



Clackamas
County
Recession
Convening
May 29, 2009



Here for Oregon. Here for Good.

“We in Oregon do not wait for answers to be handed down to us, we assess the ever-changing situation and respond with our own action.”

– Governor Tom McCall

“Clackamas County has a great capacity for compassion, but there are still lots of issues coming like a freight train down the track that will impact our community.”

– Pastor Russ Isom, Milwaukie Christian Church

On May 29, 2009 The Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) brought together approximately 35 people in Clackamas County, representing different sectors in the local business and nonprofit community, to discuss ways to navigate the rapidly changing economic climate among Clackamas communities. The goal of the meeting was to identify gaps in services and to create a stronger safety net for Clackamas County’s most vulnerable citizens, focusing on innovative solutions for supporting and delivering services to those in need. Ann Lininger, Clackamas County Commissioner, set the tone for the meeting with her opening comment: “Commissioners recognize that we can’t do business as usual—we don’t have the money to do that. Therefore, we must be more efficient and more cross-disciplinary. Stimulus money will help us be more creative in our delivery of services. This is a time for optimism and creativity.”

This meeting was sponsored by The Oregon Community Foundation, Oregon Department of Human Services, the Oregon Food Bank, Oregon Business Council and Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon.

Prior to the meeting, OCF established a baseline understanding of the issues facing Clackamas communities by conducting meetings, interviews and surveys with Clackamas stakeholders and reviewing research from numerous local sources. Details of this research are included in the appendix of this report.



“In Clackamas County, each agency has a different culture, so an opportunity for the county is to understand each other and the cultural differences. The person down the hall from you, figuratively speaking, needs to know what you are working on.”

– Lynne Deschler, Homeless Count, Clackamas County

Community Landscape

At the Clackamas meeting, statistics from service providers and anecdotes from various participants began to paint a picture of the region's shifting economic landscape. Participants introduced themselves and briefly stated trends they are seeing in their work. Notable points in this landscape review included:

- Tonia Hunt from Children's Center of Clackamas County, which helps victims of abuse, noted that the struggling economy is greatly affecting children.
- Tom Previs from Worksource Clackamas, an Oregon City employment office, now sees 2.5 times the number of unemployed people. It is time to “think outside the box” because while the stimulus money is coming, partnerships are needed because the state is holding money back.
- Jane Brown from the Housing Authority of Clackamas County, has seen that funding for services is down “like never before.” She has worked for 25 years in this field, but has never before seen this kind of problem.
- Stacey Hendricks from the Workforce Investment Council of Clackamas County, is now accepting proposals for an emergency jobs program.
- Michelle Eberle from Clackamas Women's Services, which offers a shelter for battered women, counseling, education programs and rural outreach, noted that all “participant agencies are interrelated, serving the same populations. We need to streamline our service delivery, make access easy to obtain and use our limited dollars wisely.”
- Rick Freed from Oregon Hunger Food Task Force, emphasized the urgency to build networks and partnerships, and wants Clackamas County to be a model of how to work together.
- Karen Gorton, the Executive Director for Campfire USA, Mt Hood Council, said, “We must keep growing. Prevention is important for all children.”
- Dave Flock, the Self Sufficiency Manager for the Oregon Dept. of Human Services, reported that the need for food stamps has increased significantly. They have recently changed their system to see people more quickly. “This is what the community needs. We are understaffed, but committed to our goals. We need more compassion in our services.”



In addition to the concerns listed above, Pastor Russ Isom, from the Milwaukie Christian Church, described two recent roundtables (one in January and one in May) organized to discuss shared concerns in North Clackamas. These roundtables brought together members of the faith-based community as well as local social sector organizations and government representatives. Pastor Isom emphasized that these meetings would not have happened without the trust that had been built in North Clackamas among faith-based and human services groups. He emphasized that he has never before seen such cooperation and willingness to work together and build networks across sector lines.

