

**United Way of
Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties**



STORIES OF RESILIENCY.

STRONG COMMUNITIES.

HEALTHY FAMILIES.

SAFE CHILDREN.



STRONG COMMUNITIES.

“Lisa” is a single working mother of two. She works extremely hard to provide for her family and on the months that she cannot make ends meet, she knows she can count on the Philomath Food Bank. Ensuring that her children will never have to go hungry as she did too often as a child.

Hunger is a silent epidemic that affects everyone in our community. One out of every six families in Linn and Benton Counties must depend on food from an emergency food pantry at least once each year. As you would expect, seniors, disabled persons, single parents and the unemployed are all represented as those who are having a hard time feeding themselves and their families. But in Oregon, the majority of people who live in poverty are working. The Oregon Center for Public Policy states that at least one parent works part-time or more in 64 percent of families with children living in poverty.

In 2019, the Philomath Food Bank served an average of 84 individuals per month by providing over one thousand emergency food boxes for low incomes families and individuals. When we work together to uplift our neighbors, we can alleviate generational poverty and hunger.

Agency Partner | Philomath Community Services

At Philomath Community Services, we are committed to responding to the needs of those in our community by providing food and necessary services. We deliver these services with compassion and respect for the dignity of the people we serve. Philomath Community Services provides emergency food boxes for low-income families and individuals whose income is at or below the 200% poverty level. The Philomath Food Bank is a non-discriminatory agency in partnership with Linn Benton Food Share, Oregon Food Bank, and the US Department of Agriculture.



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HEALTHY FAMILIES.

Due to the death of a sister, “Don” and “Janice” had just taken in their two young nieces when they received the shocking news that so many of us fear, Don was diagnosed with stage four cancer. Living in rural Benton County, Janice was working to finish her bachelor’s degree, knowing she would be the sole provider of their two teenage daughters, and now their 5- and 2-year-old nieces.

With funding from United Way in rural Benton County, 5-year-old “Kate” and 2-year-old “Leah” received help from the Relief Nursery at Old Mill Center, as well as ongoing care through home visits. The family attended a Relief Nursery Parent Support Group in their town, and received assistance for young Kate, when she needed specialized medical care for an existing condition. The Old Mill Center wrapped this family with the ongoing support, and warmth, necessary to stay on their feet and together during a time of immense upheaval, financial hardship, and tragedy.

Agency Partner | Old Mill Relief Nursery

It takes a village to raise a child. For many of our families, the Relief Nursery becomes that village. It’s a place that offers safety, nurturing, mentoring, and unconditional support and caring. We are a lifeline and a safe haven, giving parents the tools they need to raise healthy, happy kids.

The Relief Nursery is a therapeutic early childhood program for at-risk children (ages birth to 6 years). The program is voluntary and free. Comprehensive early intervention services include family strengthening and preservation activities, parent education, advocacy, counseling, intensive home visiting, and therapeutic classrooms in Corvallis and Monroe.



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SAFE CHILDREN.

“Anna” is a Court Appointed Special Advocate or CASA. In the past year, Anna has taken a case with a family of six children ranging in age from ages 17 to 4. Originally removed from their biological family home due to abuse and neglect, they are now separated, living in three separate foster homes. On this difficult, and often painful journey, each child has needed something different from Anna – a hand to hold, a cheerleader, a vocal adult advocate, a bringer of treats, a counselor, a friend. One thing that remains the same for each child is that they all need a constant, caring person who will be with them until they find permanency. Because of the funding provided by supporters like United Way of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties – CASA, and Anna, will be that constant for these children.

Agency Partner | CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocates is a national association in the United States that supports and promotes court-appointed advocates for abused or neglected children. CASA are volunteers from the community who complete training that has been provided by the state or local CASA office.

CASA volunteers regularly visit the children whose cases they have taken, getting to know them and their situations closely. This allows them, as a highly trained volunteer, to help the court understand what is in the best interest of the child moving forward.



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