

YCAP NEWSLETTER

Quarterly newsletter for Yamhill Community Action Partnership.

■ Fall Edition 2020

YOUTH SERVICES: Expanding Mental Health Resources

Early in the pandemic when the drop-in center was closed, Youth Outreach (YO) continued to serve at-risk youth by conducting extensive outreach to identify youth in need and provide them with shelter and counseling services.

During this time, YO's Safe Shelter program housed two young brothers who were found sleeping in a car. The brothers had lived with family in the Newberg area for about two years, but a family conflict caused them to be kicked out of the place they were staying. YO staff moved quickly to get them into shelter. The older brother was helped by YO's Transitional Living Program (TLP), which places youth in apartments for up to 18 months while also providing life skills, educational support, job readiness, and mental health services. The younger brother was placed in a Host Home while his legal guardian was tracked down and contacted. The conflict that resulted in the brothers being kicked out was addressed through family mediation provide by YO, and the younger brother was able to move back home. Both youth continue to receive services from YO to ensure they are in stable housing and progressing towards their life goals.

If you are interested in becoming a Safe Shelter host family, please contact Youth Outreach at 503-472-0457.

Since reopening on September 1st with CDC approved COVID protocols, YO has worked to expand its mental health services. Through Yamhill County Health and Human Services, YO has a mental health professional on-site 20 hours per week to provide free individual and group counseling to youth.

YO has also developed a partnership with the Community Wellness Collective which includes sharing office space, providing mental health and addiction services to youth, and connecting youth to other community programs.

“The partnership will allow for a greater ability to serve youth through a continuum of needs and services and supports individuals in as many ways as possible to set them up for success and stability later in life.”

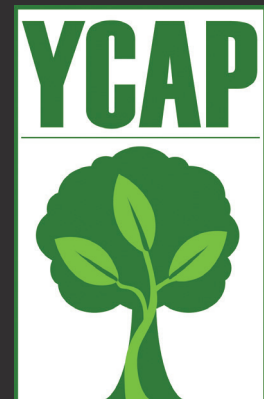
**Kristen Stoller, Co-Founder
Community Wellness Collective**

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FOOD BANK: YCAP Poised To Deliver Record Amounts Of Food

Help us meet the need this winter and in 2021 by texting “HOPE” to (503) 455-7717 to give to the YCAP Food Bank!

The YCAP Food Bank has now distributed more food in 2020 than in all of last year with two of our heaviest months left to go! As harvest ends and the winter season approaches, food donations from local farms dramatically declines while the need in the community increases.

