

WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION ORGANIZATION NEWS

Fall, 1988

Gracias, Pedro, for the nectarines

by Bonnie Byron, Shelter Coordinator

Whenever I buy nectarines now, I will think of Pedro. I'll think of the way his face looked on his last night at the shelter when he came into our office. A shy smile lit up his face as he held out a bag of nectarines, asking if we'd like one. That simple gesture touched me deeply. His whole body and being was a picture of gratitude, courtesy and the sincere desire to give something back. To show his appreciation. His wife is eight months pregnant and has no shoes. His two little girls are malnourished. Pedro and his family stayed at our shelter for three weeks while he worked in the strawberry fields. The day after he offered us the nectarines, they packed their few belongings into a plastic trash bag and moved on to a labor camp. That night on my way home from work, I thought of them and cried.

Like most of our residents lately, Pedro's family is from Guatemala. And like most Guatemalans, English is their second language. This has made communication difficult, at best.

It's been a hard month all around. Hard to see so much need. Hard to have to turn people away because the shelter was full and they didn't fit the eligibility criteria for other emergency programs.

It has forced us to stretch. All of us have had to pitch-in in ways that may not have exactly fit our job descriptions. But the extra teamwork has gotten us through. Non-shelter staff who happen to speak the best Spanish were often called upon to help us translate.

When they weren't available, we found out that our limited Spanish, when accompanied by charade-like gestures and expressions, was usually sufficient to get us by. "Getting by - that could have been our motto for May and June. Under-staffed and swamped with the

that structure, it felt like we were sailors suddenly without a boat, struggling frantically to keep our heads above water. And we found it was easier to swim if we jettisoned all excess cargo.

So we pared things down to the basics. We housed people. We fetched

them food and blankets. We made arrangements for the sickest ones to get to the Virginia Garcia Clinic in Cornelius.

No longer were we "managing case loads". We were just working our hardest to meet the basic needs of some of the neediest people we've ever seen. And often we berated ourselves for not doing more, and felt frustrated by the disorganization and the lack of cleanliness at the shelter.

There were many frustrations during this time. It was frustrating that the fire alarm went off daily when the women burned their tortillas because they didn't know how to oper-

ate the electric stove. (It was especially frustrating when this happened at 4:00 in the morning!) It was frustrating when we tried to convey the importance of putting away their food and then found that much of their leftovers were being stored out of sight in the stove, rather than the refrigerator. And it was disconcerting to see the person whose chore it was to clean the bathroom, rinsing the mop out in the toilet. It was worrisome to hear the babies coughing. And most of all, it was troublesome to know that they only had three weeks under our roof. After three weeks, then what? (continued page 2)



highest number of the most difficult cases we've ever experienced, we got by. We got by because everyone was willing at some point to work extra hours overnight or on the weekend. And we got by, by throwing all our expectations for an orderly-structured program out the window.

Normally, we like to do thorough assessments, set clear goals with our residents and meet with them weekly to do an evaluation of their progress. That's how we like to manage our caseloads. But as we became more and more pressed for time, our control over that structure slipped away. Without

Gracias, Pedro cont'd.

But after awhile of this kind of worry, I realized we were being given an opportunity to learn a different kind of lesson. It came to me in a sudden moment of clarity, that underneath all the chaos was also a certain serenity. It struck me that we, the shelter staff, seemed more worried and upset about their fate than the migrants were. Perhaps we were missing the whole point.

It was uncomfortable for us to not be able to help more, not to be able to solve their problems. But perhaps it was good for us to have to step down from the role of social worker. It forced us to let go and have a little more faith. It's humbling to recognize that even without our usual formula of case management and referrals, these people will survive. They persevere, they work hard, they travel light and they survive. Yes, some are barefoot. Some are malnourished. They're all far from home. And as they pass through our doors, I'm awed by their quiet strength and touched to share a brief segment of their lives. I doubt if I would have half their stamina and resourcefulness if I were traveling penniless through their country.

I'll never forget these Guatemalan guests and the lessons they brought to me. Gracias, Pedro, for the nectarines.

More on the cover story:

Why are so many people from Guatemala leaving their own homeland to face poverty in communities like ours?

To fully understand why Guatemalans are flooding here in such unprecedented numbers, it is important to take a look at conditions in Guatemala. Basically, these people are fleeing not only severe poverty, but brutal political oppression and violence as well.

