

ANNUAL REPORT 2023 - 2024



United
Way



United Way
of Snohomish County

ABOUT UNITED WAY OF SNOHOMISH COUNTY

WHO WE ARE

United Way of Snohomish County (UWSC) has served Snohomish County for almost 85 years and has moved beyond its traditional role of simply being a fundraiser to being a funder, active partner, and convener around intentional collaborative solutions that create lasting community change.



OUR VISION

Families in Snohomish County live to their fullest potential for generations to come regardless of race, place, and ability.



OUR MISSION

We improve lives for families in Snohomish County by bringing people, resources, and strategy together.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO

Dear Community Partners,

I am grateful for your ongoing support of United Way. Together, we have come a long way over the last year. I am excited to share this report with you to highlight some key achievements and set the stage for our long-term vision.

Last spring, we expanded the Imagination Library program to cover all of Snohomish County. In this inaugural year, we shipped just under 100,000 books to almost 12,000 children in every corner of our community! This initiative is proven to promote literacy while fostering a love for reading among young children. Together we are laying the foundation for lifelong learning and empowerment. I love hearing the stories from families when I am out in the community – how much the children and their caregivers love to read together.

In addition to our literacy efforts, we launched a partnership with Best Dental Help to support the delivery of free dental care in elementary settings. We know that it’s hard to learn when you don’t feel well, and this partnership ensures that our youngest learners receive the care they need to thrive. We are grateful to support the critical work that Best Dental Help does to address inequities in our health care system.

We have been making changes on the inside too. Our team has streamlined processes, increased community representation on our board, and made investments in a new business model that focuses less on corporate money and more on the impact of individuals like you and me.

Although we’ve weathered transition, at heart we are still your United Way. Together we’re working towards a future where everyone can reach their full potential. We are still dedicated to improving the lives of those we serve and fostering a culture of inclusivity and collaboration within our organization and the county.

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your continued trust and support. United is the way we will create a brighter future for all. Thank you for being an integral part of our journey. I look forward to what we will accomplish together in the year ahead.

Warmly,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maya Hemachandra". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Maya Hemachandra, MPA, CFRE
Interim President & Chief Executive Officer
United Way of Snohomish County

ALICE IN OUR COMMUNITY

We all know people who are **ALICE: Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed** — earning more than the Federal Poverty Level, but not enough to afford the basics where they live.

ALICE households and households in poverty are forced to make tough choices, such as deciding between quality child care or paying the rent — **choices that have long-term consequences not only for their families, but for all of us.**

The number of Snohomish County households who are ALICE—living paycheck to paycheck, struggling to afford life’s basic necessities—far exceeds official federal poverty statistics.

312,012

Washington State households in 2020 that earned below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

747,889

ALICE households that earned above the FPL but not enough to afford the basics in the communities where they live.

\$95,244

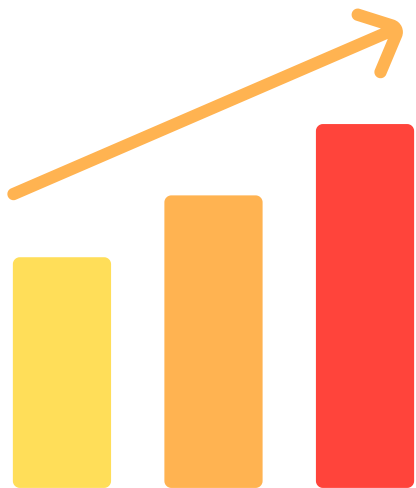
Income needed for a family of four with an infant and a preschooler to cover the costs of basics in Washington (*excluding tax credits*).

WHAT UNITED WAY IS DOING TO HELP ALICE FAMILIES

We are raising awareness through community outreach and conversation that ALICE exists in Snohomish County. We need to address ALICE for the economic well-being of all residents. United Way of Snohomish County is also continuing to shed light on the underlying causes keeping ALICE from succeeding.

We are committed even more than ever to ensure the work we do meets the needs of those who are most vulnerable in our community -- including ALICE families.

