



WHATCOM  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION

# WHATCOM RESILIENCE FUND

Board Meeting  
Mission Matters |  
Disaster Preparedness

February 23, 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



## Total COVID Relief Grants

(including Donor-Advised & pass-thru grants)

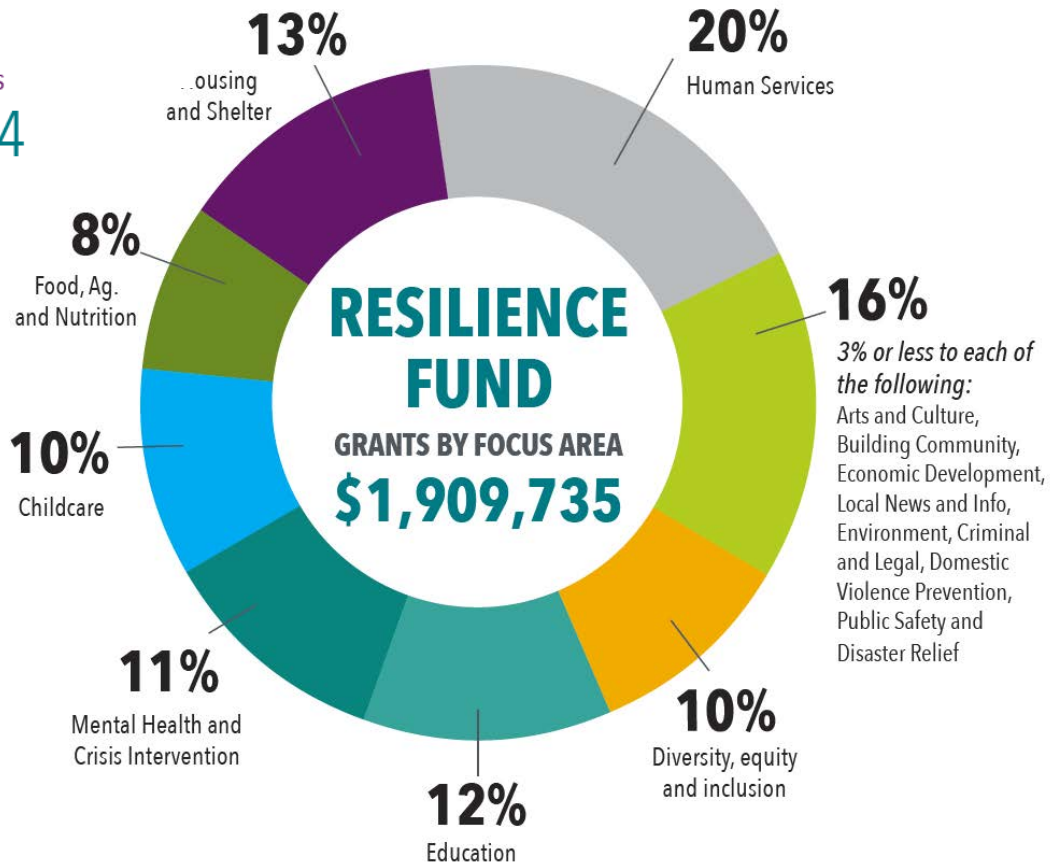


\$2,667,481

HELPING DONORS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

## RESILIENCE FUND:

Resilience Funds raised	gifts	corp/foundation gifts
\$2,394,592	442	\$1,292,124
matched by All In WA	orgs funded	% to BIPOC orgs
\$700,224	60	21%





# 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, North Sound ACH

\*as of 01.31.2022



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## RESILIENCE FUND FLOOD RELIEF

# \$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)

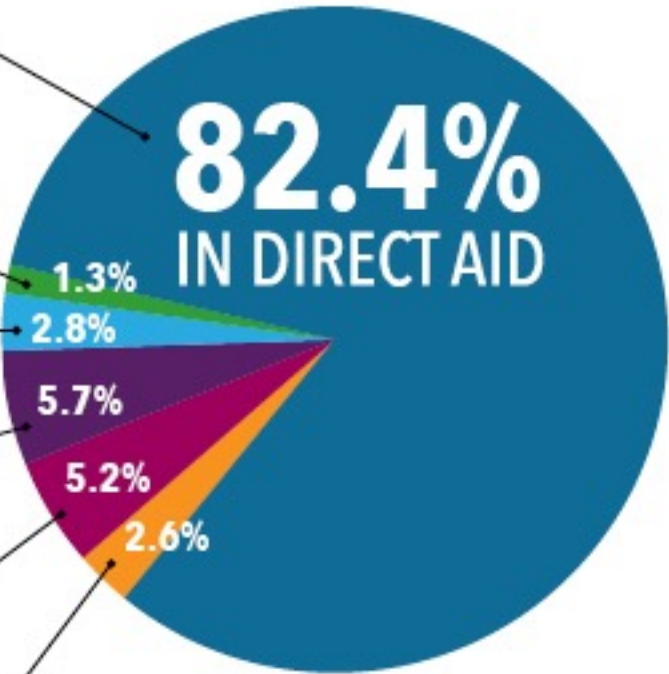


**\$110,199 STORAGE & CLEANING SUPPLIES**

**\$100,000 WHATCOM LONG TERM RECOVERY GROUP**

**\$50,000 SMALL BUSINESS RECOVERY ASSISTANCE\***

*\*This amount granted from Whatcom Community Foundation and are not Resilience Funds*



