

# YCAP

SPRING 2017

YAMHILL COMMUNITY  
ACTION PARTNERSHIP



*Springtime is upon us and with it comes the renewal of hope and possibilities. In that spirit, we're asking you to consider an additional donation to the YCAP Food Bank. This is a critical time of year for us as we commit to funding future food security programs for families in need.*



*Carmen, Linfield volunteer, puts together bags for our Friday Family Food program*

As a regional Food Bank, much of our work supports food pantries and congregate meal sites in the area. However, in an effort to increase countywide access to healthy, nourishing produce our dedicated Food Bank team also runs two important programs that, without critical funding, we will be forced to scale back next year.

One of these programs - **Friday Family Food** - provides families in need with two healthy weekend meals providing students the nourishment they need to return to school each week and excel academically, socially and emotionally. Our **Harvest2Home** program delivers fresh produce to Virginia Garcia Health Clinics, vineyards, nurseries, the McMinnville Senior Center, and several low-income housing complexes, serving individuals limited by barriers such as financial resources, mobility, and transportation issues.

These programs, along with all of the work we do through our Food Bank, are offering that extra help that so many people throughout Yamhill County need to succeed. One visitor picking up food through a partner agency shared, "My kids and I appreciate all the Food Bank has had to offer us and all it has done for us. Without it in our lives, things would be much more difficult. It makes being a single dad with two kids and a small amount of money each month, able to breathe a little easier." Another visitor said, "Our local food bank helps to feed me and

my son and everyone in need of help with food. No one should ever be hungry." To this, we agree!

In Yamhill County, the food insecurity rate is 13.3%. The average cost of a meal is \$3.02. While the need in our community has grown substantially, our ability to fund these programs has not followed that same trajectory. Our Food Bank is largely community supported, meaning we rely heavily on the generosity of donors to fund this important work.

Feeding people and offering healthy food choices are both central to our mission. Your contribution is part of a collective effort to make sure our most vulnerable populations are nourished and everyone is offered the support they need to weather difficult times.

Please consider making a generous donation today.

On behalf of everyone at YCAP, thank you for your support. Your generosity and compassion is helping those who need it the most.

Martha Penhall  
YCAP Food Bank Manager

\$25 gift sponsors one family for 4 weeks through our Friday Family Food program

\$50 gift can provide 165 meals to families through our Harvest2Home program

\$100 gift provides 14 Friday Family Food bags which provides two weekend meals for a family of four

\$250 sponsors 1,000 pounds of fresh produce for seniors in need through our Harvest2Home program



## *Dear Friend of YCAP,*

Since our last newsletter, it has been an historic and uncertain time in our country and state. We've had local and national elections that have changed our political and economic landscape. We have a full legislative session in Oregon now that is wrestling with some challenges to fund a variety of needs. The national priorities remain uncertain and the country appears as divided as ever.

We have also had another heartwarming holiday season that once again reflected our unique brand of community spirit and generosity in Yamhill County. This has been followed by unseasonably cold weather, several episodes of snow, then rain, rain, rain and the welcome signs of spring.

There is a phrase that "all politics are local." The reality seems to be that no matter what is happening in global, national or statewide news, most things are local. We see our neighbors, run into people we know at stores, at school, and local events. We become involved in things we care about at the local level, be it schools for our kids, places of worship, civic affairs, the arts, environmental or social causes. After the elections last fall many of my friends said, "We are going to focus on strengthening our communities."

I see that in the work we do at YCAP, and it is encouraging. We remain focused on helping our neighbors in need, one person or family at a time. There are stories about our work throughout this newsletter. I think about one last fall when a woman and her three children who were on our shelter waitlist became homeless after fleeing a domestic violence situation. A YCAP Case Manager quickly found that they were eligible for another of our housing programs. Through a relationship we had built with a local landlord, our Housing Specialist secured the family a three bedroom apartment. Our Case Manager met the family at their new home with a Street-to-Home kit and Thanksgiving basket. The mother was so grateful for the stability we provided to her family.