Faith-based groups are now asking community leaders what the greatest needs are and how the groups can help. As a result, his own congregation is working on Saturdays and sometimes on Sundays to help needy people.

See Appendix Five for a summary of issues discussed and ideas revealed at the May roundtable.



Identification of Needs and Service Gaps

After establishing this common understanding of the challenges, attendees identified the basic needs of the most vulnerable citizens in the community and the service gaps that currently exist.

Community Support

- Need for better communication—there is no roadmap for cross-sector communication; Clackamas County is large and the geographic challenge is difficult.
- Networks have been formed but they are not county wide; resources need to be leveraged.
- Does “2-1-1” work? There are gaps. We need to take the next step in offering support, not just information.

Food

- Food stamp distribution needs to be expanded and the barriers of embarrassment in receiving food stamps need to be broken down.
- What are other federally funded food programs that people can use? Creation of an infrastructure that can answer such questions is needed.
- Transportation is an issue to getting food; people are isolated.
- Need coordination of opening hours and locations where food is distributed. There are many unserved populations, and a need exists to get the word out to people about the resources that are available.
- Must be creative with using land for community gardens, offering farmers direct services and conducting food fairs.

Shelter

- Rent and utility assistance is needed as well as protection against eviction and foreclosures.
- Create transitional housing for folks with problems and with barriers to getting housing.
- Develop a system to know what shelters are available. Trailers and trailer parks are possible options for housing. How can these be used?
- There is a housing need for teens, unaccompanied youth and teen parents; a need for singles housing also exists.
- Need to fix up and repair homes for the elderly and the disabled.

Health Care

- Lack of mental health services.
- Affordable coverage is needed.
- Dental care for kids.
- Advocacy for securing pro bono work.



“Local communities are stepping forward to see what can be done. It is critical that everyone is involved with this process.”

— Tarn Allen, Oregon Food Bank

Themes

After identifying the basic needs and service gaps, three themes were identified that could have immediate, short-term and long-term impacts.

These themes included discussions about **Food, Community Support and Shelter**. Health Care and Education, while important, were put on hold for later consideration by the Advocacy Council (see Appendix One for members list). Participants spent the late morning in breakout sessions brainstorming innovative approaches to each one of these themes. Following are the results from the sessions.

Food — Solutions for meeting increased demand:

- Research the possibility of expanding the food nutrition education program. Need to mobilize people and clients. Possibility of using Head Start as a link and collaborator.
- Go beyond the Food Bank. Tap into the community: Contact local colleges to talk to people who are interested in cooking. Involve diverse cultures. Have a teaching and learning program for food.
- Need transportation and access to food sources. Collaborate with business and faith-based groups to identify problems and funding. Clients don't always have access to the Internet, so all educators and service people need to know where food can be found. Maybe create a website for providers.
- Create maps of emergency food resources (this is already done in some communities, but needs to be expanded). Also, provide shelter locations and hours. Printing and distribution costs must be covered. Make it simple and distribute to stores, laundromats, libraries, etc.
- Store-to-Door program should be expanded; use volunteers to shop and then deliver groceries to seniors and the disabled.
- Farming and gardening are also possible.
- Integrate volunteers from faith-based groups and high schools.

Community Connections — Homegrown solutions:

- The County needs to serve as a focal point for faith-based players. Faith-based groups and local nonprofits need to meet together to share ideas and be efficient and cohesive.



- Faith-based groups can be accessed to help with grant writing to look for funding.
- Integrate 211 info referral system efforts with faith-based groups.
- Develop navigators for clients; train navigators and share the model.
- Share resources, prevent duplication and communicate.
- Need to map county services, tell stories about what works; share successes of service groups.
- Find ways to connect providers, start talking to people. (Perhaps at a conference?)
- Urge providers to push services out in to the community. Take services to all the communities, in a booth, room or fair. We need to bring services to communities, not just send clients to Oregon City.
- Consider training seniors and college students to provide services as volunteers.