Some basic facts:

1. In Guatemala, 115 kids under 5 die everyday. That's at the rate of 5 an hour. There is only one doctor or nurse for each 85,000 citizens of Guatemala.
2. There is currently a resurgence of the popular movement demanding that the government institute land reforms and a minimum wage. The Bishop's conference supports those demands and that the root problem in Guatemala is hunger.

3. In reaction to this popular movement, the government is responding with increased repression. The government knows that many peasants support the guerillas, so their strategy is to force the peasants out of their homes in the hills and into "re-location camps", where they can be "re-educated".

This winter, 13,000 soldiers went up into the highlands, poisoning the rivers and burning up to 1/3 of the land.

4. The U.S. supports the Guatemalan government.

If you're interested in learning more or finding out how you can help, a good contact is Portland Central America Solidarity Committee, 3558 S.E. Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, Oregon, 236-7916.

23rd Annual Banquet scheduled for October 19 in Hillsboro

The WCCAO Board of Directors extends a hearty invitation to the community to our 23rd Annual Banquet, October 19, 1988 at the Tuality Education Center in Hillsboro.

A no-host social hour will start at 6:00 with WCCAO program displays and 1987-88 annual reports available to

view. Dinner starts at 7:00 pm and the evening's program will honor outgoing Board Members including Jerry Arnold, WCCAO Board Chair, Mr. Bob Colfelt, 1988 Mardi Gras Honorary Chair and Ms. Nancy Wilcox, Steering Committee Chair. The program will also reflect on the needs of the poor in

Washington County, WCCAO's accomplishments and new directions for the coming year, 1988-89.

Tickets are \$10 each and may be reserved by calling WCCAO, 648-6646, or clipping and returning the coupon from page 7 of this newsletter. We hope to see you there!



ACTION NEWS is the quarterly newsletter of the Washington County Community Action Organization (WCCAO), published by the WCCAO Administration, 245 SE Second, Hillsboro, OR 97123. ACTION NEWS is coordinated by WCCAO staff member Pam Brousseau and is edited and designed by volunteer Stephen W. Smith. (Please inform WCCAO of any address corrections.)

... People Helping People

The Washington County Community Action Organization (WCCAO) is a private, non-profit corporation providing a wide variety of services to the needy in Washington County, Oregon. Information on WCCAO programs is available from the following individuals:

WCCAO Administration (Jerralynn Ness, Executive Director)	648-6646
Energy Program (Pam Brousseau, Director)	640-8811
Heating Assistance (December through March)	640-8951
Head Start Program (Cathy Wise, Director)	648-6646
Shelter & Housing Services (Cheryl Hilbert, Director)	648-0820
Retired Senior Volunteer Program (Elaine Wells, Director)	642-3236
Tualatin Valley Food Center (Val Donley, Director)	642-3236



Executive Director's Message Jerralynn Ness

Assessing Community Needs

Last summer, WCCAO hired The Planning Group to assist us in a community needs assessment and the development of a five year strategic plan. I would like to share with you a brief summary of what we've learned about low income people in Washington County and their needs.

*12% of the population in Washington County lives at or below poverty. For a family of four, the poverty level is \$11,200 annually. This translates into over 32,000 people struggling to make ends meet. And as the county grows, so will the number of poor.

*The poor in Washington County are primarily families, many headed by single females, they are younger, they are poorer and they are working.

*While the unemployment rate has gone down and jobs have become more

plentiful, the loss of family wage jobs, the lack of health coverage and the lack of affordable day care are creating significant problems. We are seeing the development of a class of workers who feel hopelessness and despair at their inability to move out of poverty even though they are employed, at times with two wage earners.

The information from our needs assessment has been the foundation upon which WCCAO has developed a five year plan with strategic goals and objectives (see page 4) in order to fulfill our mission, which is to "serve the economically disadvantaged by providing for basic needs and promoting long term self-sufficiency." WCCAO must maintain the flexibility required to redirect our resources and efforts to new and emerging needs.

GTE provides free community phone

General Telephone has installed a community phone in the Washington County Community Action Organization's (WCCAO) Hillsboro Office at 245 S.E. Second Street.