It is these stories that keep me inspired. No matter what uncertainty surrounds us and remains ahead, I continue to have faith in the human spirit and our collective commitment to our local communities. Thank you for continued interest in and support of YCAP.

With Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Jeff Sargent'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jeff Sargent  
Executive Director, YCAP

# EVENTS & OUTREACH

## JOIN US AT OUR TWO UPCOMING SIGNATURE EVENTS!

### RAISE THE BARN

A YCAP FUNDRAISER

### LIGHT THE FIRE

*Join the YCAP crew on Saturday, July 15th, 2017 as we lift community, promote self-sufficiency, and elevate hope.*

This Americana-inspired event will feature chef Kyle Christenson of The Diner, along with other local partner chefs, to create a collaborative meal with regional farmers and producers. Beers and ciders brought to you by David Sanguinetti of The Bitter Monk, along with classic American cocktails and local wine.

Dinner will be followed by live Bluegrass music and dancing, all with the stunning backdrop at the Yamhill Valley Heritage Center. Great food, drinks, entertainment and unique culinary raffle experiences will create a festive opportunity to contribute to this year's YCAP fundraiser. Come and help us "Raise the Barn" and continue to fund programs that strengthen our community.

**Saturday, July 15, 2017 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**  
Buy tickets at [www.yamhillcap.org/events](http://www.yamhillcap.org/events)

*YCAP is fired up for the third annual "Light the Fire" fundraiser at Ruddick/Wood restaurant in Newberg!*

It will all ignite on Sunday, October 1, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. with a Champagne Tasting at Valley Wine Merchants. Guests will then attend a fantastic dinner and wine pairing prepared by local chefs, including R/W's own Paul Losch!

This year's menu courses are still a surprise but will feature delicious, seasonal creations from chefs at Ruddick/Wood, The Painted Lady, and Red Hills Market. At 6:30 p.m. the Street Party sparks with live music, International Fire Dancers, the famous Unipiper, street food, local wines and beer, and fantastic raffle experience packages! Proceeds from our fall fundraiser will benefit Food Bank and Youth services.

**Sunday, October 1, 2017 5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

Buy tickets for both the Dinner and the Street Party at [www.yamhillcap.org/events](http://www.yamhillcap.org/events)



### BIGGEST TURKEY COMPETITION

Diane Longaker represents YCAP in the biggest turkey competition. Visit our website for more details!

### UPCOMING FOOD AND FUND DRIVES

National Letter Carriers Food Drive  
May 13th

Dollar Tree and Feeding America Food Drive  
May 13th- June 18th

Chuck Colvin Peanut Butter Drive  
May

Grocery Outlet Independence from Hunger  
July

Dragging the Gut  
August

Valley View Air Show  
August

Yamhill County-wide Food & Fund Drive  
August

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



## FOOD BANK

We believe everyone deserves a healthy meal. For those times when circumstances leave little for groceries, we're here with the needed nutritious food and resources to get individuals and families back on their feet. YCAP provides food to 13 emergency food pantries and 6 community meal sites throughout Yamhill County.

### *News and program highlights*

The YCAP Food Bank, in partnership with 10 local restaurants, hosted a successful two week fundraiser called "The Melt Down."



The event encouraged creative grilled cheese sandwich creations with a portion of every sale going back to the Food Bank and brought in an impressive \$2,000! Kyle Christenson of The Diner, in McMinnville, sold the highest number of sandwiches and was awarded the title of "The Biggest Cheese."

Our Food Bank is continuing its partnership with the Linfield Center for the Northwest Home Garden Project to enhance our Seed to Supper Program. This project, which benefits low-income individuals and families, offers free raised bed or container garden installation, seeds for the year, tools, gardening manuals and staff support. Participants will learn the fundamentals of successful gardening and efficiently maximizing output using a small space.

The demand for participation in our Friday Family Food program continues to expand as the need in our community grows. We are currently serving 265 children and their families each week at Dayton Grade School, Edwards in Newberg, Wascher in Lafayette and Yamhill-Carlton Elementary. In Yamhill County, many young children depend on the free or reduced meals offered through area schools. To be sure these families have the nourishment they need over the weekend, program participants pick up a bag of food each Friday guaranteeing at least two healthy weekend meals.