Shelter Group — Leveraging vacancies:

- The housing stock in Clackamas needs to be researched, including the stigma of living in low-income housing.
- Can abandoned mobile homes be refurbished to make them viable?
- Investigate the vacancy rates in apartment buildings. As vacancies rise, can empty apartments be used for shelter while landlords are seeking permanent tenants or buyers?
- Are there other properties that can be used? What will it cost to secure them?
- Need to encourage landlords to become more flexible on credit ratings, eviction policy and the types of renters they want. How can tenants learn how to be better renters? Can volunteers help to repair properties for tenants, or for landlords after tenants leave?
- Tap into banks to find foreclosed properties (Clackamas County has high rates of foreclosures). Investigate the possibility of using foreclosed houses before they sell as temporary homes.
- The number of homeless and unaccompanied youth is high and increasing. Kids don't have a place to live and they need host homes. We know families are informally acting as hosts; can we learn how to use informal models to create a bigger and better program? How can host families be supported? We need mentors to navigate the system. Emergency and longer-term host homes are also needed.
- Rent and utility assistance is great, but funds won't be sustained. Perhaps a foundation can help provide long-term commitment and get other funders to help.
- Lake Oswego has two apartments connected to churches. This is very nice for families. Can other churches do this too?
- Where are the funds and how are they disseminated to the community? Clients need to know how to access them.
- Building and occupancy codes need to be changed occasionally, maybe short term, to help house folks temporarily. How do we approach the city to overcome these challenges?
- In Canby, helpful relationships were built with landlords where rent was underwritten so the landlords were assured of income (but tenants did not know). Investigate this model and see if it can be expanded.



“We are all strapped on budgets, but working together as a team can lead us to the next level.”

— *Brian Maher, Clackamas Service Center*

Conclusion

The *Clackamas County Recession Convening* was a critical first step and a successful initiative. This gathering addressed the current service gaps in the community and acknowledged the increasing needs of Clackamas' residents. Most importantly, it allowed us to realize our capacity to network and create new ideas that can support us in providing a stronger safety net to our most vulnerable citizens.

Several people offered to serve as part of an Advocacy Council to review this report and promote actions to forward the ideas discussed. Their names appear in Appendix One.

The event sponsors—The Oregon Community Foundation, Oregon Department of Human Services, Oregon Food Bank, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon and Oregon Business Council—salute the social service providers, volunteers and business people who are working hard to help their communities weather the current economic storm. We thank them for their time and creative ideas and pledge to be their partners as they explore and implement new community-based solutions.



Appendix One: Advocacy Council

An Advocacy Council was identified to help review the ideas presented, discuss the plausibility of each concept and be advocates for the ideas identified.

Name	Organization	Phone	Email
Martha McLennan	Northwest Housing Alternatives	503-654-1007	mclennan@nwhousing.org
Bill Verheggen	Love Inc.	503-655-4223	bill@clackamasloveinc.org
Dick Larrowe	St. Michaels	503-668-4096	larrowe@verison.net
Roni Rose	DHS Contractor and Estacada Community Foundation	971-673-7382	roni.l.rose@state.or.us
Patti Whitney-Wise	Adviser	503-595-5501	patti@oregonhunger.org
Mary Clark	DHS	971-673-7321	mary.s.clark@state.or.us
Tam Allen	Oregon Food Bank	503-282-0555	tamallen@oregonfoodbank.org
Glen Friedman	Hoover Family Foundation	503-699-1363	
Karen Gorton	Camp Fire USA, Mt. Hood Council	503-656-2530	kareng@campfireusamthood.org
Angela Trimble	Northwest Housing Alternatives	503-654-1007	trimble@nwhousing.org
William K. Stewart	Deputy District Attorney	503-655-8431	
Ann Liningner	Clackamas County Commissioner	503-655-8581	annlininger@co.clackamas.or.us