"We are pleased to provide a site where a GTE community phone can be made available to individuals and families who cannot afford to have a personal phone," commented Jerralynn Ness, Executive Director of WCCAO. "While the phone use will be restricted to local phone calls only, we anticipate great usage for job search, making personal appointments, arranging for child care and staying in touch with family."

The Community Action Agency annually serves over 18,000 low income families and individuals with basic emergency needs and assistance to become self-sufficient. As a result of a year long strategic planning process,

WCCAO will be implementing a comprehensive service delivery system out of their Hillsboro office. Any individual seeking assistance from the numerous programs WCCAO offers, will only need to make one contact at the Hillsboro Office rather than separate contacts with each program. This office, where GTE's community phone is located, will become WCCAO's primary service location for low-income residents.

"The timing of the installation of GTE's community phone is perfect," remarked Ms. Ness. "It will be very accessible and we anticipate a great deal of usage once the community becomes aware of it's availability."

The Community Action Agency is open from 8:30-5:00 Monday through Friday. The Community Phone is located in the front information office. For more information call 648-6646.

Washington County Human Services Coalition formed by thirty organizations

Thirty Washington County organizations and individuals have formed an advocacy group called the Washington County Human Services Coalition which has been meeting since last April.

Its mission is to expand human services to meet the increasing needs of the people of Washington County by advocating for additional resources. The Coalition seeks to improve cooperation and coordination and would increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the human services delivery system.

The Coalition has identified seven populations of immediate concern. These include the elderly, children/youth, minorities, the economically insecure, dysfunctional families and individuals, the medically indigent, and the disabled.

Washington County is the fastest growing county in the state. However, the Coalition is concerned that formulas used to allocate resources state-wide for human services are not related to population growth.

The Coalition's Data Committee reports that the Washington County Mental Health Department receives the smallest allocation of funds per capita of any of the five most populated counties and is in the bottom third for all counties state-wide. The average per capita expenditure for children is \$10, but Washington County's share is under \$6 per child. The Washington County branch of the Children's Services Division has the lowest staff-to-client ratio of any branch in the state.

"We intend to raise the visibility of human services needs, advocate for additional resources from both the public and private sectors and to seek equitable and adequate services for Washington county residents from state, local and private resources," according to Coalition Co-Chairman Peter Freedman.

More information regarding Coalition activities can be obtained by contacting Peter Freedman (645-3581) or Jerralynn Ness (648-6646).



Nancy Wilcox



Lynda Tatum

Mardi Gras '89 set for February 4 at Greenwood Inn

For the last two years, WCCAO has offered a taste of New Orleans in the form of its successful annual fundraising event -- the Mardi Gras Ball! Now, plans are being made for the third gala Mardi Gras, to be held February 4, 1989, at the Greenwood Inn in Beaverton.

Mardi Gras '89 will again feature the sounds of the Woody Hite Big Band, a full buffet dinner, and a silent auction. In addition, an oral auction will feature a variety of fun, unique, and high quality items.

The first Mardi Gras, was held at Loehmann's Plaza in 1987, while the 1988 Ball was held at Tanasbourne Mall. Over 450 people enjoyed the 1988 event, which netted over \$8,000 in proceeds for WCCAO programs. In addition to the much-needed profits, the first two Mardi Gras also accomplished a secondary and important goal -- to increase the community's familiarity with WCCAO and its programs.

Nancy Wilcox, WCCAO Board Alternate, will return as Co-Chair of the Steering Committee, along with Lynda Tatum, who has chaired the event's Auction Committee for both previous events. The selection of an Honorary Chair will be made in October. Pam Brousseau, WCCAO's newly-appointed Resource Development Director, will serve as staff assistant for the project.

An event like Mardi Gras is the culmination of months of work from dedicated volunteers, assisting with tasks from obtaining sponsors, to selecting decorations, to taking tickets during the event. Over 20 persons have already offered their services for the Mardi Gras '89, but even more willing hands are needed. In addition, businesses and individuals can help make Mardi Gras

WCCAO Board adopts five year strategic plan

With the WCCAO Board's approval of the 1988-1993 Strategic Plan, June, 1988 marks the end of a year long process involving Board, staff and volunteers, all helping to determine the direction of the agency for the next five years.

