

YCAP NEWSLETTER

Quarterly newsletter for Yamhill Community Action Partnership.

■ Spring Edition 2021

HOUSING STABILIZATION: Addressing Housing Inequities



Couple in their new home

from significant systemic inequities that prolong homelessness.

In the last year, the Housing Stabilization Department launched several new initiatives specifically to address these issues. One such initiative was the creation of 10 motel shelter beds per night dedicated to persons living outside who identify as black, indigenous, or persons of color through a health equity grant by the Oregon Health Authority.

Families who are homeless often face many barriers to being rehoused including lost paperwork, no references, a sporadic work history, low credit scores, etc. Some families face even more barriers which can result

These non-congregate shelter beds were paired with bilingual case management services and the support of YCAP's housing specialist to assist participants in obtaining apartments. One couple enrolled in the health equity shelter program were found to also be eligible for YCAP's new Safe Housing program, a permanent supportive housing program for chronically homeless persons, which provides rental subsidy and intensive case management.

After enrollment, their case manager and housing specialist supported them in gathering housing documents and applying for units. They were approved and moved into their new apartment in early 2021 after several years of experiencing street homelessness. They are now receiving bilingual case management services to support them as they adjust to their new home and work on their longer-term stability goals.

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\$1.7 MILLION IN COVID-19 RENT RELIEF DISTRIBUTED

Number of Persons of Color Assisted: **531**



Number of Persons with Disabling Conditions Assisted: **358**

Number of Seniors (55+) Assisted: **76**



ENERGY AND WEATHERIZATION: Helping Families Save Energy

During COVID, YCAP's Weatherization Team has been working closely with a single parent who lives in a manufactured home with their three children. After conducting an energy audit, they discovered the home was losing a lot of energy with almost 10% of the household income having to be used for energy bills every year!

YCAP's Weatherization team secured assistance for the bilingual family and was able to replace the non-functioning furnace with an energy-efficient heat pump. They also air sealed and insulated the ductwork and installed additional insulation in the ceiling and crawlspace.

To further reduce energy loss, the windows were replaced with energy efficient vinyl windows that resulted in lowering the

infiltration rate by 60%. After all the work was complete, computer modeling predicts energy usage may drop by nearly 50%. The family was incredibly grateful, and their home is now much more comfortable!



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

YOUTH OUTREACH: Housing Yamhill County Youth

Evan was 20 years old when he contacted Youth Outreach after he had been couch surfing in McMinnville for a few months. Previously he had lived with his girlfriend in an apartment, but when the relationship dissolved, so did the living situation. Soon after that, he lost the full-time job he had held for a year due to transportation issues. Evan had been homeless years earlier but had stabilized with the job and apartment. Now he was back to square one.

Evan applied and was accepted into the Transitional Living Program (TLP). Within the first week and a half, he had two jobs. Evan is now working between 40-70 hours a week. He had some debts to pay off and that was his first priority. He also started saving the required 30% of his income into

the TLP Savings Program.

Evan continues to work a lot of hours, has upgraded positions, and gotten raises at both establishments. He is happy and sees this as the perfect opportunity to get back on his feet. Evan is interested in getting into the construction industry and potentially getting his CCB license in the future. For now, he is working toward more immediate goals that move him toward his bright future.

If you are interested in becoming a Safe Shelter host family, please contact Youth Outreach at 503-538-8023.

FOOD BANK: Delivering Hope to Rural Communities



A few weeks ago, the YCAP Food Bank took two trucks out to Yamhill with 180 fresh food boxes and 160 shelf stable food boxes. In total,

160 families in need were served with fresh and shelf stable food in an hour and half! With four staff members and one volunteer, they were able to direct cars, take count, and load vehicles quickly and efficiently despite a down pour.

Some of those helped by this delivery of much needed food included a senior who was picking up boxes for four households. She said that these boxes have been a true blessing as these families had lost income due to lost jobs, and the food boxes have made a real difference for them.

Another gentleman was picking up boxes for his and his sister's families. Because of COVID, they have not been able to work their normal hours. He said that having access to these boxes has been a huge help especially while the children were out of school.

Food Partner Gratitude:

Special thanks to Dave, Mike, and Wayne! On March 9th, we had a larger than expected day, and our meat supply was not enough to last the week, but once again these guys not only saved the day but did so with such kindness and a willingness to help that was incredible. Thanks again for all you guys do for our community. God bless.

THE MELT DOWN: Lifting Up Families and Local Businesses



Thank you to everyone who participated in this fun and cheesy fundraiser! Despite COVID, dining restrictions, ice storms, and power outages, you purchased 6,741 sandwiches and

raised more than \$13,582 to support the YCAP Food Bank!

You also gave our local restaurants something to cheer about as they battled it out in friendly culinary competition to win the coveted Biggest Cheese Awards.

This year, Grain Station won the Cheesy Cheese Category, selling a personal record of 631 sandwiches, while Ribslayer slew the competition and their own record by selling 415 sandwiches and winning the Meaty Cheese Category.

A special thank you to all of the restaurants for your tasty creations and to our sponsors who make this event possible:



Thank you all for another cheesy year of The Melt Down! We can't wait for 2022!

COVID Rent Relief Gratitude:

“Mil gracias realmente no se imagina lo feliz que nos hace con esta noticia si pudiera verme miraría las lagrimas que están cayendo por mis mejillas realmente gracias de corazón mi familia y yo estaremos eternamente agradecidos con ustedes mejor noticia no pude recibir hoy ahora solo queda esperar el nacimiento de mi bebé tranquila ellos son mis hijos gracias por darnos esta grande ayuda.”

Translation:

“A thousand thanks you really do not imagine how happy you make us with this news. If you could see me you would look at the tears that are falling down my cheeks. Really, thank you from the bottom of my heart. My family and I will be eternally grateful to you, this is the best news I could receive today. Now I can wait for the birth of my baby calmly. Thank you for giving us this great help.”



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

Yamhill Community Action Partnership (YCAP)
Main Campus
1317 NE Dustin Court
McMinnville, OR 97128
503-472-0457
Office Hours: M-F 8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m

Youth Outreach Center
719 E First Street
Newberg, OR 97132
503-538-8023
Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m.
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