Rural Resources Community Action

# IMPACT REPORT

## JAN 2025 - JUNE 2026







## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction . . . . . 1
Leadership & Governing Board . . . 2
Message from CEO . . . . . 3
Message from COO . . . . . 4
Board News . . . . . 4
60 Years of Rural Resources . . . . 5
Community-Based Teams . . . . . 7
Early Childhood Education . . . . . 9
Employment & Training . . . . . 10
Housing . . . . . 11
Nutrition Services . . . . . 13
Senior & Independent Living Services . . . . . 15
Transportation . . . . . 16
Victim Services . . . . . 17
Celebrating Our Staff . . . . . 18
Financials . . . . . 19

Rural Resources Community Action

956 S Main Street
Colville, WA 99114

509-684-8421
ruralresources.org

## SUPPORT OUR WORK

Your donation helps our most vulnerable neighbors in our rural communities. Every unrestricted dollar we receive through donations creates flexibility for our teams to respond to community or individual needs, and goes toward the creation of resilient, self-sufficient communities in rural Eastern Washington.

Become a one-time or monthly donor at givebutter.com/RuralResources.

All donations are tax-deductible. Rural Resources is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. For tax purposes, our Federal Identification Number is 91-0793447.

***Thank you for your support!***




*The Nutrition Services team at the Arden warehouse.*

# The mission of Rural Resources Community Action is to assist people and communities to develop the skills, resources and services necessary to improve their general welfare.

Since 1965, Rural Resources has provided services, programs, support, and hope to rural communities across eastern Washington. We partner with individuals and families to help them overcome barriers to long-term stability and prosperity, connect them to essential resources, and support them in becoming self-sufficient. With over 50 programs centered around...

- safe and affordable housing;
- rural transportation;
- low-cost childcare and early childhood education;
- substance abuse/addiction recovery and prevention;
- assistance for individuals facing barriers to housing, employment, and healthcare;
- employment and paid, on-the-job training;
- nutrition services and food accessibility;
- independent living services for seniors and people with disabilities;
- services for survivors of domestic violence and other crimes;

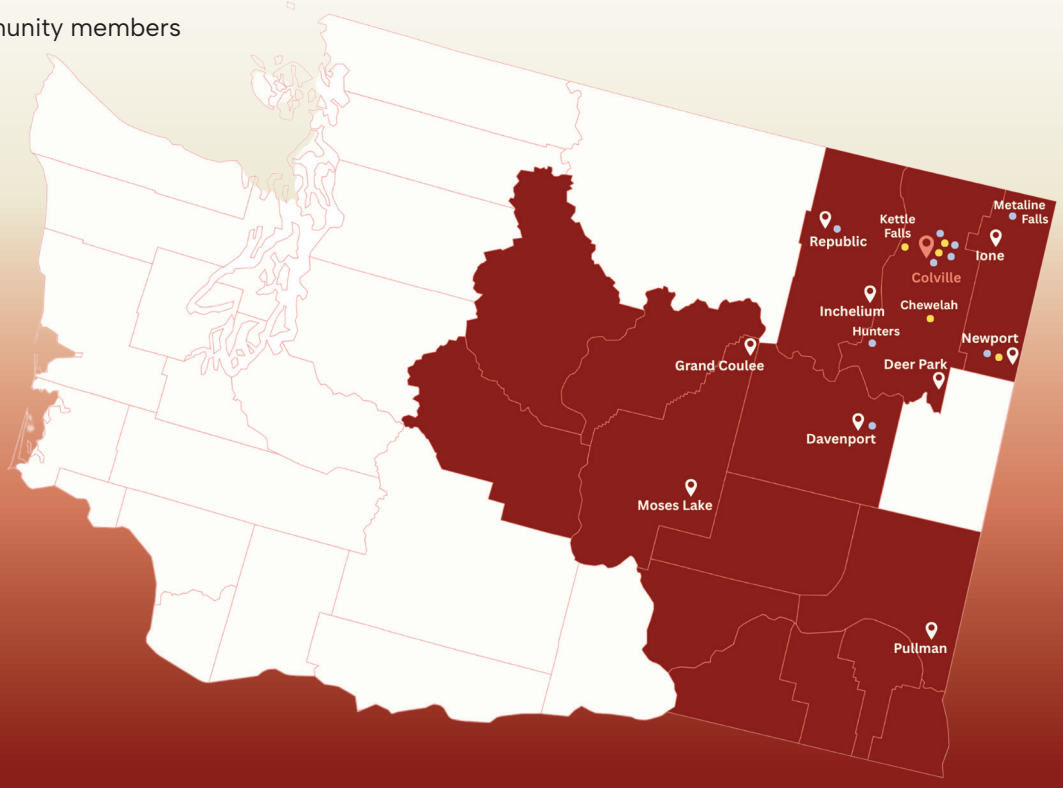
...Rural Resources supports community members through a holistic approach that addresses the complex and interconnected challenges affecting their well-being.

We understand the unique obstacles rural residents face as they endeavor to rise out of poverty, as well as the economic, social, and cultural factors needed to forge resilient, thriving communities. We advocate at the local, state, and federal levels for the rural eastern Washington communities we serve, providing a voice to our most vulnerable community members.

