

Ferndale Community Service Cooperative

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2019 Annual Report

The Ferndale Community Service Cooperative is a nonprofit organization that provides structure for community groups to work together, coordinate efforts, and share resources. In 2019 volunteers donated many hours of service across the 8 programs to help families and individuals meet basic needs, stay connected, and build community.

Community Resource Center: Located at 5694 Second Avenue, the Resource Center provides one on one assistance with job search, resource navigation and referrals, clothing, and a friendly face for Ferndale residents. In 2019, we served 2630 individuals and handed out 20,431 items of clothing to men, women, and children. We also partnered with the Ferndale High School Band and the Lummi Nation to share clothing donations.



Friendship Community Garden: The Garden, located near Star Park, rents 25 plots each year for a small fee. Families and individuals can grow their own food and learn from each other. Garden volunteers donated a total of 1232 hours in 2019. Additionally the First Fruits Food Bank Garden, which grows food for the Ferndale Food Bank, grew over 5,000 pounds of restaurant quality produce.



The Other Bank: Did you know that food stamp benefits don't cover hygiene or cleaning supplies? Thanks to donations and financial support from the community, the Other Bank was able to provide 625 Ferndale School District families with 3428 individual allotments of things like shampoo, laundry soap, toilet tissue, toothpaste, diapers, etc. Families that receive free and reduced lunch through Ferndale schools qualify.



Holiday Giving Store: Thanks to the generosity of local businesses, organizations, and individuals, and with the help of 42 volunteers, the HSG was able to provide Christmas gifts to 502 Ferndale children. Youngsters from birth to age 18 are eligible for the program if their family qualifies for free and reduced school lunch through Ferndale schools and they live within the Ferndale School District boundaries.



Family Community Funds: Family Fund coordinators work in tandem with Ferndale schools to help students be ready to learn when they enter the classroom. In 2019, they sorted and distributed supplies and provided over 200 backpacks to low income students.



Volunteer Mobilization Center: The VMC works with Whatcom County Sheriff's Office to coordinate spontaneous volunteers throughout the County during and after disasters. In 2019, the VMC was called up twice to register volunteers during the February Freeze. In total, the VMC had 1148 hours donated by volunteers.



Family Meals Project: The FMP offers information and hands on experience in planning, preparing, and sharing budget friendly home cooked meals. In 2019 the FMP focused on growing a strong social media presence that teaches about nutrition and healthy cooking.

