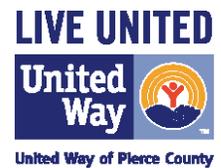


STRONG FAMILIES



MEET JOHN

John and his family had been homeless for over a year. They had been living with friends, in motels, and even under trees. John had been a commercial truck driver, but had lost his job when his employer dropped medical insurance coverage for the employees. Because of this his high blood pressure was no longer under control and his employer had to let him go.

Thanks to Open Hearth Ministries and Helping Hand House, their luck turned quickly and they were set up with a safe home, and were turned in the direction of South Sound Outreach for medical care.

It was clear that John's health was a definite setback in his ability to get a new job, so South Sound Outreach services immediately set him up with medical coverage and an appointment was made for him to see a doctor the very next day. Within a month, John's blood pressure was under control and he was hired as a commercial driver. Because of the help received from these services and regaining a steady income, John and his family are now living in permanent housing.

Providing funding to multiple programs helps families get help with more of their needs. These programs help young children and their families remove the barriers preventing them from breaking the cycle of poverty.

Providing the basic needs and support that helps people get on their feet and move toward stability.

Why It Matters

144,000 people visit food banks each month. Nearly **half** of those are working families

It is estimated that **2 in 5 homeless** in Pierce County are children.

33 percent of callers to South Sound 2-1-1 lived in homes with children under the age five.

Food, shelter and utility assistance, basic needs, are the top resources needed by callers to South Sound 2-1-1.