Rural Resources is part of a nationwide network of more than 1,000 Community Action Agencies who receive federal dollars to provide locally administered programs and services to their communities. We bring over $20 million each year in state, federal, and private grants to some of the most underserved areas of Washington state, and employ over 220 local staff across 10 offices, five Head Start classrooms, and 10 affordable housing complexes, making us one of the top local employers in the region. Our staff collaborate across departments, programs, and locations to solve complex community challenges, connect partners and resources, and improve the lives of our neighbors.

## AREAS WE SERVE

- Service Area
- Rural Resources Office
- Rural Resources Headquarters
- Head Start Classroom
- Affordable Housing Property





## LEADERSHIP:

**Bryan Raines**
Chief Executive Officer

**Ryan Berendesen**
Chief Operations Officer

**Kelly Charlton**
Director of Administration

**Delana Kromer**
Controller

**Brandi Armstrong**
Director of Early Childhood Education

**Aja Bridge**
Director of Nutrition Services

**Barney Brockwell**
Executive Director of Eastern Washington Partnership

**Stefanie Demmitt**
Director of Employment & Training

**Kimberly Gibson**
Director of Transportation

**Ryan Johnson**
Director of Senior & Independent Living Services

**Breeann Noble**
Co-Director of Community-Based Teams

**Heather Peterson**
Co-Director of Community-Based Teams

**Alison Price**
Director of Victim Services

**Michelle Thomas**
Director of Community Services

**Colton Thompson**
Director of Facilities

**Cruze Thompson**
Director of Housing

## GOVERNING BOARD:

**Jacque Bassett**
Board Chair
End Violence Against Women International

**Fran Bessermin**
Admin Committee Chair
Aging & Long Term Care of Eastern WA

**Robert Rosencrantz**
Interim Finance Committee Chair
Pend Oreille County Commissioner

**Greg Young**
Secretary & Planning Committee Chair
Stevens County Commissioner

**Robert Dean**
Board Member
Ferry County Commissioner

**Sara Deponte**
Board Member
NEW Alliance Counseling Services

**Theresa Finley**
Board Member
Early Childhood Education

**Jo Gilchrist**
Board Member
Lincoln County Commissioner

**Debra Hansen**
Board Member
Tri-County Economic Development District

**Cindy Marchand**
Board Member
Colville Confederated Tribes

**Roxanne May**
Board Member
Head Start Policy Council

**Frank Metlow**
Board Member
Tri-County Economic Development District

**Matt Schanz**
Board Member
Northeast Tri-County Health District

**Chris Shaffer**
Board Member
Community Member, Inchelium

**Sherry Vokoun**
Board Member
Northeast WA Hunger Coalition

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

In 2025, Rural Resources proudly celebrated a significant milestone: **60 years of serving communities across our region.** In my role as CEO over the last three years, I've had the honor of recognizing the strength of our legacy while also looking ahead to the opportunities and challenges that will drive our future.

**2025 was bookended by significant restructuring of federal departments in early February and a full government shutdown in November.** These major events created confusion and uncertainty for our staff and clients alike, as **assistance and funding distributions for federal programs like Head Start and SNAP were delayed, regional offices were shuttered, and future funding became a question mark.** The uncertainty that disrupted the year required us all to stay light on our feet, adapt and pivot when needed, and maintain a steady commitment to our mission.

Through it all, our team remained grounded in the needs of the rural communities we serve; we continued to deliver essential programs, achieve meaningful results, and expand our impact in the areas where our communities need it most. In January 2025 we opened **the Connections Recovery Café,** which has already created stability and support for members as they recover from substance use disorder and addiction. And in September, we welcomed **Dominican Sisters Haven,** an affordable housing complex in Colville owned by Catholic Charities and managed onsite by Rural Resources. These efforts would not have been successful without the dedication of our staff, the trust of our clients, and the generous support of our donors, funders, and partners.

**In August, Rural Resources administered our Community Needs Assessment,** an effort required every three years for Community Action Agencies across the nation. We met with community members face-to-face across several counties in the region to hear from them: what needs are most persistent and significant? And what local services and programs might help to fill those gaps, remove those barriers, and improve the lives of our community members?

The results from the Community Needs Assessment reinforced what we hear every day: **families in rural eastern Washington are navigating rising costs, housing instability, transportation challenges, and barriers to basic services—**but they are also demonstrating remarkable strength and determination. As we begin to develop our 2027–2030 Strategic Plan, we will take these outcomes from the Assessment and directly fold them into our goals for the next several years to best meet the needs of our region.

In January 2026 we received funding to renovate **the Kaniksu Apartment Complex** in Metaline Falls, saving affordable housing units in a remote, rural community in Pend Oreille County. We also welcomed **Jacque Basset as our new Board Chair,** replacing Matt Schanz after seven years of leadership.

In March 2026 we kicked off our **Strategic Planning process,** working with staff and a consultant to build our Community Needs Assessment into actionable goals for 2027–2030. We also began a major **rebrand project** which will significantly update our current branding and messaging, beginning with our mission statement. Our staff and clients have been integral partners in these processes, and we know taking the time to thoughtfully move through this work will lay the foundation to better serve our communities in the future.