To learn more about ALICE families in our community, visit **[UWSC.org/ALICE](https://www.uwsc.org/ALICE)**



From 2010 to 2022, the total number of Washington households rose by 18%, households in poverty increased by 1% — **and the number of ALICE households grew by a substantial 44%.**



ALICE CHILDREN IN FINANCIAL HARDSHIP

The number of children living in financially insecure households in Washington continues to be systematically undercounted. Who are the children below the ALICE threshold?

189,173

Children in Washington who were living in poverty in 2022, representing 12% of all children.

720,929

Children living at or below the ALICE threshold in Washington State in 2022.

444,000

Children below the Threshold in Washington did not participate in SNAP.

144,200

Children who had no access to high-speed internet in their homes.

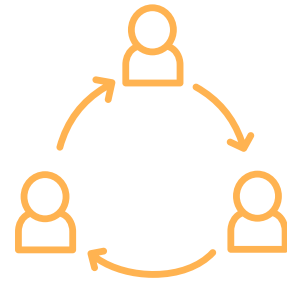
With poverty-level and ALICE households combined, a substantial **44% of the 1.6 million children in Washington lived in a household with income below the ALICE Threshold of Financial Survival in 2022.** United Way of Snohomish County is committed to ensuring all children on our community can thrive, through greater access to health care, kindergarten readiness through early literacy, and a commitment to advocating and supporting our families in need.



There were disparities by race/ethnicity due to systemic barriers to financial stability. For example, **77% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander children and 64% of Black children in Washington lived in households with income below the ALICE Threshold, compared to 36% of White children and 35% of Asian children.**



PROGRAMS & PARTNERSHIPS



We believe collaborative solutions for both children and the adults in their lives have the greatest potential to not only meet the needs of families today, but will support the success of the whole family for generations to come.



OUR SOLUTIONS

United Way of Snohomish County has been a vital partner and convener in our community for almost 85 years, dedicated to fostering collaborative solutions and driving lasting change. **Our commitment extends beyond immediate assistance; we aim to create a thriving environment where every individual has the opportunity to succeed.**

We actively engage in with community partners that empower young people. By developing collaborative solutions, we cultivate a supportive network that encourages growth and support for our community.

In addition to our programmatic efforts, we support advocacy initiatives that address systemic challenges facing our youth. By collaborating with local organizations, community members, and state-wide partners, we strive to create policies and programs that promote equity and access for all young individuals in Snohomish county.

Together, we envision a future where every young person is equipped to achieve their dreams, contribute to their communities, and lead with confidence. United Way of Snohomish County remains steadfast in our mission, continuously seeking innovative ways to uplift and empower the next generation.

DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY

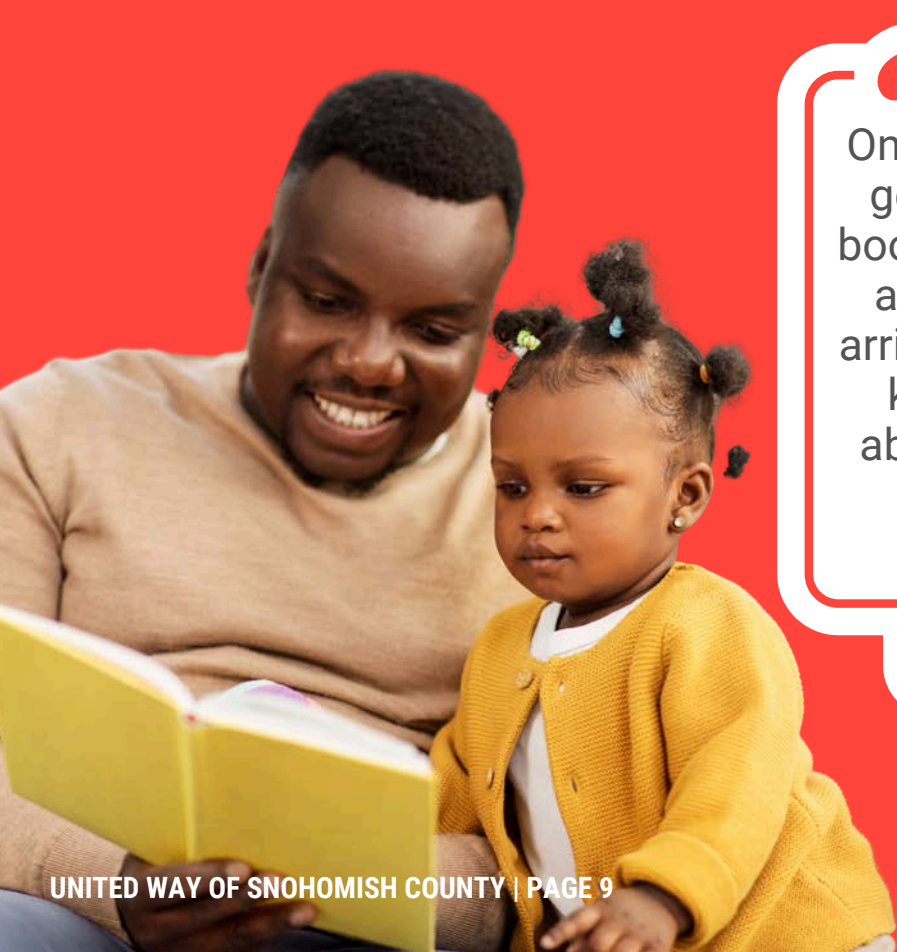
Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a proven literacy program that mails FREE, high-quality and age-appropriate books to Snohomish County children from birth to age five, no matter their family's income. We continued promoting this partnership, seeing an increase in enrollments, engagement from the community and appreciation from families. In the last fiscal year:

