


2023

annual report

Helping people through times of hardship,
building resilience & improving wellbeing.

VINA MOSES CENTER

welcome to our annual report!

We are deeply grateful to have so many partners in community kindness - including you! This annual report is a testimony to the generosity and trust you have invested in us.

We expanded to help fill a widening gap in community services brought on by the economic uncertainties. Indeed, across all our programs, participation was up. Your donations helped us fill gaps: whether families needed aid with a utility bill, needed food when pantries were unavailable, or needed clothes or shoes to start a job.

Accessibility is more than an open door. With your help, we leaned into our people-power and opened Closets in rural Benton County. In Corvallis, we added donation and shopping hours on First Saturdays of the month and added after school hours on Teen Tuesdays. We also have Spanish-speakers on every shift.

Volunteerism at Vina is thriving! This was our first full year having a paid Volunteer Coordinator on staff. Since then, the number of day-to-day volunteers is up, as are the total number of hours volunteered. We make more of a meaningful impact because of our volunteers.

The Board of Directors worked tirelessly behind the scenes to provide shared strategic direction and support for our current and future work. We are excited and inspired by their energy and commitment!

Thank YOU for providing us with the resources to make Vina Moses Center's achievements possible.

*warmly,
team eilene*

PS: we'll let you in on the joke: we call ourselves Team Eilene. Our leadership team includes an Eileen with an "E" (Board President) and an Ilene with an "I" (Executive Director). Reach out to either one of us and we'll share our enthusiasm about the work we're doing and your role in making it happen. Thank you!



Ilene McClelland,
Executive Director



Eileen Tokuda,
Executive Director



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Vina Moses Center

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new and notable

Viva Vina: fundraiser at Lumos Wine Company

Inaugural pop-up Back to School giveaway event in Monroe

Spanish-speaking staff in-house every business day

Co-launched the HELP Workshare Pilot Project

Built Vina's Alesia Family Outreach Closet

Open on First Saturdays of the month for shopping and donations

Started Teen Tuesdays for after school shopping

Selected as a Bombas Giving Partner

Accepted our first matching donation challenge (and made it!)



finances

Net Assets

Benton Community Foundation Agency Fund: \$1,109,428

Cash: \$416,145

Total:
\$1,525,573

Distribution of Assets

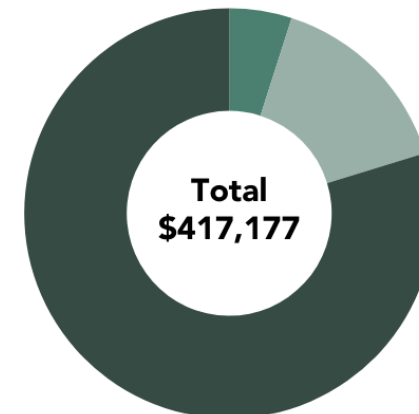
Permanently Restricted: \$15,000
Temporarily Restricted: \$36,454
Unrestricted: \$1,474,119

We have a Benton Community Foundation Agency Fund!

In 2021, one of our long-time volunteers and donors challenged us to establish an Agency Fund at Benton Community Foundation with a \$15,000 seed gift to help us plan for the future. Within a year, a large anonymous estate gift catapulted our Agency Fund into a tool for reaching that future sooner than we'd imagined. Inspired, we are intensifying our strategic efforts towards a reimagined space and our programming and partnerships in it. [Thank you Alice Morrow!](#)

Contributions

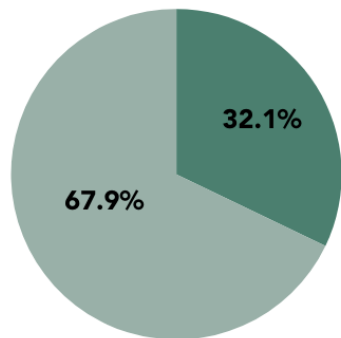
- Corporate/Business: \$20,558
- Grants: \$63,876
- Individual Donations: \$332,710



Program Expenditures

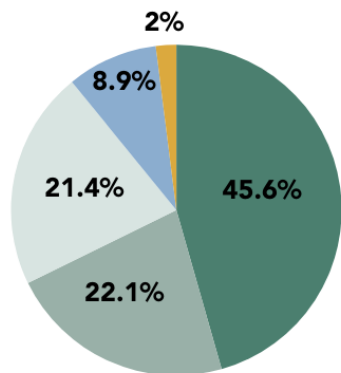
Included programs: Free Thrift Store, Giving Tree, Back to School, Food Cupboards, New Baby Layettes

- Direct Assistance: \$157,441
- Non-Cash Goods & Services: \$576,000 (estimated in kind)



Direct Assistance Expenditures By Program

- Financial Assistance: \$71,771
- Giving Tree & Thanksgiving: \$34,868
- Back to School: \$33,673
- Free Thrift Store: \$13,989
- Workforce Closet: \$3,141



free thrift store



Items donated by you reached almost 5,500 households through our Free Thrift Store: from people who are experiencing homelessness to families barely making ends meet. Essentials like clothes, socks, shoes, jackets, shampoo, laundry soap, food, and other items are an essential kindness to someone who can't afford to make an end-of-the-month shopping trip or simply needs something to stay warm and dry.



vina's workforce closet:

More than just a free thrift store

An unhoused client got a new job at a warehouse through LaborMax. There was one problem: she needed steel-toed boots. LaborMax coordinated with Vina Moses' Workforce Closet to get her exactly what she needed. When she came to pick them up, she expressed how excited she was to finally be able to support herself!