Our workforce has grown, our service area has widened, and our impact has deepened over the course of 60 years. But we at Rural Resources still operate with the same ethos as that small group of community members who gathered in Newport in 1965: **local folks helping their neighbors, working together to achieve long-term stability and prosperity for our communities.** It's clear that our work, done at the local level by local people, is needed now more than ever.



With gratitude,

**BRYAN RAINES**
*Chief Executive Officer*

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR COO

As we reflect on the past 18 months, it's clear that this period marked an important turning point for our agency. After several years of rebuilding and restructuring, we have emerged stronger, more stable, and well-positioned for the future.

Our fiscal department has now stabilized following three years of intensive work, and the complete financial systems turnover implemented in 2022 is operating successfully. Today, Rural Resources is in a strong financial position, providing a solid foundation for continued growth and service to our communities.

Over the past two years, we have focused on stabilizing and restructuring departments across the agency while diversifying funding streams to strengthen long-term sustainability. We continue pursuing new funding opportunities to further expand and support our programs in the years ahead.

This year also brought exciting progress through major initiatives, including securing funding to acquire and renovate Kaniksu Village, a 24-unit low-income apartment community in Metaline Falls, and successfully completing the recertification of our Children's Advocacy Center.

None of this progress would have been possible without the dedication, resilience, and hard work of our employees. Thank you for your continued commitment to our mission and the communities we serve.



**RYAN BERENDSEN**
*COO, Rural Resources*

## RURAL RESOURCES WELCOMES NEW BOARD CHAIR

In January 2026, Matt Schanz of the Northeast Tri-County Health District stepped down from leading the Rural Resources Governing Board. We're grateful for his seven years of leadership through major financial, staffing, and pandemic-related challenges. Matt will continue serving on the Board as a general member.

At the January 28 meeting, Jacque Bassett was confirmed as the new Board Chair. Jacque has served on the Board since 2023 and brings extensive experience as COO at End Violence Against Women International. Congratulations, Jacque!



***Former board chair Matt Schanz (left) and new board chair Jacque Bassett (right)***

# 60 YEARS OF RURAL RESOURCES

As Rural Resources celebrates 60 years, it's worth pausing to reflect on where the journey began, as well as the leaders and community members who shaped its path. In 1965, Rural Resources was simply an idea in a small room in Newport, WA, where a group of local residents gathered to discuss the newly signed Economic Opportunity Act, part of President Lyndon B. Johnson's War on Poverty.



*President Lyndon B. Johnson signs the Economic Opportunity Act in 1964.*

Many in the room weren't sure what the new federal initiative would mean for their communities, but one person understood exactly what the impact would be. Al Six, a local schoolteacher, later recalled, "It was all about helping people." Al was in the room the day Rural Resources Community Action was born, and he remained part of the story for several decades as a Board member. His lifelong involvement anchored the agency's history in the values that started it all: neighbors helping neighbors.

Rural Resources Community Action became the presiding community action agency for Stevens, Ferry, and Pend Oreille counties. Community Action Agencies are funded through the federal Community Service Block Grant, which replaced the Economic Opportunity Act in 1981. Over 1,000 local community action agencies across the country provide CSBG funded services and activities to their local communities, with the intent of helping local community members rise out of poverty and become self-sustainable.

One of Rural Resources' first programs was Head Start, which was also a federal initiative in 1965 and funded through the Economic Opportunity Act. Rural Resources received one of the first Head Start grants in the country and has held that grant ever since. Today, Rural Resources has almost 200 classroom and daycare slots for children whose families might not otherwise be able to access childcare.

After its founding in Newport, Rural Resources moved to Colville to better serve the whole Tri-County area. At the time, timber jobs were plentiful, and families worked hard and built lives in the area. But as time passed, the region changed. Jobs declined, young people moved away, and unemployment rose and stayed high compared to the rest of Washington State. Through these shifts, Rural Resources adapted again and again, staying rooted in its mission while evolving to meet emerging needs.

When Barry Lamont became CEO of Rural Resources in 1990, the agency had about 80 staff and most programs ran independently, with their own processes and with limited collaboration between departments. Barry's job over the next two decades would be to break down those silos and increase collaboration across the agency, laying the foundation for today's holistic approach to services. Under his direction, Rural Resources became the official Community Action Agency for Lincoln County and opened what is now the agency's largest department: Housing.

Providing housing programs met a huge need in the region. "It was significant for us," Barry reflected. "We had a great reputation for running and administering programs well, and so the state came to us and asked if we wanted to become the main service provider for housing programs in the region."

During his tenure, Barry navigated federal shutdowns, delayed contracts, fluctuating regulations, and the complexities of serving remote rural areas. Reflecting on it in 2025, he emphasized a truth that remains at the core of Rural Resources: "The needs continue, they don't abate. People need a roof over




*Then-Executive Director Barry LaMont (left) and founding board member Al Six (right).*

their heads, food in their stomachs, and a living wage to pay for it."