10,654

Snohomish County Children were enrolled in the program.

89,863

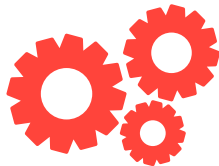
Books were mailed to children under the age of 5, throughout the county.



“On top of the excitement the kids get in receiving mail and a new book to read, I personally feel love and happiness every time they arrive. Someone that doesn't even know my kids cares so much about early literacy they want to share that. This is truly an amazing gift.”

-- Snohomish County Caregiver

LABOR RELATIONSHIPS



United Way of Snohomish County partners with the Snohomish and Island County Labor Council for two annual events:

The Letter Carriers' Food Drive, the nation's largest single-day food drive, supports local food banks before summer, when children lose access to free meals. This initiative collaborates with the National Association of Letter Carriers, the USPS, and Volunteers of America Western Washington. UWSC helps spread the word and provides collection bags for Letter Carriers and community partners.

Additionally, we also work alongside SICLC to **purchase school supplies at cost** through our community partners, which are then delivered to schools at a higher need across Snohomish County.

EMERGENCY FOOD & SHELTER PROGRAM



On behalf of the Snohomish County Local EFSP Board, United Way of Snohomish County administers the FEMA funding made available under the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Action. The local Snohomish County board sets priorities, reviews applications and ensures grant compliance. **EFSP funds are awarded to local organizations helping people who are experiencing hunger and homelessness.** This local partnership works to ensure awareness and access of these federal dollars to eligible organizations that may otherwise not be awarded into the county.

Phase 41, completed this year, brought an additional \$329,867 to Snohomish County, awarded to 18 local organizations committed to assisting people experiencing severe economic crisis that is not the immediate result of a natural or man-made disaster.

DENTAL CARE FOR KIDS



United Way of Snohomish County has teamed up with **Best Dental Help**, a mobile dental clinic, to address the needs of elementary-aged children in the area.

Best Dental Help visits schools to teach students about dental care, provide check-ups, and apply sealants for participating families. **While most children have some access to healthcare, many do not have dental coverage, so the clinic aims to promote lifelong oral health by applying sealants early.**

Services include basic cleanings and dental education, with no cost to families. Insurance is billed when possible, or Best Dental Help covers the expenses. A month prior to each visit, the team educates all students on proper dental care, ensuring everyone benefits.

Of the children that were seen in Snohomish County during the 2023-2024 school year, **almost 3 out every 4 receiving treatment had dental concerns.**

By meeting the children where they are, we can help reach a large number of children who are at high risk for dental disease and in need of dental care, and put them on the path to lifelong oral health.

