



Human Services Commission  
LANE COUNTY • EUGENE • SPRINGFIELD

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*helping people • changing lives*

# helping people, changing lives

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**a single mother**, working part time, and **struggling to pay rent** and feed her children...

**an injured** construction worker **needs new job skills** to support his family...

**a veteran**, living on the streets and **fighting with addiction**...

**a woman fearing** for her safety **each time** her husband comes home...

The faces of poverty, homelessness, addiction and abuse each have a story. The causes are complex and the solutions must be multi-faceted.

The Human Services Commission and its nonprofit partners lead the way in developing innovative programs to meet the needs of Lane County's communities. We work collaboratively across the county from the Oregon Coast to the Cascades, in rural towns and on city streets to help individuals help themselves.

During 2008, our nonprofit partners assisted 73,806 individuals in 58,114 households to achieve stability, improve their health, gain greater independence and establish a higher quality of life.



## *who we are*

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The collaborative model we built to fund private and public non-profits in our county strengthens our community. This system creates a safety net, tightly woven to prevent the vulnerable from falling through with very little overlap in services or programs.


In 1972 Lane County and the cities of Eugene and Springfield came together to establish the Human Services Fund. Under the stewardship of the Lane County Human Services Commission, this fund creates a bridge between nonprofits and community-based organizations to break the cycle of poverty and make lasting changes in people's lives.

Over the years, we have effectively focused our efforts to make the greatest impact with limited, precious public funds.

In 2008, the Human Services Fund provided about \$15 million to support 65 local programs that serve people of all ages, from infants to elders, people of varied abilities and cultural backgrounds. Through the Human Services Fund, our nonprofit partners work together to:

- Meet the community's basic needs
- Increase self-reliance
- Improve health and well-being
- Strengthen children and families
- Build a safer community





We are **vital**  
partners **working**  
**together** to meet  
human **needs**.

When you're vulnerable, in need or overwhelmed, every door seems impossible to open. The nonprofit partners of the Human Services Commission open new doors to a whole network of services, creating opportunities for individuals and families to get help.

Regardless of the entryway, every nonprofit in our network is connected, ensuring that each need is met in the best possible way. Through network referrals and collaboration, we create an effective system for helping people become self-sufficient.

## *impact*



- 618 . . . . . Children and their families received special needs services
- 5,922 . . . . . Individuals received legal assistance to obtain basic needs
- 8,457 . . . . . Individuals received crisis intervention services
- 36,435 . . . . . Information and referral contacts
- 68,439 . . . . . Individuals received food boxes/meals
- 10,315 . . . . . Households received energy assistance/education/weatherization
- 2,922 . . . . . Individuals assisted with housing/emergency shelter services
- 1,042 . . . . . Homeless/at-risk youth received a range of services
- 1,370 . . . . . Seniors received services to support their independence
- 1,610 . . . . . Individuals received assistance to obtain Veteran's benefits
- 4,474 . . . . . Individuals received medical, dental, mental health and substance abuse services
- 14,867 . . . . . Individuals whose other emergency needs were addressed

Whether it's an individual in crisis or a family whose needs require collaboration from multiple organizations, the Human Services Fund allows our nonprofit partners to respond when and where they are needed.

Crisis centers offer services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Womenspace, White Bird, Looking Glass and Sexual Assault Support Services provided nearly 8,500 individuals with crisis intervention services last year.

We build a collaborative relationship between our nonprofit partners to create a safety net of services that help those in need get access to any of our services. Project Homeless Connect is one example.

Each winter hundreds of volunteers and 300 service providers join together for Project Homeless Connect. The event helps nearly 1,200 of our homeless relatives and neighbors toward a better life in the most basic ways. Haircuts, hygiene, housing help, reading glasses, medical and dental assistance, bicycle repair and more are all free and offered in a respectful environment.

*learn more at:* [www.homelessconnect.org](http://www.homelessconnect.org)

We are **responsive** and flexible. Through our **nonprofit network**, we can adapt quickly to meet the **community's needs**.



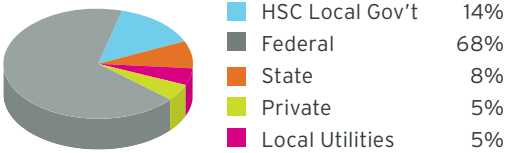
We are **accountable**,  
**resourceful** and  
**diligent stewards**  
of all resources  
**entrusted to us.**

Each year, the Human Services Commission joins local government together with local nonprofits serving thousands of people across our community. This partnership uses its advantage as a connector and collaborator to bring in a multitude of funding sources to help those in need. Resources are allocated fairly and equitably, focusing on meeting the community's needs.

This partnership effort results in nearly \$10 in funds, cash, donated goods and volunteer hours for every dollar that comes from local funds.

### *funding* .....

#### HSC Funds

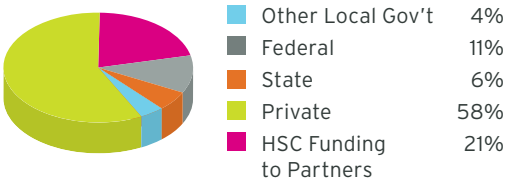


### *funded agencies*

- Birth To Three
- Catholic Community Services
- Centro LatinoAmericano
- Celeste Campbell Senior Center
- Community Sharing
- Direction Service
- Food for Lane County
- HIV Alliance
- HACSA
- LCOG Senior & Disabled Services
- Law & Advocacy Center
- Looking Glass Youth & Family Services
- Mainstream Housing, Inc.
- Pearl Buck Center Inc.
- Planned Parenthood
- Relief Nursery
- Sexual Assault Support Services
- ShelterCare
- Siuslaw Outreach Services
- Sponsors, Inc.
- St. Vincent de Paul
- Upper Willamette CDC
- Veterans' Services of Lane County
- White Bird Clinic
- Willamalane Adult Activity Center
- Willamette Family Treatment
- Womenspace

### *leveraging* .....

#### From HSC Provider Partners



*Funders: Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS), U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB), Emerald People's Utility District (EPUD), City of Eugene, City of Springfield, Lane County, NW Natural, Blachly-Lane Electric Cooperative, Private Donations, Annenberg Foundation, Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA)*



Asking for help can be an intimidating and uncomfortable process. The nonprofit partners of the Human Services Commission all believe in the strength and resilience of those they serve. Every collaborative effort is designed with a focus on moving people toward independence.

We treat **everyone** with **respect**. We support each individual's and family's **independence** and **encourage** full **participation** in the community.

## *shelley's story* .....

Shelley came to ShelterCare's Family Housing Program with her two preschool children and no income, no medical coverage. They had been living in her car for two months.

While at ShelterCare, Shelley set goals for herself with the assistance of our Mental Health Advocate to address her depression. Our advocate helped enroll the children on the Oregon Health Plan and introduced Shelley to the Relief Nursery. Shelley joined a group of young moms to learn new parenting skills. Next, Shelley participated in the Second Chance Rental program through St. Vincent de Paul, which made it easier for her to get housing. They were able to assist with her move-in costs and utility deposits.

Shelley now has her own apartment and is self sufficient and the kids are happy and healthy in their new home. Now Shelley is volunteering at Relief Nursery. This is her way of giving back to the community. Shelley feels like a whole person by helping others.