



## 2014 Annual Report

Completing its sixth year, Community Council's impact continues to grow through outreach to, and engagement of, citizens in its citizen-driven study/action model for community improvement!

Community Council's role is community-building—bringing people together to learn about their community, identifying common needs, interests and challenges; engaging in problem solving; and acting to make positive change through advocacy. Since 2008, Community Council's study process has provided the structure to deal with pressing concerns. Public involvement enables the process to be used time and again to meet multiple challenges. Studies and advocacy efforts are engaging our communities with social issues that affect students' educational attainment, with enhancing the economic vitality of the region, with reducing gang membership, with improving citizen-government communication, with improving food security, and with enhancing outdoor recreation opportunities.

### STUDY PROCESS COMMITTEES: PROGRAM, STUDY, AND IMPLEMENTATION

#### Program Committee

The committee, which reviews all of the submitted study topics ideas, winnowed the many issues before them to two potential study topics for the Community Council Board's adoption. The Board adopted *Enhancing Outdoor Recreation Opportunities*. The framing question for the topic is: "How can we promote, enhance, and develop outdoor recreational opportunities and accessibility to improve the region's quality of life and economic vitality?"

Led by Roger Esparza, the 2014 Program Committee members were:

Tiffany Cain	Julie Culjak	Ted Paterson
Alan Coffey	John Czarnecki	Mike Potter
Jan Corn	Ian Edwards	J. Andrew Rodriguez
Nicholas Croghan	Judy Mulkerin	

#### Study Committee: *Enhancing Outdoor Recreation Opportunities*

Community Council's region, from Dayton to Burbank, and Milton-Freewater to the Snake River, is rich with natural resources and enjoys seasonal weather patterns that support a variety of recreational uses. Local community members as well as visitors may benefit from the far-reaching benefits of strong outdoor recreation options. These include: physical and mental health benefits; a stronger sense of community identity and stewardship; and social, educational, and business opportunities. The Committee heard from various experts on the challenges and opportunities of different aspects of outdoor recreation, including environmental, economic, community and individual health. Its work continues into 2015. The Committee's Study Report will be released and celebrated in late spring.

Led by Adam Kirtley, the Study Committee members are:

Kate Bobrow-Strain	Kerstin Fenton	Judy Mulkerin
Jon Campbell	Patrick Flood	Becca O'Connor
Barb Commare	Tricia Harding	Sue Parrish
John Culhane	Holly Howard	Kevin Pogue
Bill Erickson	Cathy Lee-Haight	Jim Robles
Lacey Evans	Kevin Mills	Pete Rhode
Alex Ewoniuk	Amy Molitor	

**Study Committee: *Improving Food Security***

The Study Committee met weekly from mid-January to mid-June, celebrating their work and the release of the Study Report at a luncheon on November 6<sup>th</sup>. The Study Committee heard from farmers, food distributors, local food banks, county health departments, those offering services to seniors and the needy, school nutrition programs, churches, Salvation Army, community action councils, and others. The Committee developed recommendations, including: the performance of a statistically sound study to determine the food security needs in the region; the development of milestones, thresholds, and targets to measure the effectiveness of methods in increasing food security; the creation and retention of living wage jobs; and the establishment, promotion and funding of programs that help to strengthen community and neighborhood networks that include cooking and food education classes, meal sharing, community gardening, and gatherings. The complete Study Report, including all of the recommendations is on our website: [www.wvcommunitycouncil.org](http://www.wvcommunitycouncil.org).

Led by Anne Haley, the Study Committee members were:

- |                       |                  |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Kirsten Archer        | Kathy Howard     | Donald Priest    |
| Susann Bassham        | Roger Johnson    | Mari Prieto      |
| Casey Burns           | Dave LaCombe     | Jessica Salvador |
| Shelley Clarke        | Deborah LaCombe  | Katy Sanlis      |
| John Cress            | Janene Michaelis | Sharon Schiller  |
| Genie Crowe           | Janet Ockerman   | Beth Thiel       |
| Allison Davis-Gingell | Helo Oidjarv     | Dan Thiessen     |
| Cindy Godard-Gross    | Kevin Ott        | Roger Trick      |
| Becky Hermsen         | Kaye Peck        | Michelle Venable |
| Aubrey Hill           | Beth Powers      | Karen Wolf       |
| Pat Hobkirk           |                  |                  |

**Implementation Task Force: *Improving Food Security***

The Task Force continues to gather members and to identify community organizations whose missions align with the recommendations from the study. The Task Force will work with those organization to facilitate their implementation of the recommendations.

Led by Genie Crowe, the Task Force members currently include:

- |                  |               |               |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Casey Burns      | Beth Powers   | David Shannon |
| Dewight Hall     | Donald Priest | Beth Thiel    |
| Jeff Mathias     | Mari Prieto   | Dan Thiessen  |
| Janene Michaelis |               |               |

**Implementation Task Force: *Improving Communication between Citizens and Government***

This small but dedicated and energetic Task Force is in the final year of its work. The Task Force members have looked at various governmental websites, read budgets and other documents, attended public meetings, and visited with many public employees and officials. They have learned about creative ways governmental entities are trying to better communicate with their constituents. The full Study Report, including the recommendations the Task Force is working on can be found on Community Council’s website: [www.wvcommunitycouncil.org](http://www.wvcommunitycouncil.org). The results of the Task Force’s advocacy will be celebrated at the Full Circle Celebration in the fall.

