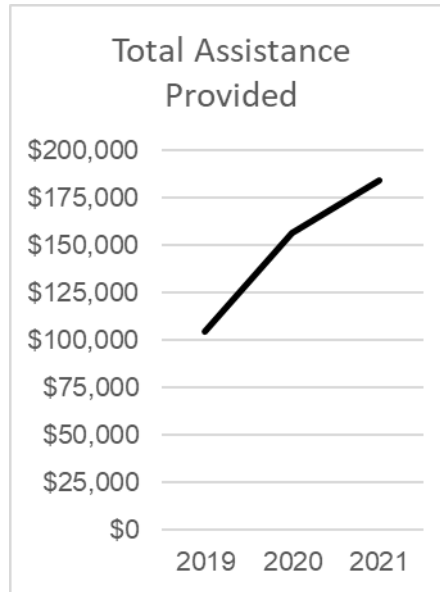
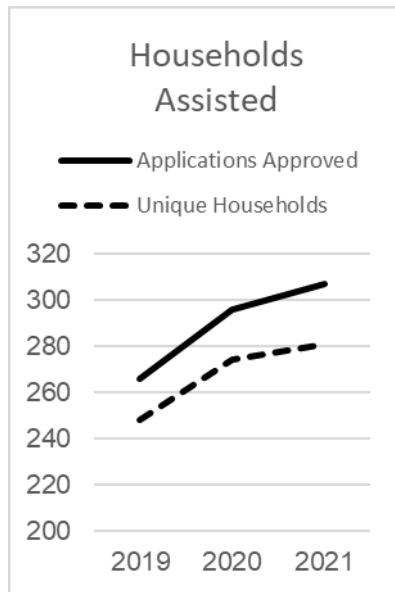




Report to the We Care General Meeting, January 20, 2022
 Emergency Financial Assistance Provided: Jan – Dec 2021
 Submitted by: Rex Cole, We Care Intake Coordinator

We Care’s assistance to those in need continued to increase in 2021. The impact of COVID and the increased need in our community during 2020-2021 was fortunately matched by an increased generosity of concerned local We Care donors. (We Care receives no state or federal funds.) In 2021 We Care was able to grant financial assistance to 307 requests totaling over \$184,000 (\$28,000 more than in 2020).



In total We Care assisted 633 people in 2021, including 130 unique families with children (a total of 260 children). Sixty-eight of the households assisted included someone with a disability. Some of those assisted were making transitions away from substance abuse (44 households), homelessness (33), or domestic violence (20).

COVID-19 had a direct negative impact on the households We Care serves, leading to 71 (23 percent) of the 307 requests approved for assistance in 2021.

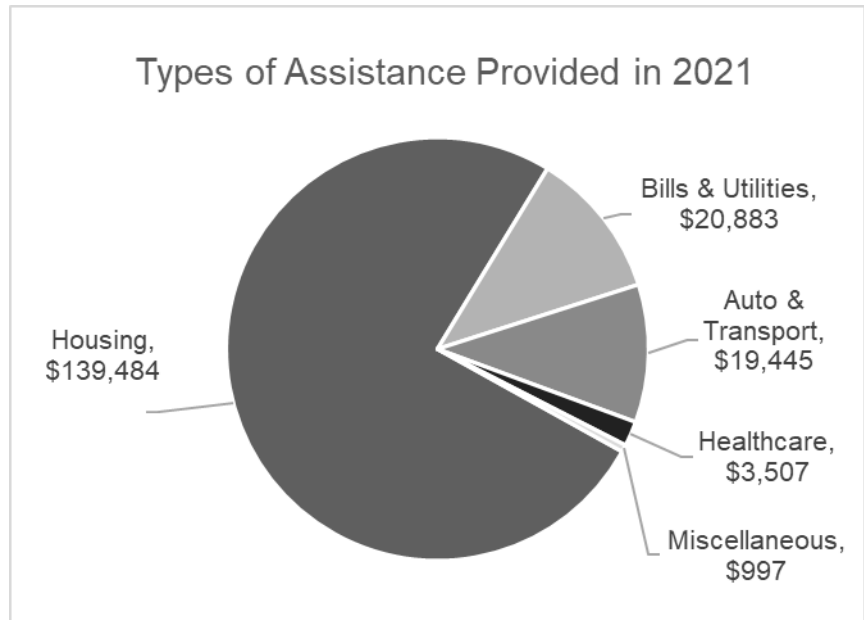
	2019	2020	2021
Assistance Provided	\$ 104,508	\$ 156,236	\$ 184,315
Income	\$ 107,055	\$ 216,350	\$ 171,568

The 307 applications approved for assistance were from households through-out Benton County: Corvallis (278), Philomath (19), Monroe (6), North Albany (2), Adair Village (1), Alesia (1).

WHO WAS HELPED				
	2018	2019	2020	2021
Inquiries received	445	521	533	524
Assistance applications received	327	402	396	401
Applications reviewed by board	258	315	333	325
Requests denied by board	13	23	20	5
Withdrawn or voided	?	26	17	13
Total requests approved	245	266	296	307 (281*)
Households w/disability assisted	50	65	65	68
Households w/children assisted	123	123	154	141 (130*)
Number of children assisted	262	266	353	288 (260*)
Number of adults assisted	289	323	406	407 (373*)

* unique households and individuals (each household/individual only counted once)

Overall, the majority of those helped might be classified as the working poor, for whom an unexpected emergency (e.g. an illness in the family, a car repair, or a reduction in work hours due to COVID) led to an inability to pay rent, or other bills for electricity, water, or non-covered medical expenses. We Care sends checks directly to the service provider, not the applicant.



We Care intake volunteers provide a listening ear, a respectful word, and a little encouragement and hope. Here are a few comments from some of the people We Care helped this past year:

Just wanted to thank you all so much for assisting me with getting caught up with my rent after having lost work due to an injury. You helped me with avoiding possible eviction and I can't tell you how much I appreciate it. I work hard and to be left in such a helpless situation was very frustrating and scary. So grateful for your kind, caring volunteers, truly making a difference in people's lives and in our community. God Bless. R.K.

The stress you have taken off me while recovering is priceless. Thank you so much, and to everyone who donates to your program. Bless you all. J.N.

I am beyond grateful for all you have done to help me get through such a challenging time. I never thought, at my age (61), that I would ever be in the situation I am. You have helped me survive. I don't even have words to express my deep gratitude. It's people and organizations like you that make the world a better place. With immense love & gratitude, M.S.

I want the team at We Care to know that your compassionate actions have made all the difference in the world to me. When you reassured me that I had come to the right place, that was the truth. We Care had my back with each step. You explained the review process clearly and kept me in the loop until you sent my landlord the check. I was so surprised when you went even further to help me find COVID rent relief and HUD "Free Choice". We Care is the right name for you. Your compassionate actions are loving kindness in full bloom. Please thank P. for her deep listening and patience that helped me a lot. In addition to We Care paying my December rent, OERAP paid 3 more months rent (because R. got me in before Dec 1 deadline). And I sent my pre-application form to HUD for "free-choice" housing, also because of R. and P.'s information. In Deep Gratitude, A.A.