

Head Start Engages Parents and Children in Learning

CSC's Head Start programs in Lincoln County provided 197 children with early education last year. Head Start offers children quality education, health screenings and family supports which help our preschoolers learn and grow in a safe, healthy environment.

Head Start's goal is to ensure school readiness and achievement, focusing not just on learning, but making sure children are well-fed and have access to medical and dental care.

Parents support their child's learning by participating in opening and closing activities and have daily opportunities to check-in with Teacher/Advocates. Parents also are involved in Head Start's Policy Council, volunteering in their children's classrooms, planning Family Meetings, parent education, and some even attended the Oregon Head Start Association conferences.

Family Meetings offer an opportunity for families to meet, socialize and make new friends. We understand that support networks are incredibly important for families to feel confident, secure, and engaged in their communities.



Helping People. Changing Lives.



Our vision is to end poverty in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln counties.

Dear Friends – As we move into the bustling holiday season at Community Services Consortium, we are so inspired by the positive impact your support has created in our communities through your donations, volunteer work, and your participation in events like the Barrel to Keg Relay to End Poverty! This newsletter includes stories about just a few of this year's many successes. With your continued support, people are able to improve their lives and their family's legacy. What a powerful gift!

CSC needs your help to keep people in warm, safe housing, with food on the table, and education and job training that allows them better opportunities in the future. We hope you will consider giving a gift this holiday season to help individuals and families become stable and better equipped to navigate a path out of poverty.



Together, we can continue to help people and change lives!

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YEARS SERVING LINN,
BENTON, AND LINCOLN
COUNTY COMMUNITIES

Visit us at
www.communityservices.us
or on Facebook

Contact Us!

www.communityservices.us



Albany CSC Office
250 SW Broadalbin, Suite 2A
Albany, OR 97321
541-928-6335

Corvallis CSC Office
545 SW Second St., Suite A
Corvallis, OR 97333
541-752-1010

Newport CSC Office
120 NE Avery, 2nd Floor
Newport, OR 97365
541-574-2280

4 Ways You Can Help End Poverty in Our Community

- 1) **Make a Donation:** mail a check to CSC at 250 Broadalbin St, Suite 2A, Albany, OR 97321, visit us at www.communityservices.us and click "Donate" or call Dee Teem at 541-574-2277 to talk about your giving wishes and opportunities.
- 2) **Become a mentor in a young person's life.** Contact Armand in Linn/Benton counties at 541-758-2606 or Dee in Lincoln County at 541-574-2277.
- 3) **Link your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to support Community Services Consortium at no cost to you!** www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards. Community Services Consortium #87210
- 4) **Volunteer in your community with any of our CSC programs by contacting Dee Teem at 541-574-2277 or dteem@communityservices.us.**

Youth Program Makes a Difference

Kennhy came to Corvallis and CSC from Southern California, where he was laid off from his bakery distribution job. Kennhy dropped out of high school to work entry-level, and worked his way up. He came to Corvallis with his spouse and two children, and recognized that he needed to get his GED before moving forward with his life. When he first connected with CSC, he had third-grade reading and math skills. At the age of 22, he had made a decision to better himself.

Within a few months, Kennhy raised his reading level while being tutored at the CSC Youth House. His progress was remarkable, and one day we started discussing books. We commented that he had made so much progress since he arrived. That's when he said that one of the main reasons he was working so hard was so he could read to his young children. Specifically, he liked to read them Harry Potter. He said that it was good practice for him, and that his kids loved the story and hearing him read it to them. That was his motivation, and he took that to heart.

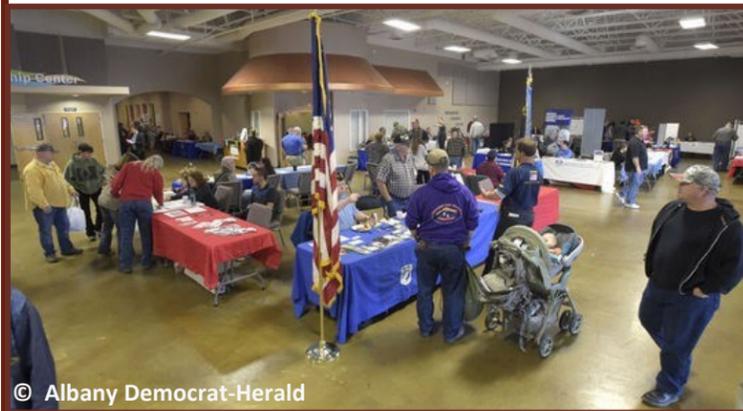


Kennhy has not only brought up his reading level and math skills - he received his GED and will be going to truck driving school. Kennhy has immersed himself in the community through volunteering with Habitat for Humanity, his church, and by being a positive person while moving forward with his life.

Stand Down Helps Veterans in Need

CSC coordinated the second annual Mid-Valley Stand Down for Veterans on November 3 at the River Center in Lebanon. More than 40 local providers were on hand to assist nearly 100 attendees, which included homeless veterans, struggling veterans and their families.

These veterans were able to access needed services such as housing assistance, help with obtaining VA benefits, employment, mental health and various medical services. Stylists from Selfie Salon and Fresh Fades were on hand giving free haircuts. Survival gear such as tents, sleeping bags, gloves, and duffle bags



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were handed out to homeless veterans, and many clothing and toiletry items were donated and given out free to veterans and their families. Hot breakfast was provided by many generous sponsors, and no one went away hungry. Free transportation to the event was provided by the Linn-Benton Loop and the Linn Shuttle as well as Signs of Victory Ministries.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Consider making a gift to help those in need this holiday season.

Mail a check to 250 Broadalbin St., Suite 2A, Albany, OR 97321 or visit www.communityservices.us, click "Donate" to view our gift catalog.

CSC's Community Impact in 2015



Helped 1,279 people to obtain and keep employment in 2015



Nearly 40,000 nights of housing provided



Helped more than 14,000 to keep lights and heat on



More than 5 million pounds of food distributed in Linn and Benton counties

LBFS Works with Local Farmers to Provide Healthy Food to the Hungry

CSC's Linn Benton Food Share (LBFS) program is well-known for their commitment to make sure that "Everybody Eats." Last year, LBFS distributed more than five million pounds of food to a network of 74 food pantries, meal sites, and other community agencies.

What you may not know is that LBFS is committed to getting more healthy choices, like local produce, in the hands of those dealing with food insecurity. LBFS has long-standing relationships with local farms in Linn and Benton counties, whose generous crop donations keep food boxes overflowing with delicious, fresh local food like



tomatoes, squash, cucumbers, peppers and a variety of other seasonal goodies.

Linn Benton Food Share (LBFS) has long-standing relationships with local farms in Linn and Benton counties. We also have a commitment to providing fresh, healthy food to our member agency network and the clients we serve.

These relationships also have positive effects for the farmer in the form of the state Crop Donation Tax Credit and a better harvest overall due to strategic gleaning. Moreover, they can lead to a stronger farm economy and increased community food security. And finally, these relationships between farmers and Food Share help farmers continue to do what they do best: grow great food to feed the community.

Over the last three years, 585,251 pounds of fresh produce has been grown and donated to LBFS member agencies from farms in Linn & Benton counties, including Turpen Family Farm in Alsea, pictured at right.