*Members of Amy Halloran Steiner's "Thrive Tribe" raise food and funds on behalf of YCAP outside of Roth's, McMinnville*

## CLIENT SERVICES & HOUSING

This program offers a variety of services and resources to the community including: One-time financial assistance, Transitional Living Shelter placement, rental assistance programs, case management, and other supportive services. Our programs are targeted towards low-income households, and individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

### **News and client success stories**

The 2017 Point-In-Time Homeless Count was held on January 25th and involved over 45 community volunteers in the day long effort. YCAP staff members and volunteers worked on street outreach teams and at 11 drop-sites around Yamhill County serving meals, conducting surveys and providing information about supportive services in the area. Approximately 1,100 homeless individuals were identified. This annual event helps us identify the need in the community, procure funding, and assess the impact our programming has each year.

A family of five recently came to YCAP seeking rental assistance. The father had been injured, required surgery, and was not able to work for over a month while in physical rehab. During this time the family was trying to live on TANF support (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families). They were falling behind on their bills and finally received the dreaded eviction notice. YCAP stepped in and provided two months of rental assistance, which allowed the father to finish his physical therapy and return to his construction job. Three months later, the family remains stably housed and is working with a YCAP case manager to create a budget that will allow them to save for the future.

A client who went through our Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program, recently exited the program employed and able to pay his own rent. When he entered the program he was homeless and had no income. A YCAP case manager found a landlord who was willing to work with the client, despite his criminal record, and he moved into his new apartment and began looking for jobs. Once he was in stable housing, instead of eating fast food he was able to cook healthy meals at home. After just three months of rent assistance this client secured a stable truck driving job and successfully graduated from the SSVF program.



## ENERGY ASSISTANCE & WEATHERIZATION SERVICES

Home energy and heating is a necessary aspect of shelter and deficiencies pose a threat to life, health and safety. Our Energy Assistance programs provide financial support to eligible households to offset residential energy costs. Our weatherization services help to bolster the energy efficiency of a home, reducing usage and lowering utility costs.

### Program highlights and client success stories

In the last 8 months, YCAP has helped prevent disconnection or has restored energy to 1,113 Yamhill County households through our energy bill assistance programs. During that same period twenty-three home weatherization projects were completed and thirteen more were in progress, increasing the comfort, safety and energy efficiency of each household.

A member of our Energy Assistance team met with a woman who was facing a disconnection that same day. Previously, she had been assisting her father as his full-time caregiver and as such, was not employed outside the home. When her father passed away the financial assistance she received ended as well. The client was providing childcare for a family member but the income was not enough to sustain all of her financial obligations. Our staff worked with the utility company and within the day we were able to take all of the necessary steps to prevent a disconnection.

A single disabled adult visited YCAP after losing her income, which was generated by renting her home to roommates who had recently moved out. The client's family was able to help, but they were unable to provide enough financial support to cover all of her financial commitments. While the client was waiting for Social Security Administration to approve benefits, the electric bill continued to fall behind. With nowhere else to turn, the client contacted YCAP. Staff was able to help the client with energy bill assistance, which prevented disconnection and provided needed extra financial assistance to offset the higher than average February bill.

## YOUTH SERVICES

We believe that a community's youth is one of its most valuable resources. Through our Youth Services department, young people are nurtured by caring adults, are given opportunities to become involved in education or work that builds their skills, are supported and protected during challenging times, and are actively engaged in community activities.

### News and client success stories

Youth Outreach in Newberg participated in the Point in Time Homeless Count serving as one of the drop-in sites and operating three street outreach teams. Twelve homeless youth were provided with food, bus tickets, survival aids such as tarps & blankets, or winter weather gear; while outreach teams targeted more rural areas with supplies and resources, as needed.



*Teens working their job readiness skills at Youth Outreach*

Tani was 17 and homeless when she came to Youth Outreach looking for help finding a job. She began working with our Jobs Development Specialist and was quickly connected with temporary emergency shelter.

