-232-0007  
[www.metfamily.org](http://www.metfamily.org)

Partners in Careers  
360-696-8417  
[www.partnersincareers.org](http://www.partnersincareers.org)

Second Step Housing  
360-993-5301  
[www.secondstephousing.org](http://www.secondstephousing.org)

Share  
360-448-2121  
[www.sharevancouver.org](http://www.sharevancouver.org)

SW WA Workforce Development  
Council  
360-567-1070  
[www.wwdc.org](http://www.wwdc.org)

Volunteer Lawyers Program  
360-695-5313  
[www.ccvlp.org](http://www.ccvlp.org)

YWCA Clark County  
360-696-0167  
[www.ywcaclarkcounty.com](http://www.ywcaclarkcounty.com)

### **SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

Battle Ground School District  
360-885-5300  
[www.battlegroundps.org](http://www.battlegroundps.org)

Camas School District  
360-335-3000  
[www.camas.wednet.edu/](http://www.camas.wednet.edu/)

Evergreen School District  
360-604-4000  
[www.evergreenps.org](http://www.evergreenps.org)

Vancouver School District  
360-313-1000  
[www.ridgefieldsd.org](http://www.ridgefieldsd.org)

### **GOVERNMENT**

City of Vancouver  
360-487-8600  
[www.cityofvancouver.us](http://www.cityofvancouver.us)

Department of Commerce  
360-725-4000  
[www.commerce.wa.gov](http://www.commerce.wa.gov)

Department of Social & Health  
Services (DSHS)  
800-737-0617  
[www.dshs.wa.gov](http://www.dshs.wa.gov)

Vancouver Housing Authority  
360-694-2501  
[www.vhausa.com](http://www.vhausa.com)

WA Healthcare Authority  
800-562-6906  
[www.hca.wa.gov](http://www.hca.wa.gov)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

More information about the Community Action Program, as well as plans and reports referenced in this document, can be found online:

<http://www.clark.wa.gov/community-action>

Staff for these programs work for Clark County's Department of Community Services and can be reached by calling (360) 397-2130.

Vanessa R. Gaston, Director  
[vanessa.gaston@clark.wa.gov](mailto:vanessa.gaston@clark.wa.gov)

Michael A. Torres, Program Manager  
[michael.torres@clark.wa.gov](mailto:michael.torres@clark.wa.gov)

Kate Budd, Program Coordinator  
[kate.budd@clark.wa.gov](mailto:kate.budd@clark.wa.gov)

Rebecca Royce, Program Coordinator  
[rebecca.royce@clark.wa.gov](mailto:rebecca.royce@clark.wa.gov)

Rich Walters, Housing Rehabilitation Specialist  
[rich.walters@clark.wa.gov](mailto:rich.walters@clark.wa.gov)

Samantha Whitley, Program Coordinator  
[samantha.whitley@clark.wa.gov](mailto:samantha.whitley@clark.wa.gov)

Dawn Lee, Program Assistant  
[dawn.lee@clark.wa.gov](mailto:dawn.lee@clark.wa.gov)

Janet Snook, Office Assistant  
[janet.snook@clark.wa.gov](mailto:janet.snook@clark.wa.gov)

*Clark County Department of Community Services*  
P.O. Box 5000 ● Vancouver, WA ● 98666-5000  
Tel 360.397.2130 ● Fax 360.397.6028 ● Relay 800.833.6384  
[www.clark.wa.gov/community-action](http://www.clark.wa.gov/community-action)



**For other formats**

Clark County ADA Office, Voice (360) 397-2000  
Relay (800) 833-6384, E-mail [ADA@clark.wa.gov](mailto:ADA@clark.wa.gov)