He's also quick to credit the agency's accomplishments to its people. "Employees really have to figure out how to play with funding requirements and make them work for what the needs are here," he said. "A lot of people don't realize that this work requires a level of creativity and collaboration between departments. I just stayed out of their way and they did miraculous things."

By the time Barry retired in 2012, Rural Resources' annual operating budget had grown from $2.8 million to $15 million, cementing the agency's status as a major regional employer and service provider. "Those dollars have a real economic impact," Barry said. "It really shows how much we support local people and communities."

At the 60 year mark, Rural Resources celebrates the founding guidance of Al Six, the leadership of Barry Lamont, and the dedication of generations of staff who strove for the goals laid out in 1965 by the Economic Opportunity Act. Today, we know the demand for energy assistance, housing, victim services, senior services, and other essential programs is only on the rise, and Rural Resources—and our employees—will continue showing up for our neighbors, day after day, year after year, decade after decade.

## RURAL RESOURCES TODAY

**220+**
**STAFF**

**10**
**OFFICES**

**13**
**COUNTIES SERVED**

# COMMUNITY-BASED TEAMS



*Participants from the first annual Recovery Walk in September 2025. The Recovery Walk raised awareness of recovery in the community and raised funds for the Recovery Café.*

## Creating community in recovery: Connections Recovery Café opens

The Connections Recovery Café opened its doors in January 2025 as a program within the Community-Based Teams department. Located at 576 N Wynne St in Colville, **the Café provides a safe, sober space for people in recovery from addiction, substance use disorder, and other challenges.** The Café hosts weekly Recovery Circles, provides free lunch to members, and creates a community of support as people navigate their recovery journeys.

Many people in recovery only receive support when they're in crisis, and that support quickly disappears after the crisis has passed. Through the Recovery Café, **members receive ongoing support across all phases of recovery.** This support from peers and Café staff, as well as access to other services, classes, and resources, helps individuals manage their health, maintain sobriety, build community, and reclaim their lives.

The Recovery Café is part of a national network of Recovery Cafés, and **since its opening has grown to 20 active members visiting the Café each day.**

Visit ruralresources.org/connections-recovery-cafe for Café hours and more information.




*"The Café is a judgment-free zone with like-minded people. It doesn't matter where you've been or what you've done—as long as you're doing good now, it's a safe haven."*

**–DEVYN HAYNES, RECOVERY CAFÉ MEMBER**

***Above, left, with her partner Scott Bishop, also a Recovery Café member***






CONNECTIONS recovery café

# COMMUNITY-BASED TEAMS

## Building stability, finding support with Community-Based Teams

The Community-Based Teams (CBT) department helps eliminate barriers for clients struggling to obtain foundational amenities like housing, employment, and healthcare.

CBT team members also do opioid and substance use prevention outreach, with young people being a main audience. We engage with school districts across rural Eastern Washington to bring prevention programming directly to students through the **Healthy Youth Project and the Youth Outreach Campaign**.

The **Health Home** program supports Medicaid clients who have chronic conditions and social service needs, providing care coordination for medical, behavioral health, and long-term support for individuals of all ages.

The **Care Connect** program assists clients who have chronic conditions or other needs in maintaining independent housing. These clients may not qualify for Health Home benefits but still need support to stay housed.

The **Foundational Community Supports** program provides targeted case management for clients struggling to obtain or maintain housing because of substance abuse issues, mental health disorders, or chronic illness. Our case managers assist clients in accessing housing and other social supports, leading to long-term housing stability.

The **Representative Payee** program helps individuals who need additional assistance managing their Social Security funds or other fixed sources of income. We work directly with clients or their appointed representatives to ensure security in housing, food, and medical needs; this support protects individuals from financial abuse and victimization, and our clients achieve greater financial stability and independence.

Learn more at ruralresources.org/program-departments/community-based-teams

**IN 2025**

**150**

**CLIENTS SERVED EACH MONTH IN THE CARE CONNECT PROGRAM**

**600**

**CLIENTS SERVED EACH MONTH IN THE HOME HEALTH PROGRAM**

**376**

**CLIENTS SERVED EACH MONTH IN THE FOUNDATIONAL COMMUNITY SUPPORTS PROGRAM**

**75**

**CLIENTS SERVED EACH MONTH IN REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE PROGRAM**



*"I feel a lot safer knowing that my caregiver is right there... it gives me peace of mind."*

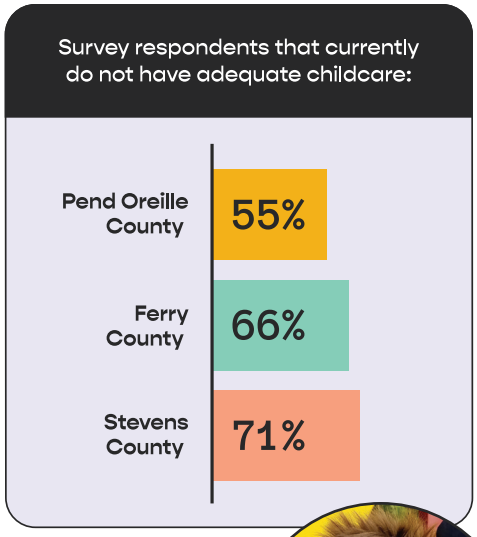
– **DELORES LEE,** ***receives in-home care support through the Health Home program, allowing her to continue living in her home at 92 years old.***

# EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

## Providing affordable childcare & healthy development

Rural Resources' Early Childhood Education department provides **comprehensive early learning services for children through low-cost childcare and free preschool.** Through federal Head Start funding and state funding through the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) program, **we provide research-based curriculum for children and promote healthy social-emotional development** in our Stevens County and Pend Oreille County classrooms. **We also connect families and children to health, nutrition, and dental services** and connect parents to other local services and resources.

