

**ADVANCING EDUCATION  
INCOME AND HEALTH**



# INCOME

**AGENCIES & PROGRAMS**

**GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.**

United Way of Whatcom County  
[unitedwaywhatcom.org](http://unitedwaywhatcom.org)



### **Bellingham Food Bank**

Free Grocery Program: *Distribution of perishable and non-perishable food to Bellingham residents five times a week. Bellingham families and individuals can visit once per week. Added mobile food bank operating at Alderwood and Cordata Elementary Schools once each week.*

### **Lydia Place**

Transitional Housing – Homeless Mothers & Children: *Transitional housing, case management and support groups for homeless women and their children. Children participate in a weekly art/play therapy group. Mothers have the option of enrolling in Parent Support Program that provides evidence-based, one-on-one parent coaching & child therapy as needed. Services continue once families move into permanent housing for as long as is necessary.*

### **Mercy Housing Northwest**

Service Enriched Farm Worker Housing: *Provides a wide range of supportive services designed to promote individual and family stability and self-sufficiency. Provides farm worker families an affordable home gives their children the stability they need to succeed in school.*

### **Northwest Youth Services**

Transitional Living Program (TLP): *Independent living program offering housing, case management, life skills classes and vocational opportunities to homeless single/parenting individuals ages 18-21 and emancipated youth ages 16-17.*

### **Opportunity Council**

Emergency and Homeless Child Care Program: *Provides short-term funding for child care, educational opportunities, and comprehensive child/family support services for Whatcom County families, with children ages 0 - 13, in emergency, homeless, or transitional living situation.*

Financial Stability Program: *Encompasses 2 goal areas, employment readiness & financial capability. Services include employment readiness and life skills classes, use of vocational job search labs, financial literacy & employment case management, FLARE (Financial Literacy And Renter Education) and On the Money classes.*

### **Sun Community Services**

Transition to Community: *Offers the Sun House as an emergency shelter providing meals, medication monitoring, 24-hour supervision, and a safe place to live for people who are mentally ill and homeless in Whatcom County.*

### **Sustainable Connections**

Food to Bank On: *Provides resources and mentorship to support the success of new farmers while delivering fresh, local food to area food banks and shelters. Participating farms receive 3 years of training and mentorship while local nonprofits receive fresh, healthy and foods.*

### **Whatcom Family YMCA**

Community Showers Program: *Provides county-wide access to showers, free for those in our community who need basic hygiene assistance due to homelessness or other issues preventing access to shower facilities. Also may use time to charge electrical devices, such as cell phones.*

### **Whatcom Literacy Council**

Literacy Tutoring for Adults: Offers free classes, one-on-one tutoring, and learning resources for adults who want to improve their basic reading, writing, math and computer skills, learn English, study for a high school diploma or GED, or prepare to become citizens. Learning plans are developed to meet the individual abilities and goals of each learner.

### **Work Opportunities**

Individualized Employment: Supported employment services for individuals with disabilities in Whatcom County, 21 and older, through vocational evaluation/skills assessment, job preparation & training, job placement & retention services. Program services are designed to decrease the unemployment rate for individuals with disabilities by helping them learn marketable skills, find and keep good jobs in the community, and earn wages and benefits that help them escape poverty.

### **YWCA**

Homeless Housing for Women: Provides 9 free emergency and 27 low-cost transitional beds in fully-furnished rooms in addition to laundry and cooking facilities, hygiene supplies, bedding, food assistance, voice-mail, and outgoing phone. Case management support and action plan development help with success including transitioning to permanent stable housing. Access to the YWCA Back to Work Boutique provides free clothing to assist in preparing for employment/education opportunities.