Products of the planning process include a revised mission and statement of values, a comprehensive needs assessment, identification of four major strategic goals, accompanying objectives and tasks and first year emphasis areas. The Strategic Plan was developed for WCCAO as a guide for allocation of resources. Inherent with the Plan is a provision to ensure flexibility and responsiveness to changing needs, through an annual review process. One end result of that process will be to identify the next year's emphasis areas and to extend the Plan for one more year.

WCCAO's 1988-89 Budget and Workplan Process implements all of the first year emphasis areas of WCCAO's Strategic Goals. The emphasis areas are:

1. Establishing a single entry service delivery system that allows for comprehensive assessment of client needs and uniform data collection.
2. Providing case management services to Head Start & Shelter Home Families.
3. Identifying and promoting self-sufficiency throughout all WCCAO

a success by sponsoring portions of the event, or by making donations of goods or services for the auction.

Persons willing to volunteer time, donate items, or sponsor portions of the event should call Pam Brousseau at WCCAO, 648-6646.

Tickets for Mardi Gras '89 will remain \$25 per person, and will go on sale January 1.

1988 Mardi Gras photos available for purchase

If you attended Mardi Gras February 20, 1988 and you wish to take a look or buy pictures that were taken that night. You can review the notebooks at:

service efforts.

4. Identifying causes of poverty and appropriate strategies for responding to them.
5. Providing a full range of services to meet basic needs while providing a leadership role to increase affordable day care, low income housing, emergency shelter beds and emergency food.
6. Establishing a comprehensive information and referral system for basic needs.
7. Establishing a Resource Development Department to raise funds, increase donations of goods and volunteer time, and increase community awareness of WCCAO and local needs.
8. Developing and implementing a plan to address WCCAO's facility and space needs.

The planning process and the development of strategic directions have put WCCAO in a pro-active stance to better respond to the needs of the community. In addition, resources can be identified and leadership developed to better anticipate future needs. As a result, WCCAO has renewed its commitment to building a stronger community by promoting self-sufficiency and opportunities for low income residents.

Washington County
Community Action Organization
Central Office
245 S.E. 2nd
Hillsboro, Oregon
648-6646

Beaverton Arts Commission
Beaverton City Hall
4755 S.W. Griffith Dr.
3rd Floor
Beaverton, Oregon
526-2288

Or you can call
Lawrence Bruce Olson Photography
293-0230

On the hunger front . . . dwindling supplies of government surplus food

The Temporary Emergency Food Assistance program (TEFAP) was originally established to reduce the huge surplus of dairy products that existed in the early 1980's. Nationally, food banks have nearly exhausted the huge supplies in storage throughout the country. TEFAP was never conceived to be a permanent program available to assist low-income households; however, many participants have not viewed the program in that light and have come to depend on this supplement to increase their food supply.

TVFC has already begun to feel the affects of USDA cuts. We held our last mass distribution (direct distributions to households from ten sites, throughout Washington County by volunteers) in July, 1988, and have no others scheduled.

During the recent emergency migrant crisis, most of TVFC's inventory was depleted, particularly flour and rice. With Oregon Food Share and Les AuCoin's help we were able to access additional food through the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. Other Regional Coordinating Agencies (RCA's which are foodbanks throughout the state), gave up portions of their allocations to help

us meet the need. The community responded beautifully with donations of food, blankets, clothing, and dollars. Although we did as much as we could, as quickly as we could with the resources that we had available at the time, it wasn't enough. Far too many people did not have adequate daily nourishment, many are still sleeping outside and have no resources to return to their families. What will happen to them? We don't know. Social service agencies will continue to work together to meet emergency needs and we will continue to raise food and dollars to help meet that need.

The good news is that several things are happening that will greatly increase our ability to serve the hungry. On June 14, the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry approved the largest increase in nutrition funding since the Food Stamp Act of 1977. The Hunger Prevention Act of 1988, S2560, authorizes a \$1.5 billion expansion of federal low-income nutrition programs, including TEFAP and food stamps, over the next three years. The bill would also eliminate or relax a number of barriers to participation and restore funding for outreach activities.