Learn more at ruralresources.org/program-departments/early-childhood






*"Without Head Start and Rural Resources' daycare program, I would not be able to work adequate hours to afford taking care of my child's needs."*

**-STEVENS COUNTY HEAD START PARENT**

*"**About a year ago I was struggling to find a steady childcare provider and stable housing.** I felt like I was running out of options. I called Rural Resources in tears, leaving a message in hopes they could help me before I lost my employment as well. They called me back immediately and **they were able to fit my son into the Smart Start Learning Center and then Head Start preschool.** He started the next day. **I was so relieved and grateful for how quickly they were able to help a single parent like myself.** Since my son has started with Smart Start and Colville Head Start, he has grown leaps and bounds, and **they have been such an amazing help to my son and me.**"*

**-EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CLIENT & PARENT**



**IN 2025**

**175**

**CHILDREN ENROLLED IN HEAD START / ECEAP CLASSROOMS**

**58%**

**OF ENROLLED ECEAP FAMILIES FALL UNDER 110% OF FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL**

**61%**

**OF ENROLLED HEAD START FAMILIES RECEIVE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE**

**84%**

**OF ENROLLED CHILDREN COMPLETED DENTAL EXAMS THROUGH ABC DENTISTRY PROGRAM**

# EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

## Opening doors with job training & workforce development

Rural Resources' **Employment & Training department supports job seekers as they join (or re-join) the workforce,** helping them find and keep good jobs. **We work in partnership with local employers, Worksource WA, and the Eastern Washington Partnership** to link workers with training, resources, and support, and serve eligible youth and adults 14 years and older.

Our training opportunities include **occupational skills training** (Commercial Driver License, Nursing Assistant Certification), **on-the-job training** (reimbursing employers for half the employee's wages to help offset the cost of training new employees), **paid work experience** (helping young people or other people with no work experience to gain soft skills and experience in a workplace). We also help individuals without a high school diploma **earn their GED** through prep classes, materials, and covering testing fees.

Learn more at
ruralresources.org/program-departments/employment-and-training





### PREPARING FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE

**A high school student in Pend Oreille County who was experiencing housing instability and financial hardship was able to enroll in services through Rural Resources' Employment & Training (E&T) programs.** The student received guidance and support that allowed her to **secure work experience while still in school and begin saving for her future.**

With the support of Rural Resources programs, **she graduated from high school with great academic standing and accumulated savings that will help her attend a university without taking on student loan debt. She will be the first member of her immediate family to pursue a college degree.** By helping remove barriers to stability and opportunity, our program played a critical role in changing the trajectory of her future, strengthening her potential for long-term self-sufficiency and success.

## IN 2025

**300+**
EVENTS ATTENDED ACROSS 9 COUNTIES

**156**
PARTICIPANTS IN EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING PROGRAMS

**80%**
OF PARTICIPANTS EXITING PROGRAMS ENTER INTO EMPLOYMENT

# HOUSING

## Laying the foundation for stability

Rural Resources' Housing department works with local community members to secure and maintain safe, affordable housing. As the largest Rural Resources department, **Housing assists individuals and families with rent assistance, Section 8 housing vouchers, rapid re-housing,** weatherization, energy assistance, homeownership education, and more. **The Housing Team also manages the only emergency shelters in Stevens County and owns multiple affordable housing rental properties across the region.**

For many of our clients, having safe housing is one of the first steps toward lasting stability in their lives. Our Housing programs help meet peoples' individual needs around housing, whether they need help securing a home, paying rent or heating costs, weatherizing their home, or fleeing an unsafe situation and needing a safe place to stay.

Learn more at ruralresources.org/program-departments/housing



*Rural Resources CEO Bryan Raines speaks at the Dominican Sisters Haven opening celebration.*

### NEW AFFORDABLE HOUSING: DOMINICAN SISTERS HAVEN OPENS IN COLVILLE

In September, **Catholic Charities of Eastern Washington and Rural Resources celebrated the opening of Dominican Sisters Haven (DSH), a 71-unit permanent supportive housing community in Colville.** Dominican Sisters Haven combines safe, affordable housing with easy access to support services to break cycles of intergenerational poverty and create opportunities for a brighter future. Units include 1, 2 and 3-bedroom apartments, a common gathering space, a playground, and other recreational amenities.