4,240

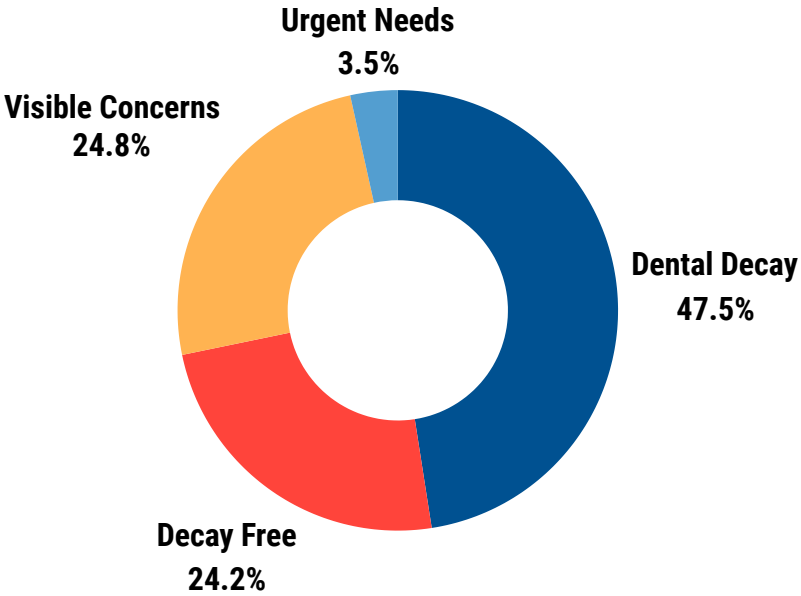
Snohomish County Children who received crucial education on proper dental care during the 2023-2024 school year.

2,634

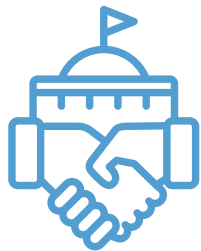
Total sealants placed

1,017

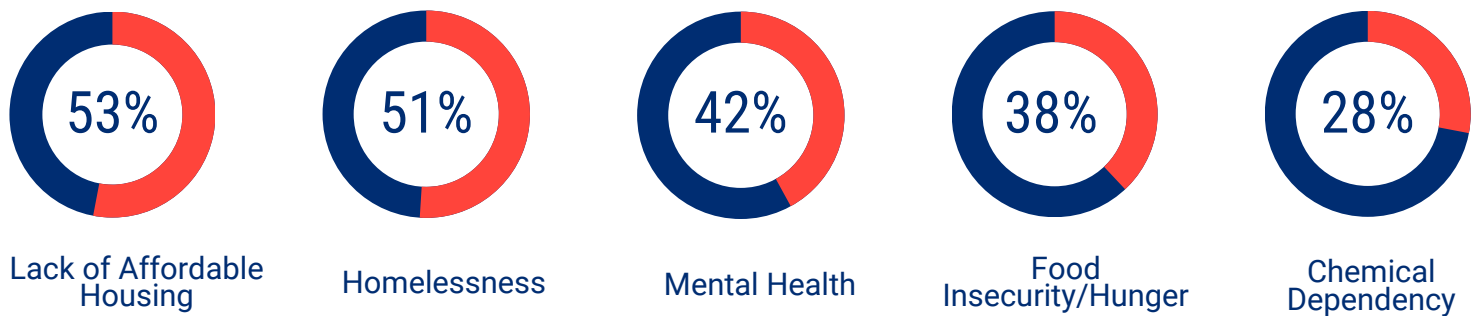
Total fluoride treatments



PUBLIC POLICY & ADVOCACY



In the fall of 2023, United Way of Snohomish County conducted a community-wide survey to help determine what our community members felt were the greatest needs of those around us. We asked those who responded to rank their top five most important causes. They included:



UWSC has since taken this data, and alongside our ALICE information and what we know from local 2-1-1 call data, **are working to develop an advocacy plan that gets us back into the space we know best -- fighting for our community and working to make lasting, systematic change for our most marginalized communities.**

UWSC has long lead the way in creating lasting change in Snohomish County, and while we still have work to do, we look forward to sharing the growth and impact we are making in future communications.



