

Community Action Council of Lewis, Mason & Thurston Counties

## A WORD FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we reflect on the past year, I'm honored to share with you the 2024 Impact Report for the Community Action Council of Lewis, Mason, & Thurston Counties. This report highlights not just our achievements but also the resilience and strength of the communities we serve. It's a testament to the adage "none of us is greater than the collective". I'm deeply grateful for our staff, partners, and supporters who work tirelessly to create opportunities for individuals and families in our community to thrive.

At the heart of our mission is a deep commitment to equity, inclusion, and disruption of systemic barriers that prevent individuals from reaching their full potential. This year, we took significant steps toward that vision. From the expansion of the Monarch wing of our Lacey building—enhancing traumainformed care for children and families—to our continued investment in housing stability, energy assistance, and weatherization programs, every initiative we undertake is driven by a desire to foster long-term, meaningful change.

During the last year we've taken several key steps in rebuilding a foundation of success, reinforcing our commitment to innovative and compassionate service delivery. I arrived as the new Executive Director, we hired Esmeralda Triplett as Director of Community Services, and we removed the interim titles from our steadfast Program Managers Stephenie Arnold, Jordan Howden, and Nate Krebs. We are entering an exciting new chapter focused on expanding our impact and deepening our community partnerships.

The numbers in this report tell a powerful story: over 28,000 community members accessed our services, \$10.2 million was distributed to help families stay warm and housed, and our housing programs provided thousands of foundational support services to ensure long-term stability. Yet, beyond the numbers, the real impact lies in the lives changed—the families who found stability, the individuals who felt heard, and the communities that grew stronger together.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to our mission to challenge systemic inequities and foster a future where everyone has the opportunity to belong and thrive. None of this work would be possible without your support. Thank you for walking alongside us on this journey.





### **OUR VALUES**

<u>Creativity:</u> We are committed to curiosity and cultivating an organizational culture that creates room for and nurtures creativity in how we do our work, how we meet the needs of the communities we serve and how we support each individual we work with.

<u>Disruption:</u> We recognize that to embody being anti-poverty and anti-racist in the communities we serve, we must disrupt practices that have created harm to individuals, organizations, and communities to begin the healing process.

<u>Kindness:</u> We meet people where they are, listen to their needs, believe their lived experiences, are commit ourselves to seeing the whole person as we walk with them on their journeys.

<u>Inclusion:</u> We believe that all people deserve to feel deeply rooted belonging and we center our teams and clients in every decision we make.

<u>Stewardship:</u> We understand that what we do today creates the foundation for tomorrow. We lead with transparency and an eye to the future to promote a better, more equitable landscape for all.

<u>Joy:</u> We create spaces where joy can thrive, where full belly laughs are heard, and where people feel hopeful for tomorrow.

## OUR MISSION

At Community Action Council of Lewis, Mason, and Thurston Counties, we are dedicated to people's right to thrive and define their own potential. We disrupt white supremacy culture and advocate for all members of our community to flourish.



#### Our Services All supported by I&R



We work to reduce the incidence and impact of child abuse by providing a coordinated, multidisciplinary response to victims of child abuse and their families; supporting the work of child advocacy centers in Lewis, Mason and Thurston Counties.



We focus on meeting the housing needs of low-income households to keep people safe and housed; providing assistance via Foundational Community Supports, Housing and Essential Needs, and Affordable Housing.



We strive to lessen the financial impact of colder months, using Energy Assistance to help everyone have a warmer, more comfortable home.



We make homes more energy efficient, comfortable, and safe by installing insulation and air sealing measures. We also address health and safety concerns like indoor air quality and fire hazards and help retinain afforable housing stock in the community.

Our core programs—Health, Housing, Energy, and Weatherization—are supported by our Information & Referral (I&R) program, which plays a vital role in ensuring individuals can access the services they need. I&R fosters collaboration both within our organization and with community partners, creating a network of support.