Led by Bob Withycombe, Task Force members are:

- |                    |               |                |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Punkey Adams       | Carolyn Keyes | R.L. McFarland |
| Douglas Carlsen    | Ted Koehler   | Dick Swenson   |
| Cindy Godard-Gross | Sarita McCaw  | Robert Zagelow |
| Aubrey Hill        |               |                |

### **Jubilee Leadership Academy Mini-Study**

Rick Griffin, director of Jubilee Leadership Academy, who served as the Gang Prevention Study Committee chair, incorporated a modified study process into the program for his students at Jubilee Leadership Academy, a residential school for young men, located near Prescott. School administrators and faculty guided the students through a practical application of the process. The student-selected topic was “*How can helping youth speak up about bullying reduce bullying in our schools?*” They completed the study phase of the process and moved into the implementation phase in 2014. Students earned academic credit, gained confidence in their ability to affect community decision-making, and found gratification in making a difference in their community.

### **INDICATORS**

Community Council’s Board of Directors continues to work towards obtaining a dynamic indicators system that meets the needs of the community. An indicators system - a means to measure outcomes and look at trends - is the fourth piece of Community Council’s study process.

### **OUTREACH**

Community Council’s social on May 19th at Foundry Vineyards attracted over 100 people.

Over 290 people attended the *Improving Food Security* Study Report Luncheon on November 6<sup>th</sup> at the Marcus Whitman Hotel to celebrate the work of the Study Committee and the release of the Study Report. At least 60 of the attendees had never before been involved in, or aware of, Community Council.

### **BOARD of DIRECTORS**

Officers for Community Council’s Board of Directors in 2014 were:

Damien Sinnott, President	Yolanda Esquivel, Secretary
Roger Esparza, President-elect	Brian Anderson, Treasurer

Directors serving during 2014 were:

Brian Anderson	Alex Ewoniuk	Tana Park
Sandra Cannon	Dewight Hall	Mike Potter
Craig Christensen	Sergio Hernandez	Mari Prieto
John Cress	Randy James	Marleen Ramsey
Brian Dohe	Kip Kelly	Jeff Reynolds
Roger Esparza	Chris Kontos	David Shannon
Yolanda Esquivel	Bill Neve	Damien Sinnott

### **STAFF**

Mary Campbell served as Executive Director. Jennifer Boyden served as the part-time Study Coordinator from January through August for the *Improving Food Security* Study. Zoë Erb began serving as the part-time Study Coordinator in August. Emily Ford, a Whitman Fellow Intern, began serving as the part-time Assistant Study Coordinator in September.

### **2014 COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

Our generous donors, grantors, and sponsors allowed us to continue this effective citizen-driven study/action model for community change.

**Community Council**  
**Statements of Financial Position**  
**December 31, 2014 and 2013**

	2014	2013
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and Equivalents	\$ 111,092.31	\$ 109,462.52
Grant & Accounts Receivable	250.00	60.00
Temporarily Restricted Cash & Investments	28,022.20	14,958.68
Equipment-Net of Depreciation	997.53	-
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 140,362.04</b>	<b>\$ 124,481.20</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts Payable	\$ 289.31	\$ 451.35
Other Current Liabilities	1,837.73	2,339.66
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>2,127.04</b>	<b>2,791.01</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted	110,212.80	106,731.51
Temporarily Restricted	28,022.20	14,958.68
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>138,235.00</b>	<b>121,690.19</b>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS AND LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 140,362.04</b>	<b>\$ 124,481.20</b>

**Statements of Activities**  
**Unrestricted and Temporarily Restricted Funds Combined**  
**Years Ended December 31, 2014 and 2013**

<b>STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES</b>		
<b>External Support</b> (Contributions & grants)		
Individuals	\$ 23,951.00	\$ 14,473.00
Corporations	8,300.00	14,960.00
Foundations	106,800.00	29,000.00
Special Events	13,120.00	11,840.00
Sponsorships	7,250.00	5,500.00
In-Kind Donations	24,850.46	11,277.00
Total External Support	184,271.46	87,050.00
<b>Revenues</b>		
Membership Income	1,270.00	3,670.00
Interest Income	50.74	1,071.23
Total Revenues	1,320.74	4,741.23
<b>Total External Support &amp; Revenues</b>	185,592.20	91,791.23
<b>Expenses</b>		
Personnel	112,389.78	94,168.58
Occupancy	8,118.00	6,912.01
General & Administrative	14,177.42	12,645.82
Marketing & Promotion	8,910.39	2,856.23
Program Materials & Other Costs	25,451.80	23,820.67
Total Expenses	169,047.39	140,403.31
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ 16,544.81</b>	<b>\$ (48,612.08)</b>