CORPORATE PARTNERS, FOUNDATIONS & LOCAL BUSINESSES

Our partners give to United Way in a variety of ways, including corporate partnerships, matching employee donations, and event & program sponsorships. Thank you to the following organizations who chose to support us during this past year:

\$15,000 - \$34,999

Advanced Traffic Products, Inc.
Costco Wholesale
Philanthropy Northwest
WaFd
Western Systems, Inc.

\$7,500 - \$14,999

Microsoft Corporation
Puget Sound Energy Foundation

\$2,500 - \$7,499

BNSF Foundation
Heritage Bank
Holman
KeyBank
Nora Roberts Foundation
Pacific Crest Savings Bank

\$500 - \$2,499

Banner Bank
CopperPoint Mutual
Enterprise Mobility
Expeditors International
Global Credit Union
Illinois Tool Works
Insurance Company
Keysight Technologies
Liberty Northwest Insurance
Mortenson
RLI Corp
Symetra Financial
Washington Trust Bank

WORKPLACE GIVING CAMPAIGNS

While many companies now practice some form of social responsibility, some are making it a core of their operations. Strong companies start with happy and loyal employees, and making giving easy is key. Thank you to the following organizations for their year-round fundraising campaigns, and for taking the opportunity to learn, share, and advocate for families struggling to get by in our community.

<i>Arlington Public Schools</i>	<i>Everett Public Schools</i>	<i>Philips Healthcare</i>
<i>AT&T</i>	<i>Expeditors International</i>	<i>Port of Everett</i>
<i>Banner Bank</i>	<i>GM Financial</i>	<i>Premera Blue Cross</i>
<i>Beckman Coulter, Inc.</i>	<i>Holman</i>	<i>Principal Financial</i>
<i>BECU</i>	<i>Housing Hope</i>	<i>Providence Regional</i>
<i>Best Buy</i>	<i>IAM District Lodge 7</i>	<i>Hospital</i>
<i>Black & Veatch</i>	<i>Illinois Tool Works</i>	<i>Raymond James</i>
<i>Boeing</i>	<i>JAMCO America, Inc.</i>	<i>Regence Blue Shield</i>
<i>Career Path Services</i>	<i>JCPenney Company Inc.</i>	<i>Sargento Foods Inc.</i>
<i>City of Everett</i>	<i>KeyBank</i>	<i>Sellen Construction</i>
<i>City of Monroe</i>	<i>Keysight Technologies</i>	<i>SnoCope Credit Union</i>
<i>Click & Give</i>	<i>Lake Stevens</i>	<i>Target</i>
<i>Community Transit</i>	<i>School District</i>	<i>US Bank</i>
<i>Copperpoint Mutual</i>	<i>Lysgaard Charitable</i>	<i>Virginia Mason</i>
<i>Insurance Company</i>	<i>Macy's</i>	<i>Franciscan Health</i>
<i>Costco Wholesale</i>	<i>Microsoft Corporation</i>	<i>Volunteers of America</i>
<i>Crane Aerospace</i>	<i>Monroe School District</i>	<i>Western Washington</i>
<i>Cummings</i>	<i>Mukilteo School District</i>	<i>WaFd</i>
<i>EAN Holdings</i>	<i>Navy Federal Credit</i>	<i>Washington School</i>
<i>Edmonds School District</i>	<i>Union</i>	<i>Information Processing</i>
<i>Electronic Business</i>	<i>Pacific Crest</i>	<i>Cooperative</i>
<i>Systems</i>	<i>Savings Bank</i>	<i>Wells Fargo Bank</i>
<i>Everett Housing</i>	<i>Peoples Bank</i>	
<i>Authority</i>	<i>PERTEET, Inc.</i>	

BECAUSE OF INDIVIDUAL DONORS LIKE YOU

United Way of Snohomish County would not be a successful agent for change without the trust and confidence of its donors.

Donors continue to see the value of investing in United Way’s strategic approach to local problems, leading the way from quick fixes to real, lasting change. The impact of your donation goes far beyond the dollars donated; your generosity ignites the interest of others and leads the way toward building a stronger and more thriving Snohomish County.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2024 (PRE-AUDIT)

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.