Safeway stores are working with food banks across the nation to implement a new program that will try to fill the gaps as the USDA food supply dwindles. CHANGE FOR THE HUNGRY allows Safeway shoppers to "round up" their grocery bill and donations will be turned into vouchers that emergency programs can distribute to clients to supplement the average food box. Five dollar vouchers can be used to purchase fresh fruits, vegetables, milk and meat. For example, if you spend \$14.50 at Safeway you can ask the cashier to "round up" your bill to \$15.00. You will receive a tax receipt on your grocery bill, the donation is combined with others throughout the state, given to Oregon Food Share and vouchers are then distributed statewide. These and other innovative activities are aimed at trying to meet the hunger needs in our community.

In the words of Senator Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) expressing the urgent need to pass the Hunger bill, "Hunger becomes not a political issue or even an economic issue. I believe it's a moral issue. As the wealthiest, most powerful nation on earth, we should not have hunger." Can anyone argue with that?

TVFC involved with a variety of food/fund drives

The Tualatin Valley Food Center has been involved with many food and fundraising drives in the past few months. The Holiday season is traditionally a busy time for the Tualatin Valley Food Center with food drives, fundraising drives and the Christmas Clearing Bureau.

The Christmas Clearing Bureau begins every year after Thanksgiving. Volunteers staff the office, answering phones, taking requests for Christmas baskets and distributing names to those who wish to give Christmas baskets. It is the goals of the Christmas Clearing Bureau to see that every person in Washington County who needs a Christmas basket gets one.

The Fourth Annual Santa Claus Horse Show, held in November raised \$1600

toward the cost of the Christmas Clearing Bureau. The Horse Show is organized and run by Dorothy Baska, a TVFC Volunteer.

The Fast for the Hungry was held November 19. This is an annual nationwide fundraiser and hunger awareness event. People are asked to fast for one meal or all day and donate the money they save on food to their local food bank. This year several hundred dollars were raised through the fast.

The Cans Film Festival is a statewide food drive held on December 1. Luxury Theaters invite people to go to a movie for a donation of food equal to the price of the movie. This is a good source of can food for the food box programs.

Supermarket Saturday, held Decem-

ber 5, is also a major annual food drive. Safeway stores and Radio Broadcasters sponsor this day. Volunteers stand outside of all Safeway stores and ask people to buy a few extra items to donate on their way out. Throughout the store are arrows pointing to food that is especially needed.

Radio stations spend the day at stores reporting on how the food drive is coming along and encouraging people to stop by and shop. This year the Seven-Up Bottling Company donated a \$350 shopping spree, for each Safeway store, to help promote Supermarket Saturday.

The result of all of these efforts, along with thousands of volunteer hours, keep Tualatin Valley Food Center in operation and assure that Washington County hunger needs are met.

RSVP transportation program volunteers

Volunteers are the "heart and soul" of Washington County Community Action Organization's RSVP Program. Meet some of the volunteers who provide special transportation to county seniors.

Carl George learned of the RSVP Program while he was still working. Upon retiring after 30 years with the Social Security Administration, he chose to become an active RSVP volunteer. As a member of the RSVP Board of Directors for four years, he served on the Transportation Sub-Committee. It was this committee's work that led to RSVP's successful application to Tri-Met for funds to organize and operate a Volunteer Transportation Program using the RSVP and a Tri-Met van. Carl believes that it has been worthwhile to initiate the RSVP Volunteer Transportation Program both for RSVP with gained exposure in the community and for the community which needed the services. In January, Carl began a three year appointment to serve on Tri-Met's Committee on Accessible Transportation (the CAT committee); he was chosen from 47 nominations submitted to the committee. Carl will very ably continue to represent the interests of Washington's senior citizens as an RSVP volunteer in this new role. Carl and his wife are long-time residents of the Aloha community. Carl also serves the community as the Chairman of Washington County's Welfare Advisory Board and as a Representative of the State Welfare Advisory Board.

George Berge has been an active volunteer for four years. He read a church notice asking for RSVP volunteers who would be willing to help deliver surplus commodities to homebound senior citizens. This work quickly led to volunteering to drive for Adult and Family services and Senior Services Division clients who were trying to reach critical appointments. George's philosophy is that he'll volunteer "any time and any place if there is a real community need." Last April, he did just that when RSVP staff asked him to drive the vans for the Volunteer Transportation Program. George hopes that if he needs help someday volunteers will respond in-kind and "you never know when you might need a little



Board Chair's Message

Jerry Arnold

WCCAO seeks innovative ways to replace lost government funds

The year 1988-89 is one we can look forward to with a great deal of optimism and opportunity.

