

STRONG FAMILIES



MEET LISA

Lisa had moved from California to Washington with the intention of starting her career, but it did not end up panning out for her and she was left unemployed. Going from having a sizeable income to nothing at all was not a shift she was prepared for, and she quickly fell into debt.

Thanks to Family and Food Bank Services, Lisa had a place to turn to. They offered Lisa the resources she needed to get back on her feet. They paid off her electrical bill for several months, to take some of the worries off her shoulders. A local church in connection with Family and Food Bank Services agreed to help her pay her rent as well.

The Food Bank was a place she went regularly for several months, until she became more stable. This help released a significant amount of stress and helped her get re-employed and stable.

The Food Bank still check in monthly with Lisa, and because of their continued support, she is now more aware of her financial situation and wants to make sure she's making the best decisions for her and the family that rely on her.

Family and Food Bank Services is just one of the many programs receiving funding from United Way of Pierce County. By focusing on programs that help young children and their families, we can 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.

32 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.