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Grantee Newsletter

April 9, 2009

Reporting Reminder



[Quarterly Activities Reports](#) from all WFF grantees are due **next Friday, April 17th!** Contact [Kelly Smith](#), (206) 805-6135, if you have questions.

Trainings & Conferences



Don't forget: [WFF Training Scholarship Funds](#) can be used to attend trainings of your choice!

Social Security and Benefits Training

April 14, Spokane, WA

[Learn more >>](#)

WFF Peer to Peer (P2P) Learning Community Conference Call

May 5, 3:00-4:15 pm

[Learn more >>](#)

Washington State Coalition for the Homeless Annual Conference:

May 13-15, Vancouver, WA

[Learn more >>](#)

HUD Fair Housing Workshop:

May 27, Seattle

[Learn more >>](#)

Regeneration on the Frontlines:

A training for activists and those working in social

Grantee Highlight

[Skagit County Community Action \(SCCA\)](#), one of approximately 1,000 [community action agencies](#) around the country, began in 1979 and is a lead agency in advocating and providing services for low-income people. Through more than 20 anti-poverty programs, SCCA facilitates crisis intervention, dental services, energy assistance, childcare programs, legal aid, and so much more.

The Washington Families Fund supports ten moderate-level service-enriched units, which allows SCCA to provide intensive case management and employment counseling to homeless families. Over the course of the ten-year grant period, SCCA expects to reach around 50 families, many of whom are farm workers making very minimal wages or families who have experienced domestic violence.

Every quarter, the Washington Families Fund selects one grantee agency to highlight. To request that your program be featured in our newsletter, contact [Kelly Smith](#), (206) 805-6135.

In the News

Washington Families Fund Launches Peer to Peer Learning Community

WFF is bringing more focus to training on employment and workforce development. To kick off the effort, we're holding monthly Peer to Peer (P2P) conference calls where fellow caseworkers can talk and share ideas about how to connect clients to educational opportunities and jobs. The first call was on April 7th, and the next call is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 5th, from 3:00 to 4:15 pm**. Please contact [Erin Chambers](#), (206) 805-6140, if you're interested in joining!

service to help identify, heal from, and prevent trauma that can come up in human rights/social justice work. Onsite trainings for agencies and groups available. [Learn more >>](#)

Resources



Find more tips, tools, and links for case managers and other program staff in our [Grantee Toolbox](#).

Check out presentation materials and resources from the **2009 National Conference on Ending Families Homelessness**. [Learn more >>](#)

College scholarships available for low-income students

The Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board provides four-year college scholarships to low-income students in Washington state. To be eligible, all you have to do is meet the family income standards, take a pledge to graduate from high school with a 2.0 GPA, and be a citizen.

[Learn more >>](#)

Summer is almost here!

Locate a [Boys and Girls Club](#), [YMCA](#), or [Parks and Recreation](#) site in your area for great summer activities for kids.

[Read more about the first P2P conference call >>](#)

First-Time Grants in Cowlitz County

On April 7th, Building Changes gathered with local leaders and community members in Longview, Washington to announce nearly \$1 million in first-time Washington Families Fund grant awards to two nonprofit agencies serving homeless families in Cowlitz County -- Drug Abuse Prevention Center and Emergency Support Shelter. [Read more >>](#)

Building Changes Announces Bold New Washington Families Fund Initiative

On March 19th, more than 20 public and private community partners joined Building Changes to affirm their deep and shared commitment to reducing family homelessness in Washington State, pledging to reduce the number of homeless families in our state by 50 percent by the year 2019.

[Read more >>](#)

Whatcom and Clallam County Receive HUD Grant for Rapid Re-housing Partnership

Whatcom Homeless Service Center, in partnership with Serenity House in Clallam County, has been awarded a \$650,000 three-year HUD grant to fund Washington State's Northwest Rapid Re-housing Partnership, a housing- first program for homeless families with dependent children. [Read more >>](#)

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Building Changes

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