17,958

TOTAL BAGS DISTRIBUTED

5,466

HOUSEHOLDS SHOPPED

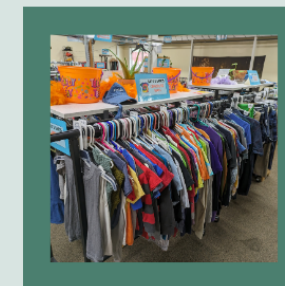
455

AVG HOUSEHOLDS SHOPPED PER MONTH

sharing the smiles

It's not only Vina shoppers like Yadira (right), who left everything in Venezuela to move to Corvallis, that benefit from what gets donated. We share goods with other community organizations, including:

- Community Doula Program
- Corvallis Daytime Drop-in Center
- Habitat for Humanity
- Maxtivity
- STARS (Samaritan Treatment and Recovery Services)
- South Benton Food Pantry
- Alsea School District



specialty program stats:

57

new baby Layette distributed to parents

38

visits to the Workforce Closet



"I had nothing when I started my life over. I've gotten toys, [a] TV, clothes, dishes, [a] table, kitchen stuff, soaps, and bedding. It's literally a miracle every time I come here."

- Free Thrift Store Shopper

financial assistance



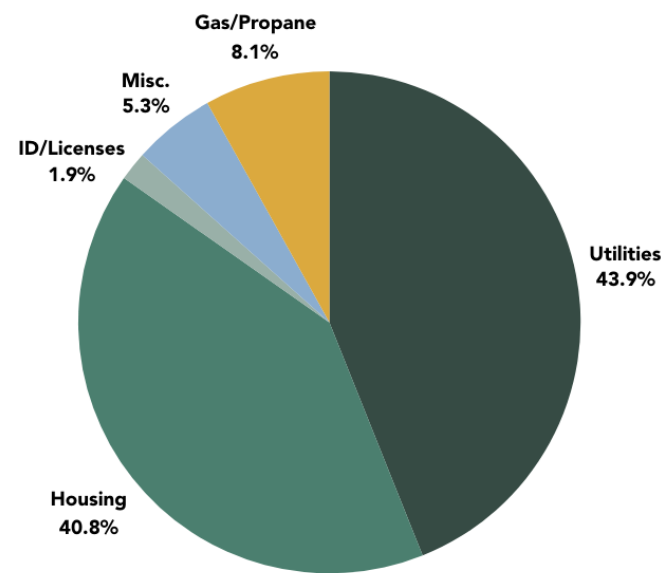
Not all superheroes wear capes.

A family of 5 lost their home. After moving into a hotel to provide shelter for their children, the family had difficulty finding housing and didn't have enough for both a deposit and a hotel room while they looked.

After the family was approved for an apartment, they needed funds before the apartment was given away. The affordable housing market is so tight, when a family finds something available, they have to move quickly. We are often able to leverage our partnerships to move faster than other organizations.

Vina Moses Center brought six organizations together to provide \$4,000 to help pay for the family's deposit and first month's rent before the apartment was given to another family!

Financial assistance by type



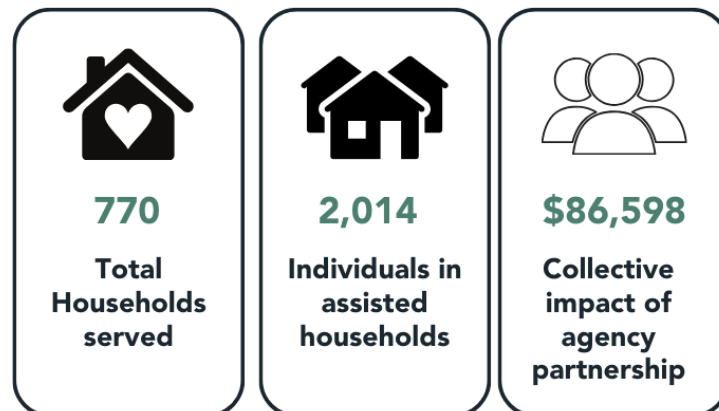
Total impact: \$71,771

Why We Collaborate:

When you need help, navigating the complex web of social services can be overwhelming. Everyone has different hours, different hours when they answer the phone - and some resources may be entirely unknown to those in need. When we collaborate, it keeps us talking to other organizations and it eliminates barriers for those trying to get help. We can make a bigger impact when we all work together.

When you call one of us, you call all of us.

