

# UNITED FOR BASIC NEEDS

*People going through tough times need access to food, housing, health care and other basic needs. United Way helps make sure these services are available in Whatcom County.*



## LIVE UNITED



United Way  
of Whatcom County



# HELPING WHATCOM COUNTY RESIDENTS MEET THEIR BASIC NEEDS

*It's hard to get ahead in life when you don't have access to food, housing, health care, and other critical necessities.*

Many people in our community don't have the resources to get their basic needs met. Imagine struggling every day without adequate food, housing, or medical care.

Trying to find a job or be a good employee is really hard when you don't know where you're going to sleep at night, what you're going to feed your family, or how you're going to pay for your child's medication.

- Imagine having to choose between paying rent or buying food.
- Imagine needing to get to work but not being able to afford gas or bus fare.
- Imagine not having the basic things you need to survive, much less get ahead.

Now imagine finding the help you need to build a better life. This is why we're here.



*With the cost of living outpacing wages in our community, many are left without adequate food, housing, medical care, child care, and other critical necessities. Meeting basic needs is the first step to helping local families succeed.*

By supporting a variety of local nonprofits providing everything from food and housing assistance to health and mental health services to child care and parenting support services, United Way makes sure Whatcom County residents are able to get their basic needs met.

This is the first step toward building stable, healthy families.

When people don't have to worry about where their next meal is coming from or whether or not they have a place to stay, they can focus on other things that will help move them closer to financial independence. Things like going to school, acquiring new job skills, and learning to manage household finances.

When parents have the tools and resources to provide safe and nurturing environments for their children, our community's families can live up to their full potential— and everyone wins.

**80% OF SINGLE  
FEMALE-HEADED  
HOUSEHOLDS IN  
WHATCOM COUNTY ARE  
STRUGGLING.**

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of Whatcom County**

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