

2015 ANNUAL REPORT



GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.

**United Way
of Snohomish County**

uwsc.org



LIVE UNITED



Rev. July 2016



United Way at a Glance...

LOCAL COMMUNITY FUND

United Way supported 106 programs at 40 different agencies, focusing on childcare, prevention programs, intervention, access to resources, transportation, services to diverse populations, housing, mental health & substance abuse, life skills & emergency assistance and food & nutrition. Agencies are not assessed a service charge to participate.

All funding decisions are made by volunteers who serve on United Way's Kids Matter, Families Matter and Community Matters Vision Councils.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



United Way's Volunteer Center database offers 300 volunteer opportunities at more than 130 agencies in Snohomish County.

Last year, United Way connected 2,881 individual volunteers with volunteer opportunities throughout Snohomish County.



Also last year, Youth United mobilized 470 teens to help with service projects throughout the community

On Sept. 11-12, United Way mobilized 511 volunteers for Days of Caring.

FINANCIAL STABILITY



For the 2015 tax season, volunteers prepared 3,430 tax returns and helped families claim upwards of \$5.4 million in federal refunds, including \$1.8 million in Earned Income Tax Credits. In all, United Way volunteers saved customers an estimated \$686,000 in tax preparation fees at the six tax preparation sites in Snohomish County.



In 2015, 17 individuals were enrolled in our Individual Development Accounts program. Account holders commit to saving and attending classes in budgeting, credit counseling and financial education. Since its inception in 2003, 53 families have successfully completed the program with 43% saving for a new home, 27% applying their savings toward a vehicle, 21% saving to start a small business, 7% using their money for further education and 2% using their savings to purchase a computer.

NEW POVERTY FOCUS

In the spring of 2015, we embarked on a new direction for our work and how we can help to make an impact on one of the biggest issues affecting our community—poverty. To learn more about our new focus and how we are working to break the cycle of poverty in Snohomish County, visit www.uwsc.org.

* All numbers are for fiscal year 2014-2015 unless otherwise noted.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Aerospace Machinists District Lodge 751/IAM, AT&T, The Boeing Company, Jamco America, Inc., Union Bank, Fluke, Providence Regional Medical Center Everett, Puget Sound Energy, Tulalip Resort Casino, The Daily Herald, Microsoft





Meet Our Success Stories

MEAGEN



Meagen had big dreams for the future when her life took a detour. Even with limited options and a baby on the way, she was determined to make it on her own.

Meagen found a program that enabled her to earn a degree in business administration while she received public support including

food stamps and Section 8 housing. Those were four long years of riding the bus every morning with her little girl, Sequoia-Dawn, but Meagen made it through to graduation.

While Meagen had dreamed of owning her own business, she needed help getting it off the ground. Through United Way's partnership with Ventures, she found United Way's Individual Development Account (IDA) program. This program helps participants move out of poverty and stay out by investing in a long-term asset like home-ownership, education or starting a business.

Through the IDA program, Meagen learned how small, monthly savings could add up to a large amount over time. United Way also provided Meagen with money management classes, so that she could set a budget and write a business plan. Every dollar she saved was matched three-to-one by United Way's program, helping her dollars go further.

Today, Meagen is off public assistance and employed full-time, and her business is taking off!

"It was hard, and didn't happen overnight," she said. "If I have a goal in mind, there's no quitting."

LEAH



Leah is a single mom living in Everett with her nine year old daughter. Leah started working and paying taxes at the age of 18, and every year she struggled to file them herself or have to pay someone upwards of \$200 to file for her.

In 2008, Leah used a company to file her taxes.

"Later that year, I found out the company I went to messed up my tax return and I lost \$500 of my refund," said Leah. "Since first coming to United Way's tax site in 2009, I have always received my maximum refund. I love coming to United Way; their services are fast and accurate."

This year was extra special because Leah filed to become an American citizen through the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services and was sworn in April 5th. Filing for citizenship is expensive, Leah was able to use her tax refund to help pay for the filing process, and still have a cushion of money to support her daughter.

Leah firmly believes in paying it forward. She wanted to give back to the community because United Way had done so much for her. Leah got involved with United Way's Day of Caring, where she helped level a soccer field and packaged fresh vegetables to be frozen for families to eat throughout the year.

"I am so thankful for being able to use United Way's free tax return service," said Leah. "It was very humbling and I was thankful to have those extra funds for whatever we needed such as maintaining my house and keeping extra money for my daughter to have a better living."



Financial Information 2014-2015*

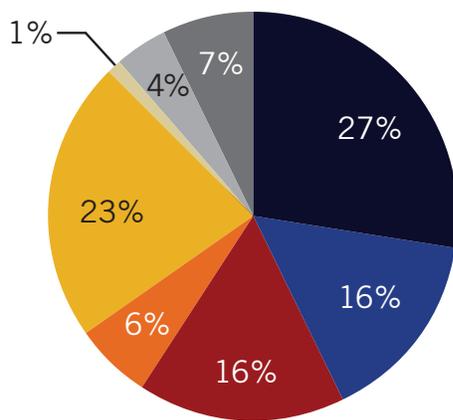
United Way Grants, Services and Initiatives: In addition to funding 107 programs through 40 agencies with a special focus on local health and human services, we support a number of initiatives focusing on early learning and education, financial stability for families, a youth program, North Sound 211 and an emerging initiative in survival English.

Donor-designated Gifts: Donor-designated gifts are sent to various charitable organizations, as directed by the donor. United Way provides this service to donors but does not monitor or oversee the use of these donations.

Fundraising: United Way of Snohomish County meets the highest standards of nonprofit excellence as set by charitable watchdog organizations, serving as an efficient and trustworthy steward for your charitable donation.

For fiscal year 2015, our total net assets equaled \$5,844,536.

Where the Money Comes From



SOURCES OF REVENUE

United Way Campaign

Contributions to the Local Community Fund	\$3,203,657
Donor directed campaign contributions	\$1,861,542

Employees Community Fund of Boeing Puget Sound

The Boeing Boeing Company corporate grant	\$725,000
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Disaster Recovery Fund for Mudslide Relief (2 years)

\$2,686,224

Rental activities

\$131,150

Other grants

\$528,315

Other revenues

\$783,798

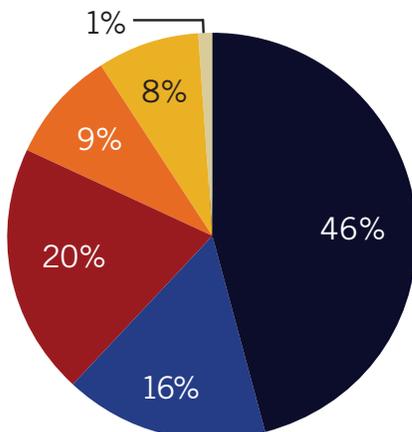
Less uncollectible pledges

\$(248,449)

Total sources of revenue

\$11,533,583

Where Your Contribution Goes



USE OF FUNDS

United Way grants, services and initiatives	\$5,276,252
Donor-designated gifts	\$1,861,542

Disaster Recovery Fund for Mudslide Relief (2 years)

\$2,354,468

Fundraising

\$1,045,821

Management

\$907,855

Rental activities

\$132,976

Total Use of Funds

\$11,578,914



2015 United Way Board of Directors

Please see www.uwsc.org for our current list of board members.

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Coastal Community Bank

Vice Chair

Dr. Gary Cohn
Everett School District

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Marketing Solutions

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Dr. Dennis G. Smith

United Way of Snohomish County

MISSION: We transform lives by bringing people, resources, and strategy together to solve our community's toughest challenges.

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