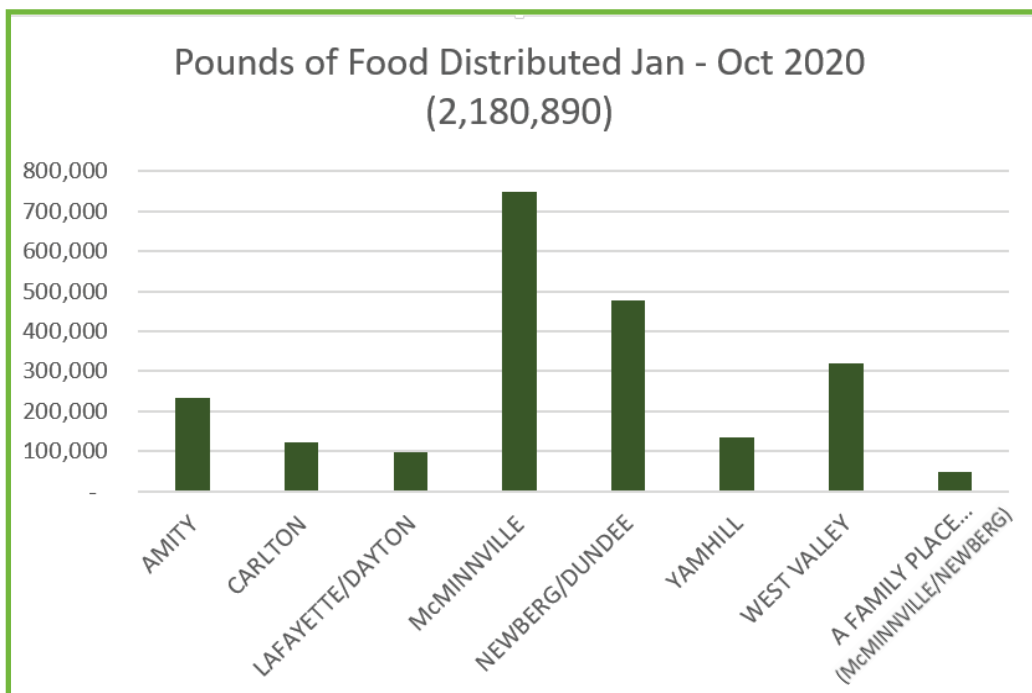


YCAP Food Bank Staff building food boxes.

Typically, YCAP is able to conduct multiple in-person food collection drives during November and December; however, due to surging cases of COVID in Oregon and our commitment to keeping our warehouse free of the virus, we are unable to hold many of those this year. Barrels comprised of food from multiple households must be quarantined for over a month to ensure it is safe for distribution. As a result, financial contributions to the Food Bank will be more important than ever this giving season.



Thank you to everyone who donated hogs at the Yamhill County Youth Livestock Auction!



YCAP is committed to serving the entire Yamhill County community and has distributed 2,180,890 pounds of food through partner pantries, meal sites, and Harvest2Home locations to date in 2020.

Housing Stabilization: Rapid Response

Recently, a Housing Stabilization Outreach Specialist encountered a single mother of two who was experiencing homelessness after fleeing a domestic violence situation. Unfortunately, this is all too common. According to multiple studies utilized by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services examining the causes of homelessness, among mothers with children experiencing homelessness, more than 80% had experienced domestic violence, and 38% of all domestic violence victims become homeless at some point in their lives. *Statistics also show that domestic violence survivors are routinely discriminated against when finding new housing. For example, many do not have a history of housing that can be safely contacted to provide references.*

YCAP works to overcome these barriers and help families fleeing domestic violence find permanent, safe housing. Fortunately, the YCAP Outreach worker was able to gather documentation from the mother and enter her into YCAP's Rapid Re-Housing program. Within three days, her case manager found her an apartment and submitted an application on her behalf. She was accepted and now has a safe place to stay to raise her children and rebuild her life.



ENERGY AND WEATHERIZATION: Winter Is Coming

As the weather starts to become colder, warmth becomes even more important for those in need in our community. Fortunately, the new Energy Assistance program year began just in time on October 1st, and YCAP has funding available to help people stay warm this winter.

YCAP is also still distributing COVID-19 energy assistance that must be disbursed by December 30, 2020, and some of those funds are available to families who normally do not qualify under typical program guidelines. Most Energy Assistance is for households who are at 60% State Median Income, but COVID funding that must be disbursed by December 30th has a higher threshold, with some up to 200% the Area Median Income. If you know someone who is struggling to pay energy bills, please have them visit <http://yamhillcap.org/energy> or call 503-687-1480.

YCAP is also in the process of finalizing 17 weatherization projects in Yamhill County that were delayed temporarily due to COVID-19. We are working closely with contractors to finish these projects before winter arrives!



YCAP's lead Energy Services Technician conducts a home weatherization inspection.

Thank you to all of the 2020 Raise The Barn Sponsors!



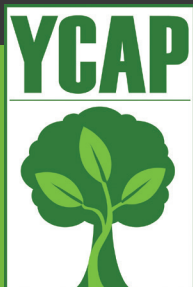
Musical performance by blues guitarist Terry Robb



Columbia Bank
Recology
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!



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Main Campus
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503-472-0457
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503-472-0457 ext. 1001
Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m.
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