Catholic Charities, an experienced organization in developing and managing affordable, supportive housing communities, owns and manages Dominican Sisters Haven, while **Rural Resources leads coordination and delivery of on-site services and referrals to other partner organizations.**

Dominican Sisters Haven is now home to local families and individuals who were previously homeless.

### IN 2025

**672** HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS ASSISTED BY HOUSING PROGRAMS

**13%** INCREASE IN NEED FROM 2024 TO 2025

**87%** OF PARTICIPANTS EXITED PROGRAMS INTO PERMANENT HOUSING


*Dominican Sisters Haven.*

# HOUSING



## A NEW BEGINNING AFTER HOMELESSNESS AND ADDICTION

After a series of events unraveled his life, Mitch Plourd of Northport found himself living in a dilapidated trailer in the woods. For more than 10 years, he used meth and alcohol to cope with the sudden end of his 22-year relationship. Then, in November 2024, his trailer caught fire and burned to the ground, leaving Mitch homeless.

Rural Resources staff found a spot for Mitch in the Colville men's shelter, where he lived for several months while battling several health challenges. He stopped using drugs and worked with Rural Resources to secure a unit at Dominican Sisters Haven, at that time still under construction. Mitch was one of the first tenants to move in upon completion of the project in September, occupying a first-floor, one-bedroom unit.

"I just love it here," he said, and became emotional when he spoke of his family. His son, who had previously cut him out of his life, now visits regularly with his wife and children. "I wouldn't have that in my life without this," Mitch said of the housing and support he received.

When asked what he hopes for next, Mitch's answer was simply: "I'm just digging being alive."

After years of homelessness, addiction, loss, and instability, he says Rural Resources and Dominican Sisters Haven gave him something he thought he might never have again: safety, community, and deep connection with his family. "This place saved my life," he said.

## SAVING AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN METALINE FALLS

In January 2026, **Rural Resources purchased Kaniksu Village Apartments in Metaline Falls for $1 from the apartment complex's volunteer board. Kaniksu Village is a 22-unit affordable housing community for low-income families in Metaline Falls,** and expensive upkeep and needed repairs to the complex became financially untenable for the four-person volunteer board.

**Rural Resources was also awarded $4.7 million from the Washington State Department of Commerce to renovate the Kaniksu complex,** an award which was the result of a joint effort between Rural Resources, Pend Oreille County, the Spokane Housing Authority, and the Office of Rural & Farmworkers Housing. The funding will be used to fully renovate all unit interiors, as well as replace roofs, plumbing, and electrical components. Construction is scheduled to begin in September 2026 and is expected to be completed by June 2027.

Bryan Raines, Rural Resources CEO, said: **"One of the most significant challenges identified in our recent Community Needs Assessment was the lack of affordable housing in these rural, remote communities. Preserving Kaniksu Village helps address that need in North Pend Oreille County."**




*Kaniksu Village Apartments in Metaline Falls.*

# NUTRITION SERVICES

## Delivering nutritious food to homes and communities

Everyone deserves access to nutritious food and affordable groceries, and **the Nutrition Services department works to increase access to food to all community members in rural Eastern Washington.** Through the Senior Nutrition program, the team provides **nutritious meals and food to eligible seniors with Meals on Wheels deliveries, Diner's Choice vouchers, and commodity boxes.** Nutrition Services also supports 16 food pantries across the Tri-County area and manages a Mobile Food Pantry, traveling to remote communities across our service area for food giveaways.

Nutrition Services also partners with local and state organizations to provide school-age children with healthy meals during summer break and seniors with Farmers Market cards to purchase fresh, local produce. **We advocate for our rural communities and serve as a conduit between large food organizations (grocery retailers and wholesalers, state initiatives, regional hunger relief efforts) and our remote communities in northeast Washington.**

Learn more at ruralresources.org/program-departments/nutrition-services

### MAINTAINING INDEPENDENCE WITH MEALS ON WHEELS

A longtime Kettle Falls resident, Shawn Williams built his life around hard work and self-sufficiency, working in logging, commercial fishing, and as a prison guard before a genetic disease caused him to lose his eyesight completely. A relative enrolled him in Nutrition Services' Meals on Wheels deliveries, which has helped him remain in his home, maintain autonomy, and stay connected to his community. He said, "I don't have to eat out of a can anymore." Shawn's experience shows that independence doesn't mean doing everything alone, and that the best community supports help preserve self-sufficiency without sacrificing connection.







MEALS on WHEELS AMERICA
2025 MEMBER

**IN 2025**

**1,013**
SENIORS PROVIDED WITH HEALTHY MEALS & SOCIAL CONNECTIONS THROUGH MEALS ON WHEELS

**5,400**
COMMODITY BOXES PACKED FOR LOW-INCOME SENIORS

**1,600**
VOLUNTEER HOURS PROVIDED BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS

# NUTRITION SERVICES

### BRINGING FOOD RELIEF AFTER WILDFIRE

In August 2025, the small community of Onion Creek in Stevens County was devastated by the Crown Creek and Katy wildfires, burning over 14,000 acres. Many residents were evacuated shortly after the fires began and remained displaced for several weeks. When residents were finally permitted to return, many suffered significant losses. Even residents whose homes survived the fires suffered food loss: prolonged electricity outages meant spoiled refrigerated and frozen food, and smoke can contaminate pantry items.

