

Community Connection of Northeast Oregon, Inc. 2016 Annual Report

Programs for Low-Income

Emergency Programs—Provided food, lodging, and utility assistance to 1,261 people in 538 households in order to prevent eviction, and utility shutoffs, and to establish permanent housing. Additional services were available for Veterans.

Energy Assistance - Helped 3,835 people in 2,008 low-income households offset the high cost of winter heating bills with a one-time payment to their fuel vendor (included clients that heat with wood). Some furnaces were replaced.

Food Bank Program—Food boxes were provided to 36,004 individuals in 14,879 households. Local food pantries were available in all four counties. Fresh produce was also available at senior centers and other sites.

Self-Sufficiency Programs—Assisted 180 people in 164 households with security deposits and partial rent payments for up to six months. Adults participated in monthly meetings and trainings designed to increase their self-reliance.

Weatherization—Reduced heat waste, improved indoor air quality, and addressed health and safety issues by conducting extensive diagnostics, caulking, insulating floors, attics, and walls, sealing duct work and replacing doors for 24 people in 12 households. Exhaust fans were installed and some furnaces replaced.

Early Head Start—Highly trained teachers and teacher's aides provided care and age-appropriate daily activities for sixteen children ages six weeks to 36 months.

Programs for Everyone

Homeownership Programs— Homebuyer and budget education workshops; pre-purchase, foreclosure, and financial capabilities counseling; and, for eligible households, mortgage payment assistance was provided to 734 people in 282 households.

Transportation—Provided 965 senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and members of the general public with 77,894 rides to their employment, job training, schools, grocery stores, banks, medical appointments and other locations.

Kids Club—A State-Certified Daycare Center for children grades K-6 served 169 children with 25,627 hours of child care. Kids Club was created to reduce the number of children home alone.

Housing Rehabilitation—Nine people in seven low- and moderate-income households were awarded loans for repairs to preserve the quality of their homes. Repairs to roofs, foundations, electrical, plumbing systems, and kitchens were common. The loans were 0% interest and will be repaid when the ownership of the property changes.

Tax and Legal Aid— Procured legal assistance for 18 seniors: non-seniors were referred to legal aid organizations. Tax preparation numbers were not available.

Programs for Everyone

Summer Lunch Program—To ensure that children received at least one nutritious meal per day, 7,986 free meals were served during the summer months to youth ages 1-18 in La Grande.

Information and Referral—Provided 7,629 individuals with 32,913 units of information on services and opportunities available within the communities.

Programs for Seniors

Health Promotion Disease Prevention—Licensed by Stanford University, Community Connection conducted evidence-based workshops on Living Well with Chronic Conditions and Chronic Pain. Also, offered were workshops on Diabetes Self-Management and Diabetes Prevention Programs. Health clinics provided senior citizens with blood pressure checks, flu shots and foot care. We served 612 people with 5,353 sessions.

In-Home Care (OPI) - Assisted 85 frail seniors, 60 years and older, with daily activities such as bathing, dressing, light housekeeping, cooking, and shopping. Hours of services provided was 14,442.

Options Counseling—Trained professional staff provided 172 hours of guidance to 156 individuals and their families to address immediate needs or plan for the future. They were taught how to choose services and made aware of local, public and privately -paid options.

Programs for Seniors

PEARLS—Developed at the University of Washington, provided one-on-one sessions with professionals to help 4 seniors with 28 sessions to cope with minor depression, often after the loss of a loved one or a serious illness.

Caregiver Support—Provided services to support 37 family caregivers with 1,723 hours of service. When caring for an elderly spouse, an elderly friend, or if over 60 and caring for a grandchild, Community Connection provided equipment, minor home modifications, and individual counseling, as well as a short-term substitute for the caregiver. Powerful Tools for Caregivers six-week workshops empower one to take care of himself while caring for a relative or friend.