Appendix Two: Attendees

Name	Organization	Phone	Email
Tam Allen	Oregon Food Bank	5032820555	tamallen@oregonfoodbank.org
Bruce Anderholt	Camp Fire USA, Mt. Hood Council	5037574815	bruce.anderholt@gmail.com
Christina Bird	Senior Citizens Council of Clackamas County	5036571366	s4c@teleport.com
Jane Brown	Housing Authority of Clackamas County		janebro@co.clackamas.or.us
Mary Jo Cartasegna	Clackamas County Commissioner's Office	5037425942	mcartasegna@co.clackamas.or.us
Mary Clark	Dept. of Human Services, Office of Family Health	9716737321	mary.s.clark@state.or.us
Lynn Deshler	Clackamas County Ten Year Homeless Plan	5036313106	lynned@ccwebster.net
Linda Durham	Clackamas Community College	5036576958	lindadu@comcast.net
Michele Eberle	Clackamas Women's Services	5037222366	ed@cwsor.org
Sue Elder	Clackamas County Children's Commission	5036754565	
Dave Flock	Department of Human Services District 15	9716737382	dave.flock@state.or.us
Rick Freed	Oregon Hunger Task Force	5035955501	rick@oregonhunger.org
Glen Friedman	Hoover Family Foundation	5036991363	
Karen Gorton	Camp Fire USA, Mt. Hood Council	5036562530	kareng@campfireusamthood.org
Mary Gottlieb	Canby Adult Center	5032662970	marygg@canby.com
Stacey Hendricks	Workforce Investment Council of Clack. County		stacey.hendricks@wicco.org
Tonia Hunt	Children's Center of Clackamas County	5036557725	tonia@childrenscenter.cc
Russ Isom	Milwaukie Christian Church	5036546597	russ@gomcc.org
Eric Johnston	Todos Juntos		ejtodosjuntos@comcast.net
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Dick Larrowe	St. Michael Parish, St. Vincent de Paul Conference	5036684096	larrowe@verizon.net
David Leslie	Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon	5032211054	dleslie@emoregon.org
Ann Linger	Clackamas County Commissioner	5036558581	annlinger@co.clackamas.or.us
Dana Lord	Clackamas County Dental Society	5036558405	danalor@co.clackamas.or.us
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Roni Rose	Department of Human Services District 15	9716737382	Roni.L.Rose@state.or.us
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Appendix Three: Personal Interviews

Prior to the Clackamas County Recession Convening, several interviews were conducted with key stakeholders to gain a clearer understanding of the challenges facing the community. Below are the results of those interviews, highlighting urgent needs, innovative solutions and the challenges that lay ahead.

BRENDA DURBIN

Director Clackamas County Social Services

One of the unique challenges to Clackamas County is that the physical environment is very diverse, from urban areas to small towns, which adds some complexity to addressing poverty. There is a need for more assistance for people on the edge, as we cannot forget people who have been suffering for years; there should be no prioritizing of people with needs. Another challenge is the small number of service providers and lack of capacity. It is easier to coordinate partnerships, though, and we are happy to welcome Outside In as a new partner.

Two ideas that may help, include implementing a triage system so when people call for assistance we will be able to connect the family to the correct services and using the Vincent De Paul refurbished bus to serve hot meals. Clackamas County also needs to take advantage of the stimulus dollars from the Emergency Shelter Grant program (\$870,000 awarded).

While there is a very successful “ready to rent” program—which also offers transportation and childcare assistance—that provides funds to pay first and last month and do rental assistance for people who have graduated from their programs, there is a lack of assistance for people facing foreclosure.

KRISTIN KINNIE

North Clackamas School District

Clackamas County is good at collaborating, but there could be some improvement in more open sharing. Each person has a circle of collaboration, but there isn't a larger group connecting all the circles. A challenge that we face is that there are lots of meetings, but not a lot of action comes out of those. Geographic groups are great, but there also needs to be representatives from those groups coming together on a larger council.



Current basic needs include food, shelter, housing and networking amongst providers. A step forward would be to create a list of volunteer opportunities. Then we could combine the resource list with networking providers; but don't re-invent the wheel—revamp 211 system first. Washers, dryers and showers should be provided to help homeless families. One potential solution is that the school district may keep one of the school buildings they are closing open as a community center.