# RESPONSE ACTIVATION:

## When should we activate?



### NATURAL HAZARD / SEVERE WEATHER

- ✓ Drought
- ✓ Earthquake/Tsunami
- ✓ Wildfire
- ✓ Extreme Heat
- ✓ Flood
- ✓ Volcano
- ✓ Storm

### COMPLEX HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY

- ✓ Famine

### MAN-MADE EVENT

- ✓ War
- ✓ School Shooting
- ✓ Major Accident

### GENERAL

- ✓ Epidemic

# ASSISTANCE STRATEGIES:

Preparing for our next Emergency



RESILIENCE,  
RISK REDUCTION,  
RISK MITIGATION



PREPAREDNESS



RESPONSE  
AND RELIEF



RECONSTRUCTION  
AND RECOVERY

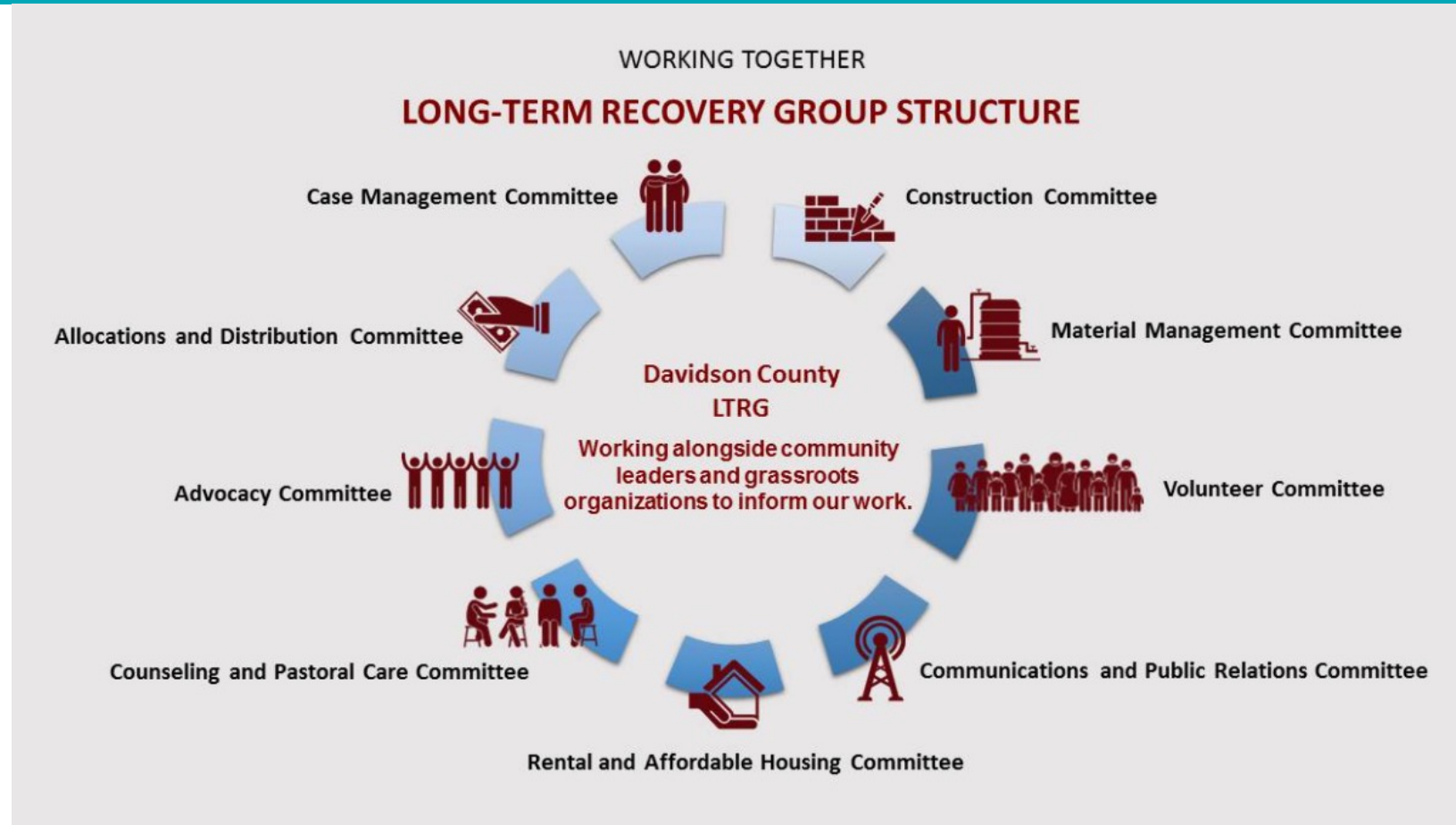
# WHATCOM LONG TERM RECOVERY GROUP

## Now and next time

### Disaster Case Management

- Coordination with community partners
- Disaster-specific assistance

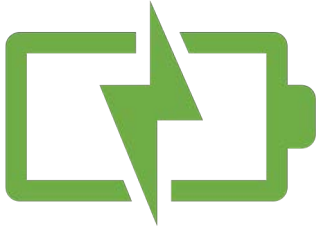
### CF/LTRG alignment





# 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

# GOALS

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 BEYOND THE DISASTER:

The **potential costs** of inaction and 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

First and most flexible

0.1

Philanthropy

>\$1.9M to date for:

- Direct aid
- Immediate needs
- Case management

+

9.9

Government

Committed to date:

- State - **\$2.1M**
- County - **\$750k**

=

10

Necessary Funds

>\$50M?

Plus: Business **\$40M** damages (excl.  
lost revenue)