Senior Meals— Served 4,696 adults over the age of 60 (including spouses), regardless of income, 49,791 hot, nutritious meals. Also served 11,879 meals to 2,637 volunteers and people under 60. Lunches were served 22 times per week at 9 sites. The meal not only assured at least one nutritious meal daily, but the interaction served the individual's social needs and provided a place to meet friends, play cards and bingo, dance, etc.

Meals-on-Wheels—Nutritious noon meals were delivered to the homes of 1,295 frail, elderly individuals who were unable to leave their homes. During the year, 43,424 hot meals were delivered during the week and frozen or fresh meals were delivered for the weekends.

Executive Director Message

On behalf of Community Connection, I am pleased to issue this annual report for Fiscal Year 2016. Our Board of Directors and employees take great pride in providing high-quality services to the residents of northeast Oregon in a fiscally responsible manner.

More than two decades ago, the agency's Board of Directors adopted a philosophy of decentralization, allowing services to be customized (to the fullest extent possible) to the community and constituents being served. This has served us well and has resulted in Community Connection being viewed as the "go to" organization for many local needs and opportunities. We intend to continue this history of service for many, many years to come. Thank you for your interest.

Margaret Davidson, Executive Director

Organizational History

Community Connection is a private, non-profit corporation governed by a 9-15 member board of directors and staffed by more than 100 employees.

- January 9, 1969: Agency is incorporated!
- January 31, 1969: Designated a Community Action Program for Baker, Union, and Wallowa counties.
- July 23, 1979: Designated as an Area Agency on Aging.
- December 17, 1987: Grant County added to Community Action Program service area.
- February, 2014: Became a HUD-approved Housing Counseling Agency.

Financial Statement

Schedule of Support and Revenue

July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016

In kind	\$93,606
Contributions	\$153,570
Fundraising	\$31,134
Grants, Awards, & Contracts	\$5,173,378
Program Fees	\$1,084,897
Other	\$223,743
Total Revenue	<u>\$6,760,328</u>

Statement of Functional Expenses

July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016

Operating	\$3,093
Energy Assistance	\$1,229,078
Transportation	\$1,813,880
Housing	\$200,520
Food Bank	\$159,147
Youth	\$431,418
Seniors	\$1,594,067
Weatherization & Rehab	\$389,713
Emergency Assist. & Self-Sufficiency	\$433,526
Community Services	\$171,908
In kind & Other	\$83,387
Total Expenses	<u>\$6,509,737</u>



Community Connection
is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

Board of Directors

Steve McClure-Chair, Union County
Scott Myers-Vice-Chair, Grant County
Joe Adamson-Secretary, Baker County
Paul Castilleja, Wallowa County
John DeNault, Union County
Tim Kerns, Baker County
Max Lane, Union County
Roswitha Parks, Wallowa County
Ed Payton, Baker County

Office Locations

Administration Office

2802 Adams Avenue, La Grande, Oregon 97850
(541) 963-3186

Baker County Senior Center

2810 Cedar Street, Baker City, Oregon 97814
(541) 523-6591

John Day Senior Center

142 NE Dayton, John Day, Oregon 97845
(541) 575-2949

Northeast Oregon Public Transit

2204 E Penn Avenue, La Grande, OR 97850
541-963-2877
www.neopt.org

Union County Senior Center

1504 Albany Street, La Grande, Oregon 97850
(541) 963-7532

Wallowa County Senior Center

702 NW 1st Street, Enterprise, Oregon 97828
(541) 426-3840

www.ccno.org

711 Relay

Community Connection of Northeast Oregon, Inc.

Serving Baker, Grant, Union, and Wallowa Counties



ANNUAL REPORT Fiscal Year 2016

Mission Statement:

The mission of Community Connection of Northeast Oregon, Inc. is to advocate for and assist senior citizens, children, low-income persons, and persons with disabilities in attaining basic human needs and in becoming more self-sufficient.

This will be accomplished by providing direct client services; stimulating a more efficient use of existing resources; broadening the available resource base; and providing decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing for low and moderate income persons.