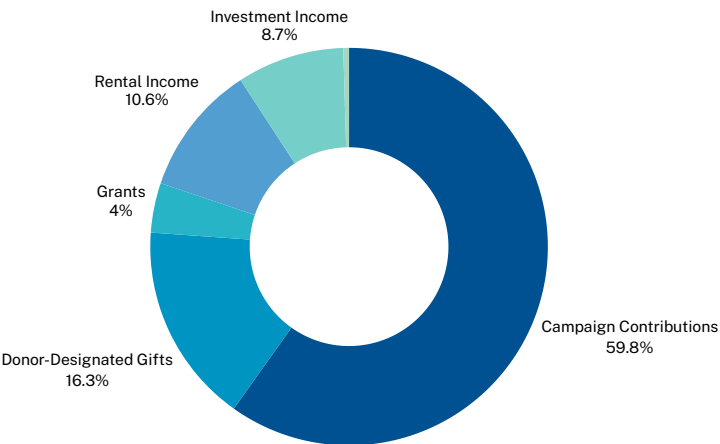
FUNDRAISING

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.

PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE

Campaign Contributions	\$788,956
Donor-Designated Gifts	\$214,734
Grant Income	\$53,245
Rental Income	\$140,322
Investment Income	\$114,918
Other	\$6,177

Total Revenue \$1,318,352

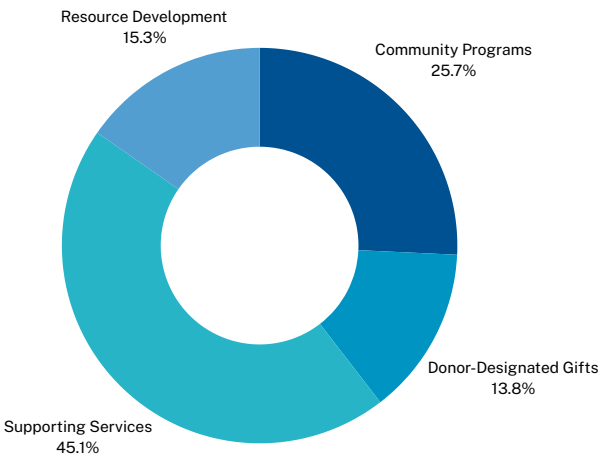


USE OF FUNDS

Community Programs	\$400,135
Donor-Designated Gifts	\$214,734
Supporting Services	\$701,453
Resource Development	\$238,376

Total Expenditures \$1,554,698

Net Income (\$236,346)



A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

This year has been one of significant change for the communities we serve, and for our organization. As United Way of Snohomish County began to sunset the funding partnership with its CORE Collaboratives at the end of 2023, we looked around to identify emerging needs in our County. With pandemic recovery dollars ending for many nonprofits, businesses and individuals, the need for United Way is greater than ever.

Our work with the CORE collaboratives may have ended, but our dedication to bringing people, resources and strategy together for families in Snohomish County remains unwavering. The Staff and Board continue to uplift our values of integrity, collaboration, equity, innovation and being outcome-oriented in pursuit of a more equitable community.

These values and our role in addressing community needs are two of the many reasons I choose to support this organization by serving on the Board of Directors. I look forward to the continued transformation of United Way as we work towards our vision of seeing all families in Snohomish County living to their fullest potential for generations to come, regardless of race, place, and ability.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nic Amor'.

Nicole Amor
United Way of Snohomish County
Board Chair

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

United Way of Snohomish County’s Board of Directors is made up of dedicated volunteers within our community who are committed to advancing our mission and vision. They act in the best interest of our organization and help guide us in the best direction possible. **Thank you to these community members who served on our board from July 2023 to June 2024.** We are grateful to their commitment to community and thank them for all their hard work to help create a thriving Snohomish County.

Nicole Amor, Chair Career Path Services	Krissy Davis Community Volunteer
Kristina Jorgensen, Vice Chair Community Volunteer	Joseph Nguyen Community Volunteer
Suzanne Sasville, Secretary Puget Sound Energy	Scott Strand BECU
Charlotte Murry, Treasurer Snohomish & Island County Labor Council	Ryan Walrod Community Volunteer



**United Way
of Snohomish County**

**United Way of Snohomish County
3120 McDougall Ave, Ste 200
Everett, WA 98201**

uwsc.org