



Safety Net Services

Anti-Poverty and Domestic Violence Education

A total of 206 adults furthered their education by participating in one or more classes. All classes are taught in English and Spanish.

Ready to Rent: A certificate program for first renters and renters with bruised credit histories.

Computer Class: Offers basic certification in basic office software as well as resume writing and keyboarding classes.

English as a Second Language: Employment focused English to increase wage earning potential.

CRAFT: Facilitated support groups in Spanish and English for women transitioning out of domestic violence.

Energy Assistance Program

The Human Solutions Energy Assistance Program provides crucial services to very low-income residents of Portland and East Multnomah County –helping them stay warm, keep the lights on, and keep the water flowing. These services are imperative as many households would be evicted if their utilities were disconnected. 6,123 households received assistance. This helped approximately 17,033 individuals maintain heat, electricity, and water service. \$2,023,897 in Energy Assistance funds were distributed.

Rent Assistance

Rent Assistance prevented eviction and homelessness for 340 households comprised of 496 adults and 599 children by providing emergency rental payments for households with short term emergency needs and eviction notices from their landlords. Many who benefit from this service are the working poor - more than 55% of those who received rent assistance were employed. Of those who were unemployed, 33% were disabled. Other typical situations include women and children escaping domestic violence, people with medical problems, senior citizens on fixed incomes, and persons with short periods of no pay between jobs.

For those served last year, 100% of those who could be contacted for follow-up were still in their housing after three months, and 97% were still housed after six months. Without these emergency payments, many if not most of these households would have ultimately lost their housing. We believe that if we can prevent a family from being homeless, we can not only save thousands of dollars in cost to rebuild their lives, we can curb the trauma and psychological side affects associated with homelessness and keep children in school.

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