PASTOR RUSS ISOM

Milwaukie Christian Church

North Clackamas has a great capacity for compassion. An example of this is when over 300 volunteers showed up for one day in April—including doctors, dentists and barbers—to feed over 700 people and provide services for free. But there are still lots of issues coming like a freight train down the track that will impact our community. We should look at issues neighbors are facing to talk about how people are going to survive the recession. Some of Clackamas County's greatest challenges include housing (children are losing their homes) and transportation (the congregation helps provide bus passes for people to get to and from work, but the city needs to do things differently to help more).

BILL STEWART

Deputy District Attorney

The greatest challenges right now include the criminal justice system and how to reduce crime proactively. As people get pushed by the economy, they tend to do things they wouldn't have done otherwise. There is a concern about the development of gangs in the north end—around 82nd and Town Center—which is connected to the light rail coming in. We're seeing a lot of activity in Canby and it is growing into Wilsonville: graffiti has gone up from 25 to 100 cases. Ronelle Warner could possibly help get the Canby Police Department proactively involved. The community should also reach out to the court to work with chronically homeless people. There needs to be a partnership with social services and faith-based folks to help the at-risk homeless. Also, the community court approach system needs to be more efficient.

One solution in the works regards a chronic attendance court. This is a pilot program for the fall, which seeks to impact chronic truancy in a positive way. We can predict jail population based on literacy rate, so tickets for parents who don't send their kids to school may be issued. Also,



Compassion North Clackamas has had success working with the government and faith-based groups—we can take this model and push it further.

LYNNE DESCHLER

Homeless Count, Clackamas County

The greatest challenges for Clackamas County include healthcare and housing; senior needs are also at a critical level. We should continue to encourage a lot of local, grassroots community energy. The faith-based community groups are marshalling their forces in a way that I have never seen before. More innovative ways of bringing the faith-based community together with other organizations should be sought. In Clackamas County, each agency has a different culture, so an opportunity for the county is to understand each other and the cultural differences. The person down the hall from you, figuritively speaking, needs to know what you are working on.



Appendix Four: Survey Results

A link to an online survey was sent to key participants in Clackamas County to gain a better understanding of the specific challenges facing the community, service gaps that need to be filled and initiatives that are already in place to help community members cope during this financial downturn. A summary of the results from respondents is presented below.

1. How has the economic downturn impacted your agency or business?

Overall, respondents reported that less funding coupled with more demand is the biggest impact of the economic downturn. Specifically, less funding has led to positions going unfilled, elimination of salary increases and other benefits and an adjustment in service levels. Increase in service demand is across the board, but agencies that focus on food and housing assistance are seeing the greatest up swing. For example, from March 2008 to March 2009 there was a 36.1% increase in food stamp households and a 34.9% increase in TANF (cash welfare for families) households; while the waitlists for public housing are 3,500 households long and 6,000 households long for Section 8 rental assistance. "The demand is overwhelming," wrote one respondent.

Some respondents reported a positive side effect of the poor economy being an increase in volunteers. They noted, though, that they do not have the infrastructure or capacity to effectively utilize these new volunteers.

2. What are the most immediate effects of the downturn on children, families and communities in your region?

- Increased demand for daily food, shelter and clothing
- Fewer medical/dental/mental health services and inability to access the services available
- Fewer employment opportunities; increased unemployment
- Cancellation of summer school and after-school activities
- Stressful family dynamics; increase in domestic violence
- Increase in alcohol and drug abuse

3. Please list the top service gaps in your community.

- Food for needy and unemployed families
- Shelters for victims of domestic violence, singles and couples; services for homeless teens



- Mental health services; dental needs; addiction treatment centers
- Summer programs and free meals for children; college/trades placement for young adults
- Lack of volunteer management and infrastructure
- Financial assistance to help pay monthly bills
- Transportation for low-income people
- Eviction and foreclosure prevention; rapid re-housing; emergency response and long-term supportive living
- Visible service center to get basic needs met; communication about resources available among service providers; a way to let the community know what resources are available to help

4. Has your business or agency collected any hard data that speaks to the impact the economy is having on your community or agency?

