

Executive Report - 2023

The Camas-Washougal Community Chest was established in 1946 to coordinate raising funds for local 501(c) (3) non-profits involved with (1) education, (2) youth activities, (3) aiding those with special needs, (4) natural resource conservation, (5) health and welfare, (6) crisis and emergency services, (7) improving diversity, equity, and inclusivity, and (8) other charitable and civic endeavors. All grants are for services and programs provided in the Camas and Washougal areas.

The CWCC is governed by an all-volunteer Board of Directors. Directors serving as of December 31, 2023 were: President Mindy Schmidt, Past-President Deanna Rusch, Secretary Cari Corbett, Co-Treasurer Marianne Reiter, Co-Treasurer Susan Bennett, Campaign Chairman Rich Reiter, and Board members Stewart Bennett, Doug Hood, Dave Pinkernell, Doug Quinn, Joelle Scheldorf, David Scott, John Spencer, Ann Stevens, and Mary Templeton.

Organizations desiring funds are required to file a grant application requesting support. Proposals are normally filed in December for review the following February by the Grant Committee and the Board of Directors. Grant decisions are generally made by March.

Organizations receiving funds in 2023 were: Camas Farmer's Market; Camas Robotics; Camas-Washougal Parents Co-Op Preschool; Children's Home Society of Washington (East County Family Resource Center); East County Citizens' Alliance; Family Promise of Clark County; Friends & Foundation of the Camas Library; Friends of the Columbia River Gorge; General Federation of Women's Clubs, C-W; St. Matthew Lutheran - Impact C-W; Inter-Faith Treasure House; Janus Youth Programs, Inc.; Journey Theater Arts Group; Kiwanis Camp Wa-Ri-Ki; Komak; Lacamas Watershed Council; Lifeline Connections; Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership; Meals on Wheels People; Pink Lemonade Project; REACH Community Development; St. Anne's safe Stay; Unite! Washougal; Washougal Principal's Fund; West Columbia Gorge Humane Society; YMCA Clark County; and Cascade Pacific Boy Scouts. The Washougal Lions contributed \$5,000 to this funding.

In 2021, the Camas-Washougal Community Chest formed a partnership with the Camas-Washougal Rotary Foundation to help with the awarding and funding of Grants. For 2023, the Rotary funded seven grants: Cascadia Technical Academy; Fort Vancouver Regional Library – Washougal; and ReFuel Washougal. In addition, they helped with the funding for the Friends & Foundation of the Camas Library; Inter-faith Treasure house and REACH Community Development; and ReFuel Washougal. Due to this partnership, an additional \$15,000 was funded.

Most funds are raised by annual campaigns from October 1 through September 30. The legal fiscal year for the organization is January 1 through December 31. Funds received in fiscal year 2023 were \$126,059: \$103,067 from donations, \$11,943 from events, \$5,000 in Grant Sponsorships, and \$6,049 from investments.

Disbursements for fiscal year 2023were \$126,250: \$120,500 for grants to organizations, and \$5,750 for miscellaneous expenses (event expenses, office expenses, insurance, Post Office box, taxes, and fees).

Assets as of December 31, 2023 were \$222,125. Most grants are paid quarterly. Grants for 2024 had not been approved by December 31, 2023. It is estimated that those grants will amount to \$120,000 for CWCC, \$10,000 from C-W Rotary and \$1,000 from the Washougal Lions.

Marianne Reiter CWCC Co-Treasurer