In October Rural Resources was granted access to reconvene our regular Mobile Food Pantry giveaways in Onion Creek. These food giveaways were needed more than ever, as the small (and only) general store in town had been closed since the fires and the nearest food access was approximately 20 miles away over mountainous roads. The Nutrition Services brought fresh and healthy food options, along with TEFAP (federal) commodities, to the many residents working to rebuild their homes or otherwise recover following these traumatic wildfires. **Following the fires, Nutrition Services brought 5,234 pounds of food to 190 households and 649 individuals.**



**81**

**FOOD GIVEAWAY EVENTS BY MOBILE FOOD PANTRY**

**1.17**

**MILLION POUNDS OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED TO HUNGER RELIEF PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT TRI-COUNTY AREA**

**564**

**SENIORS PROVIDED WITH FARMERS MARKET CARDS TO PURCHASE FRESH, LOCAL PRODUCE**

### MOBILE FOOD PANTRY: INCREASING FOOD ACCESS IN REMOTE COMMUNITIES

Nutritious food can be hard to access in our smallest remote communities, which often lack grocery stores or food banks. Our Mobile Food Pantry travels to some of the most far-flung communities across Eastern Washington, providing free, nutritious food items to anyone who may need them.






MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

# SENIOR & INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES

## Fostering independence at home & supporting caregivers

The Senior and Independent Living Services (SAILS) department **helps individuals remain living independently and in their community for as long as possible, and supports caregivers caring for family members or loved ones.** These services are available to older individuals (60+), younger individuals (18+) with disabilities or chronic illness, and those who provide care.

**Through the Title XIX program, Medicaid Alternative Care program, and Tailored Supports for Older Adults program, we assist hundreds of clients each year in finding caregiving services to help them remain in their homes.** Our Senior Legal Assistance program helps seniors afford legal services when needed.

**We also support those caring for family members or loved ones through Caregiver Support Groups and the Family Caregiver Support Program,** which provides respite care hours so caregivers can find relief.

Our **Kinship Care program provides support to grandparents and relatives raising children,** helping families establish the long-term stability needed to keep their children out of the foster care system.

**The SAILS department also manages Allegiance Supported Living, a supported residential facility in Chewelah** for adults living with intellectual disabilities, traumatic brain injuries, mental health challenges, and other special needs.

Learn more at ruralresources.org/program-departments/sails



### FINDING SAFE HOUSING & HEALTH STABILITY

When we first met Marcie, 64, she was living in her car in Colville. Without stable housing, everyday tasks were overwhelming, and her health was declining. The battery for her oxygen tank had died, and finding safe, nutritious food was nearly impossible. Most days she relied on cheap, highly processed food. Our SAILS and Senior Nutrition teams worked together to place her in a hotel while she waited for safe, permanent housing, enrolled her in Meals on Wheels, and delivered warm, wholesome meals and extra groceries. Marcie says these services allowed her to focus on staying safe and focus on her breathing – in essence, lifesaving.

### IN 2025

**948**

**CLIENTS ASSISTED THROUGH TITLE XIX PROGRAM, WITH**

**8,798**

**CAREGIVING HOURS FOR AGING & DISABLED ADULTS**

**519**

**CLIENTS ASSISTED THROUGH THE MAC/TSOA PROGRAMS, WITH**

**2,159**

**HOURS OF CAREGIVING SERVICES**

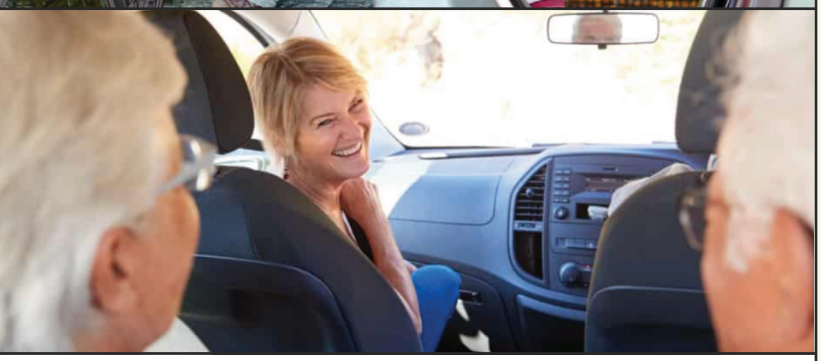
**3,297**

**RESPITE CARE HOURS PROVIDED FOR INFORMAL CAREGIVERS OF AGING & DISABLED ADULTS**

# TRANSPORTATION





## Lowering accessibility barriers between rural communities

For many remote and small communities in our rural region, residents often need to travel long distances for jobs, groceries, medical care, and other needed services. **These far-flung necessities can quickly become out of reach for those without reliable car access or who are unable to drive. Rural Resources' Transportation department provides regular commuter bus services between Chewelah, Colville, and Kettle Falls, with regular stops at grocery stores, educational facilities, the Stevens County courthouse, and other destinations.** Fare is 50 cents for a one-way trip, or $1 for round-trip services.