Yes: 77.8%

No: 22.2%

5. If the recession continues for two or three years, what do you believe will be the top areas of long-term impact within your community?

- Unemployment, leading to increased crime; people leaving the community to seek employment elsewhere
- Chronic homelessness, leading to increased drug use and crime
- Prolonged reliance on food, shelter and medical assistance
- Families not being able to bounce back from this crisis due to lack of services and safety nets
- Increase in domestic violence and drug abuse; dissolution of family
- Climbing school drop out rates; inability to pursue education goals
- Service provider burnout
- Loss of funding for senior centers
- Affirmation of the isolation and generational effects of poverty

6. What are your suggestions for how the private and public sectors can work together, using existing resources, to address community service gaps and better respond to your community's needs?

- Co-share resources to organize food drives
- Private social service providers should work with schools, which have the most info and direct contact with families in need



- The service delivery system does not have full continuums of service—we need to expand our homeless programs to include eviction prevention/diversion and rapid re-housing
- Implement a true Housing First model
- Out of School programming for children task force
- Faith-based and other service organizations representing small, distressed communities begin to work with larger community resources to address their needs
- Co-share resources to increase medical assistance—offer support for Outside In to increase van presence
- Collaborate effectively on the Governor's proposed emergency job program; carefully insure any stimulus dollars reach as many people as possible
- Streamline paperwork and access to services; create database to share resources
- Work with CSC to build a village that would house CSC for food and clothing, Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic (Federal Qualified Health Care Center), Community Court for crime prevention, an employment agency to provide resources, Clackamas Community College for education and the YMCA to provide training, daycare, etc.
- Service providers become educated on the root causes of poverty and hunger and work toward legislative change
- Increase and provide structure for corporate support of programs

7. Please identify the community initiatives that have been organized in response to the current service gaps in your community:

- Homeless Council Activities
- Oregon Food bank drives
- North Clackamas Community Gathering
- Workgroups looking at homelessness; after-school programming/meals committee in formation
- Clackamas Women's Services and Annie Ross House are working together to develop a more comprehensive shelter service delivery system and have written two grants to fund Eviction Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing programs for Clackamas County
- United Way activities
- Molalla Community Summit
- Outside In (vans to support dental and medical needs) and the Coalition Health Clinics
- Clackamas Service Center activities; Canby Center has various "fantastic" initiatives
- Governor's Emergency Jobs program
- State DHS revised its intake system to see applicants for Food Stamps on the same day they make initial contact, or the very next day
- NHA/ARH and CWS are working in collaboration with Clackamas County and other community partners to more effectively meet the increase in need in our communities



8. Have you found these community initiatives, listed above, to be effective?

Yes: 100%

Additional Comments

- We are all strapped on budgets, but working together as a team can lead us to the next level.
- The safety net system in Clackamas County is under a great deal of stress. The rural county has become urban, but are under the constraints of taxing limitations, and now a struggling economy. The nonprofit sector is small and fragmented, and does not have the level of public support it needs to be sustained or to grow. The county has been the primary service provider, but as it experiences more stress, it is moving to outsourcing. This runs the risk of moving the stress to the nonprofit sector rather than addressing it. While one piece is increasing funds from the private side, this will never meet the full need—foundations will not likely want to provide ongoing operating support and individual/corporate donors cannot take up all the slack. Addressing this will require fundamental changes to taxing capacity and to the organizational structure of government.
- Local communities are stepping forward to see what can be done. It is critical that everyone is involved with this process.



Appendix Five: Recession Survival Roundtable

On May 9, 2009, a Recession Survival Roundtable was conducted at the Milwaukie Christian Church. A list of attendees is found at the end of this appendix.