We recognize that no single entity can meet every need alone, and attempts to do so without collaboration can lead to gaps in service—ultimately harming the community. That's why our I&R program is dedicated to connecting individuals to the right resources, ensuring they receive comprehensive support.

## 2024 IN REVIEW

A Year of Growth, Collaboration, and Expanded Impact

98% of clients reported they knew how to connect with services in the future

96% of clients reported feeling better able to handle their situation 89% of clients reported they were able to access the services they needed 28,063

Community members accessed CAC services

Individuals supported by Monarch's Child Advocacy

\$10.2

Million dollars distributed for energy assistance, helping households stay warm &

97

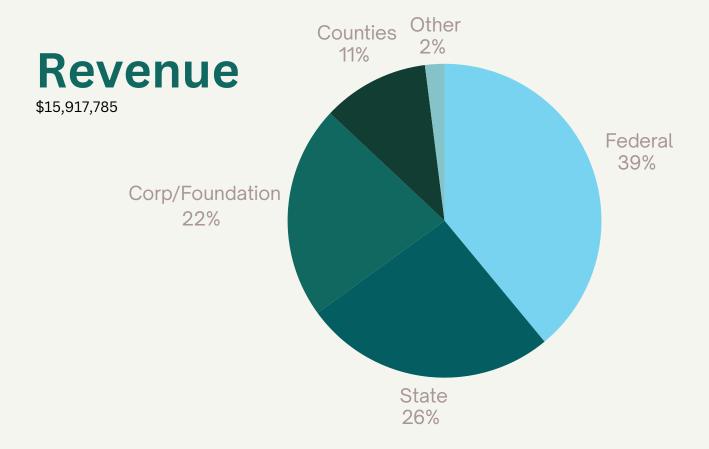
Homes weatherized improving health, safety, and reducing energy bills

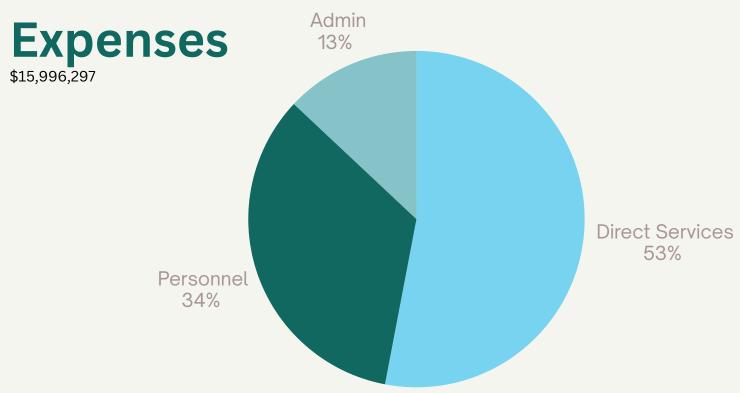
4,257

Foundational Community Support services provided to stabilize housing and improve long-term security.



## 2024





## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Lasting, sustainable change happens when we unite with a shared purpose. As our agency embarks on this new chapter, we reflect on our progress with deep gratitude for the 70 partner organizations and hundreds of dedicated community members who have invested their time, resources, and expertise in our collective mission.

Your commitment to equity, advocacy, and community-driven solutions has strengthened our ability to do our work. Through direct service, financial support, and collaboration, you are helping fuel the transformation of our agency and the communities we serve.

Together, we are not just responding to immediate needs—we are reshaping systems, reimagining possibilities, and building a future where every individual and family has the opportunity to thrive.

# WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT IN OUR PROGRAMS

#### **OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The work of the Community Action Council is supported by a volunteer Board of Directors, as a Community Action Program, we strive to maintain a tripartite board- which reflects the communities we operate in and support. In 2024, our board grew, welcoming new members to help guide CACLMT's work.

Public Sector

Michelle Gipson

Private Sector

Kathleen Clark Steven Robinson Representative Sector

dr.sarahlloyd Meghan Sullivan



