WHATCOM RESILIENCE FUND

Disaster Preparedness
March 2022
LESSON LEARNED:
Resilience Fund

1. An evergreen disaster fund is essential to our community

2. Disasters will vary and require different responses (i.e., COVID-19 vs. 2021 flooding)

3. Fundraising was activated swiftly, as the easiest and quickest way to help (amplified by other leaders, partners)
LESSON LEARNED: Resilience Fund

4. First and most flexible money on the ground in a disaster is from philanthropy

5. Communication management is paramount and fraught with challenges

6. People with language and cultural barriers were hardest to find and support

7. Disaster response significantly taxed WCF staff capacity
Resilience Fund Pandemic Response*

Primary Funding Recipient Examples:
Brigid Collins, Catholic Community Services, Colectiva Legal Del Pueblo, DVSAS, Lydia Place, Max Higbee Center, Unity Care Northwest, Whatcom Family & Community Network, Whatcom Literacy Council

*as of 04.9.2021
Resilience Fund
Flood Relief*

Primary Funding
Recipient Examples:
Sumas Advent Christian Church, Valley Church (Nooksack), Haven Church (Everson), First Reformed Church of Lynden, Ferndale Community Resource Center, Food Banks in affected Communities, Catholic Community Services, Lhaq’temish Foundation, North Sound ACH

*as of 03.16.2022

$1,936,359
DISTRIBUTED AS OF MAR 16, 2022

$1,596,160 DIRECT AID
(CHECKS & GIFT CARDS)
USES: food, shelter, gas, replacing basic belongings, minor car and home repairs

$25,000 TEMP HOUSING

$55,000 FOOD
(via area food banks)

$110,199 STORAGE & CLEANING SUPPLIES

$100,000 WHATCOM LONG TERM RECOVERY GROUP

82.4% IN DIRECT AID

$50,000 SMALL BUSINESS RECOVERY ASSISTANCE*
*This amount granted from Whatcom Community Foundation and are not Resilience Funds
**RESPONSE ACTIVATION:**
When should we activate?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NATURAL HAZARD / SEVERE WEATHER</th>
<th>COMPLEX HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY</th>
<th>MAN-MADE EVENT</th>
<th>GENERAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓ Drought</td>
<td>✓ Famine</td>
<td>✓ War</td>
<td>✓ Epidemic</td>
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<tr>
<td>✓ Earthquake/Tsunami</td>
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<td>✓ School Shooting</td>
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<td>✓ Wildfire</td>
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<td>✓ Major Accident</td>
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<td>✓ Extreme Heat</td>
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<td>✓ Flood</td>
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<td>✓ Volcano</td>
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<td>✓ Storm</td>
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ASSISTANCE STRATEGIES:
Preparing for our next Emergency

RESILIENCE, RISK REDUCTION, RISK MITIGATION
PREPAREDNESS
RESPONSE AND RELIEF
RECONSTRUCTION AND RECOVERY
Disaster Case Management
- Coordination between community partners
- Disaster-specific assistance

Community Foundation/LTRG alignment
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Leveraging Existing Resources

Emergency Management
- Trained call center staffing pool
- Pre-approved temporary housing facilities
- Memoranda of Understanding

Government
- Health Department
- Transitional housing
- PIO/Communications
- Public Works
- Planning

Nonprofit & Community Groups
- Care coordination/case management
- Transitional housing
- Schools
- Food banks
- Faith groups
- Civic groups
- Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Hospital
- Childcare
- Volunteer Center

Residents
- Transitional housing
- PIO/Communications
- Public Works
- Planning
1. Ensure safety of the public and response personnel
2. Meet human service needs of those affected
3. Improve preparedness
   • Create & enhance systems – communications, delegation, coordination
   • Minimize & mitigate property damage/loss
4. (Re)build infrastructure
5. Support economic recovery – small business, ag
6. Initiate holistic, community-informed mitigation plan
7. Build community
RISK MITIGATION:
The potential costs of inaction or action without community input

1. Flawed approach
   • Miscommunication
   • Wasted resources
   • Erosion of trust

2. Community action in lieu of government response
   • Life safety
   • Liability
   • Distraction from productive public and private sector efforts
BY THE NUMBERS:
Where the money comes from

100% Necessary Funds

99% Government
Committed to date:
• State - $2.1M
• County - $750K

1% Philanthropy
> $1.9M to date for:
✓ Direct Aid
✓ Immediate Needs
✓ Case Management

> $50 Million?
PLUS: $40M in Business Damages (excl. lost revenue)