Pastor Russ Isom opened the meeting and the discussion began with a recap of the top concerns identified in January's meeting. From those concerns, this roundtable was convened to be action-oriented and give attendees a platform to form partnerships and multi-laterally address community concerns. Four top concerns were identified as the focus of this roundtable:

- Basic Needs/Lack of Housing
- Employment
- Resource List/Website/Volunteer Education
- Networking with Providers

The roundtable then split into four groups to brainstorm ideas on how to address these concerns. Below are the results of these breakout sessions.

Basic Needs

Involve more churches and schools to increase awareness of community needs. Wichita Center could offer a washer and dryer, community garden, education opportunity about cooking, Head Start, Clackamas County Mental Health, food pantry, Family Support Center, clothes closet and after hours accessibility.

Employment

Three hindrances to seeking employment were identified as lack of transportation, inadequate computer skills, including lack of access to computers, and lack of job training for those looking to change careers, including resume writing. Possible solutions include working with Trimet to provide free bus passes to those seeking employment (additional solutions for rural areas are needed as public transportation is much more limited outside of urban limits); and providing a mentor/coach for each individual once the community center is open. The coach would supply job seekers with a bus ticket, job training, computer assistance and follow up after interviews. Other solutions offered included: have an on-site state or government employee to help with job training, have sites to offer job fairs and the creation of a clearinghouse.



Resources and Volunteering

There is a need for one centralized location to call to provide information for immediate emergency needs people might have relating to housing, food, energy assistance, etc:

- County 211 provides some of these services, but it is not always accessible. It is not a 24/7 service. Is there a way to grow the capacity of 211? A survey of resources available in the community, including at local faith-based centers, would be beneficial.
- There is a need to organize access to resources based on:
 - Immediate need (emergency response)
 - One to two month needs
 - Ongoing needs

A better understanding of services of the County Volunteer Connection is needed; possibly grow the capacity of this system to serve as a hub for volunteers. There is also a need to find a way to combine the strengths of these systems with the strengths of the faith-based system in mobilizing volunteers.

- Develop a reverse database, where people and projects that need help and volunteers are listed; organize a network of volunteers to mentor and help guide individuals and families through these tough times
- Create a formalized organization, which will help put priority strategies into action; look to Canby Center model

Networking With Providers

There is a great need for computer access as well as bilingual support to access computer resources and usage. More knowledge needs to be gathered about the web resources already available—bring in a coordinator to maintain a resource list from various agencies offered in various locations. This coordinator can pull all the information and resources together, as well as coordinate efforts and support for community members. Are there grants or other sources to fund this position?

The Recession Survival Roundtable closed with the unanimous decision to create a Steering Committee and to reconvene again in August 2009.



Roundtable Attendees:

Milwaukie Christian Church – Russ Isom, Peg Tarbox, Mike Odom, Joy Odom, Karen Lacey, Teresa Ellis, Kathi Schroeder

N. C. School District – Joe Krumm, Leslie Robinette, Kristin Kinnie, Kendall Palmer, Daryl Dixon

Abundant Life Church – Kathi and Jerry Gerspach

Milwaukie Lions – Dennis Tichenor, Tom Hammond

Milwaukie High School – Pamela Rook

Clackamas County Sheriff's Office – Patty McMillan

Metropolitan Family Services – Amy Corbett

Love Inc. and Meals on Wheels – Becky Galbreath

St. Paul's United Methodist Church – Saundea Smith

Oregon Food Bank – Tarn Allen

Oregon Community Foundation – Kathleen Cornett

Oregon Hunger Task Force/resident – Patti Whitney-Wise

Grace Point Church – Doug Hiebenthal

Clackamas County Homeless Plan – Lynne Deshler

Clackamas County District Attorney – Bill Stewart

State Department of Human Services – Jerry Buzzard

Clackamas County Department of Human Services – Teri Beemer

Providence Health & Services – Priscilla Lewis

Governor's Office – Claudia Black