Tani was a tough case. Her mother, who was struggling with addiction, had kicked Tani out of the house citing behavioral issues. Tani's father wasn't around and her extended family was fed up as well. Tani was reluctant to consider assistance through programs outside of Newberg and it was difficult resourcing safe, healthy options she would consider.

Despite these challenges, YO staff was able to connect Tani with resources for food, clothing and several local programs that offered long-term support. Tani temporarily began staying with a family friend and she and her mother began participating in Family Mediation. Together YO staff and Tani drafted a plan that both she and her mother agreed to. YO staff continues to work with Tani and her mother to help mend their relationship and to offer additional support and resources as needed.

# MONTHLY GIVING

YCAP is grateful for, values and respects our generous donors. Regular monthly donations go a long way toward allowing us to continue meeting the demands year-round. For example, over a 12 month period:

## **\$10 per month**

buys vehicle tags to help a client get to a new job.

## **\$25 per month**

buys two "Street to Home" Kits for formerly homeless people moving from our shelter to more stable housing.

## **\$50 per month**

purchases the equivalent of almost 2,000 meals for hungry Yamhill County residents.

## **\$100 per month**

pays for essential repairs to our Food Bank box truck, which logs 20 miles a day five days a week picking up and delivering donated or purchased food.

You can direct your donation to the general agency, and we will apply it where it has the greatest impact. Or, you can designate it to a specific YCAP program, such as Client Services & Housing, Energy Services, the Food Bank, or Youth Services. You can also give your gift in honor or memory of a loved one. Go to [www.yamhillcap.org](http://www.yamhillcap.org) and select the "Donate" button under "Recurring Donations" on the Home Page. Thank you for supporting our Yamhill County neighbors in need through YCAP!

# PLANNED GIVING

With a planned gift to YCAP, you can combine your charitable giving goals with your financial planning goals. You can even honor a friend or family member by making a memorial gift. Your gift will be a part of helping thousands of Yamhill County residents work towards more stable and fulfilling lives.

## **With a planned gift, you can:**

- Make a larger charitable gift than you thought possible
- Take care of the financial needs of your family first
- Provide inheritances for your heirs at a lower tax cost
- Reduce your income tax and even avoid capital gains taxes
- Diversify your investment portfolio
- Increase income and effective rate of return
- Leave a legacy without giving up assets

For more information, contact YCAP Executive Director Jeff Sargent at [jeffs@yamhillcap.org](mailto:jeffs@yamhillcap.org) / 503.883.4172

## **FY 2016-17 YCAP BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Gwen Jernstedt - Board Chair  
*Carlton City Councilor*

Ryan Connor - Board Vice-Chair  
*Pastor, Amity Christian Church*

John Larsen - Treasurer  
*Retired First Federal Vp Senior  
Loan Officer*

David Case  
*Pastor, Newberg Community  
Christian Church*

Jon George  
*Council Member, Confederated Tribes  
of The Grand Ronde*

Bernt "Al" Hansen  
*Retired Attorney*

Ann Scott  
*Retired, Plan Adoption*

Mary Starrett  
*County Commissioner*

Arlene Worden  
*Residential Division Mgr.,  
Mv Advancements*

Beth Wytoski  
*Mayor of Dayton*

Carrie Zimbrick  
*Willamina School District  
Superintendent*

## **AGENCY DIRECTORS:**

*Executive Director, Jeff Sargent  
Adult and Youth Programs Director, Kate Stokes  
Community Relations Director, Julie Miller  
Energy Services and Food Bank Director, Kraig Ludwig  
Finance Director, Debra Hansen  
Human Resources and Office Director, Alaina Bergan*

## **SUPERVISORS:**

*Client Services Coordinator, Mandy Gawf  
Food Bank Manager, Martha Penhall  
Energy Assistance Coordinator, Terry Eagan  
Youth Outreach Safe Shelter Coordinator, Mark Bartlett*

## **YCAP welcomes the following new staff members who have joined us since September 2016:**

*Alethea Brooks, Warren Good, Debra Hansen, Aaron Kumnick  
Garret Snedaker, Kristina Buck, Carolyn Garza, Mary Leathers*

# VOLUNTEER WITH YCAP



## WE ASKED TWO OF OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS WHAT BROUGHT THEM TO YCAP? HERE'S WHAT THEY HAD TO SAY!