It is also a year of tremendous change that will affect each and every one of us quite differently. Unfortunately, for many of the poor in our community, it will affect them all the same -- times will be tougher.

Funding from Washington County and some cities within the county is becoming more scarce as local governments strive to balance their budgets. For example, local government support for the emergency shelter will be about \$30,000 less than last year - a 17 percent reduction. Federal funding for programs for the low income, seniors, and the very young is also diminishing. As a private, nonprofit organization, we have committed ourselves to help-

ing the economically disadvantaged while striving to break the poverty cycle.

To ensure that we can continue to provide services, the board and staff have been working on a five-year strategic plan that will be updated annually. After a great deal of assessment, research, and community surveying, it has not come as a surprise that we will have to be innovative to continue to fund those programs, such as the emergency shelter, Head Start, the Tualatin Valley Food Center, and all of the other important programs and services.

This year we will again have a Mardi Gras celebration to raise money to help provide food, shelter and clothing for people in Washington County. Mardi Gras is just one of the innovative ideas you can expect in 1988-89. I hope to see you there.

help!" George retired after 35 years with Southern Pacific Railroad's Freight and Passenger Services division. So in a way, he has never left the transportation business. His new passengers are thankful that George chose to stay in the transportation business as a RSVP volunteer driver. George and his wife have lived in the Hillsboro community since 1959.

Walter Platt read an article in the Valley Times Newspaper asking for RSVP volunteer drivers. It sparked his interest so he called. Retired Fire Chief of Washington County Fire District #1, Walt knows the county road system very well. Walter drives the van an average of two days per week for the Transportation Program, and he realizes that 99% of the passengers "really need the service." Walter enjoys the personal attachments he has made with his passengers more than the actual

driving aspect of the job. He had a great time with the "Young at Hearts," a singing group from the Tualatin Senior Center, as he drove them to and from various engagements in the Tri-County area over the Holiday season. Walter also serves the community as Water Commissioner for the Wolf Creek Water District, a two year elected office. He participates in Washington County's Public Affairs Forum, and he remains actively involved in the "Toy and Joy Makers" program jointly sponsored by the Beaverton Elks and Fire District #1. Walter and his wife have lived in Washington County for 30 years. They currently live in the West Slope community. Thanks for reading RSVP's article in the newspaper, Walter!

If you are interested in helping, please call Meghan Hughes, RSVP's Volunteer Transportation Coordinator, for more information at 642-3236.

It's Happening!

Brown Bag Distributions:

Friday, October 14, 1988

Beaverton & Tualatin/Sherwood
Bethel Congregational Church
5150 S.W. Watson, Beaverton
10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Friday, October 21, 1988

Hillsboro
American Legion Hall
285 S.W. Main, Hillsboro
10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Friday, October 28, 1988

Cornelius & Forest Grove
Centro Cultural
1110 Adair, Cornelius
10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Sunday, October 16, 1988

World Food Day

Sunday, November 6, 1988

Beginning at 8:00 a.m. *5th Annual Santa Claus Benefit Horse Show* at Valley West Stables in Cornelius. Admission free for spectators, call TVFC for more information regarding sponsoring a class or participating.

Monday, November 7, 1988

CANS Film Festival. View a movie at a local Luxury theatre for a canned food donation equal to admission price.

Thursday, November 17, 1988

FAST for the Hungry. A chance to identify with the hungry in your community. FAST for one meal or the entire day the Thursday before Thanksgiving; donate the money you would have spent on food to TVFC so that we may continue our work to meet local hunger needs.

Thursday, November 28, 1988

Christmas Clearing Bureau office opens at 10:00 a.m. This annual effort unites those needing a Christmas Basket with those wishing to provide one. Either way, give us a call at 642-3236.

December - Supermarket Saturday (Date to be announced)

This annual event takes place at all Safeway stores on a Saturday throughout the state. Buy one for someone else!

Friday, December 23, 1988

Last minute Christmas Baskets, HELP!
Ongoing

Change for the Hungry. Round up your food bill at any Safeway store for emergency food box vouchers.

If you wish to volunteer for any of

the events above, please call Val at TVFC, 642-3236.

October 19, 1988

WCCAO Annual Meeting
Call 648-6646 for details.