Financial Assistance program snapshot:



volunteers



Vina Moses Center was honored with the 2023 Outstanding Volunteer Group award by the Benton Community Foundation. Our volunteers are (officially) #1!



Kindness lasts a lifetime; one volunteer's story

"I remember 'shopping' [at VMC] with my dad for back-to-school clothes, a winter jacket and supplies. We were given a voucher to go to Payless and pick out shoes. I had been wanting light up shoes for as long as I could remember but up until that point it had not been in the cards for me. My dad took us to Payless and I found the PERFECT shoes. I was so proud of them and showed them off to everyone I could."

When our volunteer was young, her single dad struggled to make ends meet and worked multiple jobs to pay living, medical, and food expenses. Someone at her school told him about the Vina Moses Back to School Program and helped them sign up.

Fast forward to now: "I was telling my dad about volunteering for your organization and how I remembered getting the shoes. He remembered as well and was almost brought to tears with gratitude."

7,579
TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS WORKED

135
AVERAGE VOLUNTEER HOURS PER WEEK

283
TOTAL ANNUAL VOLUNTEERS

seasonal programs



“When I am stressed about not having clothes or toys or school supplies for my daughter, I know I have options here which takes a load off my shoulders.”

-Back to School Program Participant

It takes a community to prepare kids for going back to school. From collaboration with school districts and agency partners, to inviting families to donate clothes as part of our local social recycling economy, we help more kids when we work together.

Instead of duplicating services in our community, we enhance them. Our program ensures kids get to choose the supplies they need and have clothes and shoes that make them feel confident - all before school starts.

Our program is more impactful than ever! After a successful program pop-up in Alsea in 2022, we added a second pop-up in Monroe to serve families where they are in two different rural communities.

3 locations, 1 program:

851
KIDS SERVED



Less than a month before Thanksgiving, we learned that Linn-Benton Food Share did not have the funds to provide Thanksgiving meals to families in need as they had in years past. Without that resource, we knew our families were going to turn to us for help. Thanks to a large donation from The Power of 100 People Who Care, we were able to fill this much-needed gap for 100 households!

100
THANKSGIVING DINNER
GIFT CARDS DISTRIBUTED

1,743
CHILDREN SERVED



586
HOUSEHOLDS
SERVED

59
COMMUNITY
TREE TAG
PARTNERS

1,028
MEALS
PROVIDED



rural outreach



MEETING FAMILIES WHERE THEY ARE

Our partnership with the Alsea School District's Family Outreach program grew during the pandemic and blossomed into something more: a new Alsea Community Closet. Here families can receive place-based services including free clothes, hygiene items, and other necessities. The Closet also serves as a point of contact for our Emergency Financial Assistance and other programs.

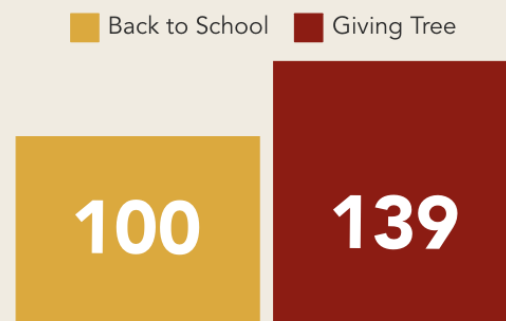
The closure of both the gas station and medical clinic coupled with staffing cuts at the school district have highlighted the urgency for accessible basic services. Thank you to Susan and David Cook and Benton Community Foundation, for supporting rural families where they are!



Rural Outreach Events

- 1st annual Monore Back to School popup
- 2nd annual Alsea Back to School popup
- Dixie School Harvest Fest
- South Benton Health, Safety & Resource Fair

Rural participants by program



help project



HELP = HOMELESS EMPLOYMENT WORKSHARE PROJECT

Vina Moses Center and the Corvallis Daytime Drop-in Center (CDDC) launched a new partnership: the Homeless Employment Workshare Project!

Together we employ and support a small, curated cohort of workers hosted in our donation room. Vina Moses Center trains and co-supervises workers with the CDDC, who pays their wages. Workers receive comprehensive support including soft skills, workplace coaching, and resources to move them towards affordable housing and more stable living situations.

Our very first cohort hire was housed a few months after starting the project.

IN HER OWN WORDS:



Shared with permission. Photographer/artist: John Noltner

Belonging to anyone or anything is a first for me. Knowing what it feels like to belong would be a positive, very drastic change.

A Page of My Mind

our team

2023 Staff

Ilene McClelland, Executive Director

Dazie Carnes, Volunteer Coordinator

Jade True, Program Coordinator

Mayra Valencia, Bilingual Lead Advocate (PT)

Melissa Acero Martinez, Bilingual Program Advocate (PT)

Sidney Shaw, Program & Outreach Advocate (PT)

Yulissa Gonzalez, Bilingual Program Advocate (PT)



2023 Board of Directors

Eileen Tokuda, President

Jane Tappen, Vice President & Secretary

Justin Bazzano, Treasurer

Avie Meadows

Emma Durbin

Marty Fulford

Rob Upson