*Emily Duerfeldt,  
Food Bank Volunteer*

“I can’t stand the fact that people are going hungry, particularly in our county. Helping in this way has always been a goal of mine, so as soon as I retired I came to YCAP!”



*Tim Anderson,  
Spoke House Volunteer*

“What brought me to YCAP was that I’ve worked for community bike programs in the past and have seen how bicycles can empower people, giving them a means of transportation.

I wanted to create and work towards something like that in my hometown and YCAP had some resources for it. Hopefully we can continue to get more volunteer interest and some more equipment for the spoke house to make it efficient and sustainable in the future.”

Here are three positions we’re looking to fill now! Contact us at 503-883-4183 to inquire about these and other volunteer opportunities.

**Food Bank Driver** – Help us pick up donations from local grocery stores and redistribute the load to one of our partner agencies on a day of your choosing, Monday-Friday, 9:00-12:00.



**Spoke House-** Do you love to work on bikes? If so, join our team and help us restore discarded bikes sourced through a partnership with Waste Management.

**Spanish Speaking Translator-**

Assist the Client Services Department with Spanish translation during client intakes one or more times per week.

***A big thank you to everyone who participated in YCAP Holiday Drives!***

- 274 Coats were collected as part of the One Warm Coat drive at the Newberg and McMinnville Bi-Mart locations.
- 540 blankets and 1,202 new and used books were collected during the First Federal Blanket and Book Drive.



- 58 households and 172 persons were served through our Holiday Adopt-A-Family program.
- Excel Fitness and Meggit, through independent drives, donated a combined total of 212 turkeys for holiday celebrations.
- Safeway and Albertson stores collected Turkey and Santa Bucks which went toward the purchase of 5,391 pounds of food for holiday meals
- Businesses, schools and local volunteers all came together for the Stuff The Bus event which brought in \$4,475 and 5,374 pounds of food
- The community run Ham Fam Fun Run brought people together and raised \$1,510 and 345 pounds of food
- The Willamette Cares Food Share, involving 35 Yamhill County wineries, which brought in \$10,000 and 2,295 pounds of food
- Yamhill County Schools which together raised \$5,260 and 11,038 pounds of food
- Everyone who participated in the 30th annual Community Choir Cantata which raised \$16,001.19
- We would also like to thank the Yamhill County Employees Association, the McMinnville Library and all other local businesses who hosted a food or fund drive during the holiday season.

# ABOUT YCAP

**OUR MISSION: TO ADVOCATE FOR AND ASSIST PERSONS TOWARD SELF-SUFFICIENCY.**



YCAP was founded in 1980 as part of a nationwide network of social service agencies designed to help improve the lives of low-income people and strengthen communities. We assist the residents of Yamhill County, diligently focusing on four primary service categories: Client Services and Housing, Energy

Services, the regional Food Bank, and Youth Services. We are inspired every day by the stories of those who want to have a better life for themselves and their families, and we are honored to support our neighbors in need.



**VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE AT  
[WWW.YAMHILLCAP.ORG](http://WWW.YAMHILLCAP.ORG) TO  
LEARN ABOUT HOW WE CAN  
HELP, HOW YOU CAN HELP  
AND EXCITING UPCOMING  
EVENTS!**

Yamhill Community Action Partnership (YCAP)  
Main Campus  
1317 NE Dustin Court  
McMinnville, OR 97128  
503-472-0457  
Toll Free: 1-855-216-5289  
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. – 9:00 p.m.

[www.yamhillcap.org](http://www.yamhillcap.org)  
[www.facebook.com/YamhillCAP/](https://www.facebook.com/YamhillCAP/)  
[www.facebook.com/Youth-Outreach-265083836798/?fref=ts](https://www.facebook.com/Youth-Outreach-265083836798/?fref=ts)