February 4, 1988

Mardi Gras Ball. Greenwood Inn. Dance to The Woody Hite Band, Oral and Silent Auction, dinner, buffet and much more! Tickets \$25.00. Call Pam, 648-6646 if you would like more information.

3rd Wednesday of every month

WCCAO Board Meetings. 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Call WCCAO 648-6646 to confirm place.

2nd Tuesday of every month

(Except during the summer.)

Head Start Policy Council. 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Call 648-6646 for location.

November 1, 1988

Grand opening of WCCAO's new resale boutique. This shop will not only provide revenue for WCCAO programs, but will provide valuable on-the-job training for volunteers. More soon!

You Can Help!

Head Start

*Volunteers needed to fix playgrounds for the Head Start Centers.

*Donations needed for climbing structures appropriate for four year old children.

*Tricycles and wagons.

*Sand for sandboxes.

*Fencing.

*Paper for art projects.

*Carpeting (all sizes and shapes in good condition).

*Large pillows with removable and washable covers.

*Sturdy adult size rocking chairs.

*Vinyl or oil cloth paint smocks.

*Two food processors.

*Cook's canning table (Approximately 30" X 36").

Shelter Home

*We still need a refrigerator desperately.

*Cash donations always needed - \$4,000 to match Federal Homeless Money donated to shelter for a new bedroom and upstairs bathroom

*Silverware (especially spoons).

*Microwave

*Television

*Office Furniture

Self-Help Weatherization

*Van or small pick up.

*Large desk with deep file drawer.

Tualatin Valley Food Center

Ongoing volunteer needs are:

*Drivers to help transport food.

*Warehouse assistance to help distribute food.

Equipment needs are:

Dry storage space.

Scales

Hand carts

Wet and dry shop vac

Answering machine to take food orders.

Disposable plastic gloves for repackaging food.

Electric feeder for computer.

Retired Senior Volunteer Program

*File cabinet

1988 Annual Meeting
Washington County
Community Action Organization
October 19, 1988

_____ Please reserve _____ place(s)
at \$10 per person.

_____ I am unable to attend, but I am enclosing a tax deductible donation of \$_____ to help WCCAO continue its work.

*Reserve by October 12th.
For information call 648-6646.
Tickets will be held at the door.*

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

*Mail reservations and
make checks payable to:
Washington County
Community Action Organization
245 S.E. 2nd
Hillsboro, OR 97123
THANK YOU!*

Head Start increases number of school days--switches locations

The Head Start Program made some significant changes before the 1987-88 school year. Most notably the program had children attending school four days each week rather than the three days they had attended in the past years. In addition the program now operates two weeks longer than it has in the past. These two changes increase the number of days of school for children from about 90 to 128.

Head Start has also relocated its Hillsboro Center. Previously the Hillsboro Friends Church provided space for the program. However, as of September the site has been moved to the Singing Hills Christian Church on River Road. This beautiful site, nestled in the woods, affords use of a kitchen and space for the development of a playground.

All of these changes have presented

Head Start with some rather pressing needs that we hope you can help us meet. Playgrounds at three of our four sites are either non-existent or in dire need of major repairs. Needs include: climbing structures appropriate for four year old children, institutional tricycles and wagons, sand for sand boxes, a storage building, fencing, and skilled labor.

Other needs of the program not related to playgrounds are: donated paper for art projects, carpeting (all sizes and shapes in good condition), large pillows with removable sand washable covers, sturdy adult size rocking chairs, vinyl or oil cloth paint smocks, 2 food processors, and a cook's canning table (approximately 30" X 36").

Questions about any of these items can be directed to the Head Start Office by calling 648-6646.

Head Start now taking applications for 1988-89 school year

Head Start, a federally funded free preschool, is now accepting applications for the 1988-89 school year.

The program operates four days a week, three and one half hours a day. Meals and transportation are provided at no cost.

In order to qualify, your child must be four years old by September 1 and your family income must be within federal poverty guidelines. There are some exceptions for handicapped children.

There are four centers in the county: Beaverton, Hillsboro, Cornelius, which also serves Forest Grove, and Sherwood, which also serves Tigard and Tualatin. Call 648-6646 for information and an application.

**Washington County
Community Action Organization**
245 S.E. Second
Hillsboro, OR 97123
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