

UNITED WE WIN

LIVE UNITED



BASIC NEEDS



- At least 700 people in Whatcom County are experiencing homelessness (Whatcom County Homeless Census 2019).
- 18% of homeless individuals in Whatcom County are under the age of 18 (Whatcom County Homeless Census 2019).
- 17.8% of children in Whatcom County experience food insecurity (PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center Community Health Needs Assessment, 2019).

ECONOMIC MOBILITY



- Two in Five Whatcom County households struggle to make ends meet (United Way ALICE Report, 2016).
- The annual household survival budget for a family of four in Whatcom County is \$66,480 (United Way ALICE Report, 2016). The median household income is only \$54,207 (US Census, 2016).
- Two wage earners, both working full-time at minimum wage, earn a combined income of less than \$50,000.

BREAK THE CYCLE OF POVERTY



- The cost of child care in Whatcom County exceeds every other household expense, including housing, transportation, food, and health care (United Way ALICE Report, 2016).
- A strong link exists between poverty and high school dropout rates. 19% of children who have lived in poverty do not graduate from high school (Kids Count Data Book, 2018).
- Early childhood education has a better ROI than the stock market. The return on investment for high quality early childhood education is 13% (The Heckman Equation, 2017). Experts argue the average return on investment in the stock market is 7-12%.

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER. UnitedWayWhatcom.org.



**United Way
of Whatcom County**