**Transportation also provides Dial-A-Ride (DAR) service for people with disabilities, those who are too old or young to operate a vehicle, and low income citizens without reliable modes of transportation in Stevens, Pend Oreille, and Ferry counties.** Dial-a-Ride also helps veterans access veteran services in very remote areas. Volunteers provide transportation for necessary appointments, such as medical and social services, usually to larger communities.

Learn more at ruralresources.org/program-departments/transportation

**IN 2025**

**1,270**

**DRIVES PERFORMED BY VOLUNTEERS SERVING 295 INDIVIDUALS**

**143,755**

**MILES TRAVELED BY RURAL RESOURCES BUSES**

**7,510**

**HOURS LOGGED BY VOLUNTEER DRIVERS SERVING CLIENTS**

**214,000**

**MILES TRAVELED BY VOLUNTEER DRIVERS**

# VICTIM SERVICES

## Helping survivors, building partnerships in prevention

**Rural Resources' Victim Services department and Children's Advocacy Center serves more than 350 survivors of violence and their loved ones each year in Stevens, Lincoln, and Ferry counties.** For many survivors of violence or other crimes in rural areas, finding safety and needed support can be overwhelming or impossible. The Victim Services team helps survivors get the support and services they need, including emergency safe shelter, crisis intervention by trained and caring staff members, and much more. Our Children's Advocacy Center was the first accredited CAC in Washington state, and provides trauma-informed services for children who have witnessed or been the victim of sexual assault, physical abuse, neglect, or other forms of maltreatment.

The Victim Services team also provides **extensive community education and outreach about prevention of domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault, and other crimes.** The department operates a 24/7 Helpline and **partners with local law enforcement and first responders to identify and respond appropriately to domestic violence calls.**

**Victim Services' Tribal Program provides community-based advocacy and violence, abuse, and crime prevention programming in a culturally responsive manner to Indigenous survivors, Descendants, and their families.** The Tribal Program building, located in Inchelium on the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, is named snx̌əstwilxtn, which translates to "the place where you heal yourself."

Learn more at ruralresources.org/program-departments/victim-services




*Pinwheels represent each child abuse survivor assisted through the Children's Advocacy Center, as part of Child Abuse Prevention Month (April).*

> *"My advocate made me feel like I had a chance and helped me realize that I deserved more than abuse. After my abuser had isolated me from everyone, she was the only person I had besides the prosecuting attorneys. Without programs like Rural Resources Victim Services, women in abusive situations—especially in rural areas—would have no one to help them leave safely. These programs are not optional or extra—they are lifesaving."*
>
> **-DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ABUSE SURVIVOR IN CHEWELAH**



*The Inchelium Victim Services team.*

**IN 2025**

**260**
**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CLIENTS SERVED**

**165**
**SEXUAL ASSAULT CLIENTS SERVED**

**131**
**CHILD VICTIMS OF ABUSE ASSISTED THROUGH CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER**

**1,083**
**24/7 HELPLINE CALLS ANSWERED**

**400+**
**STUDENTS RECEIVING REGULAR PREVENTION PROGRAMMING**

**24/7 HELPLINE: 1-844-509-SAFE**

# CELEBRATING RURAL RESOURCES STAFF

Our work would not be possible without the commitment of our incredible staff. From pursuing professional certifications to advocating for our rural communities in Olympia and Washington, D.C., our employees go above and beyond to ensure our community members receive the best possible care and services.




*Staff traveled to Detroit and received their Certified Community Action Professional certification: (L to R) Kirste Coots (Community Services), Claire Gehring (Community-Based Teams), Katherine Gilbert (Housing), and Ann Crane (not pictured, Senior & Independent Living Services)*



*CEO Bryan Raines traveled to Washington, D.C. to show the impact of federal funding in our service area, meeting with Washington senator Maria Cantwell.*



*Representative Andrew Engell visits the Newport Head Start classroom and staff.*



*SAILS staff at the Regional Palouse Butterfly Release event in Pullman.*



*Victim Services staff Cristin Richartz (left) and Alison Price (right) advocated in Olympia and Washington, D.C. for rural survivors of domestic violence and funding to support them.*




*The Nutrition Services warehouse team.*

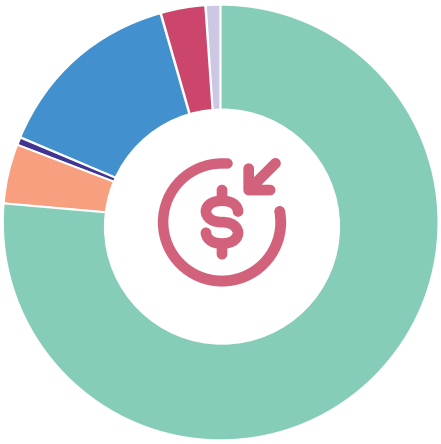



*Cece George with the Healthy Youth Project at Colville High School, working on opioid use prevention with teens.*

# FINANCIALS | JULY 1, 2024–JUNE 30, 2025

## Revenue

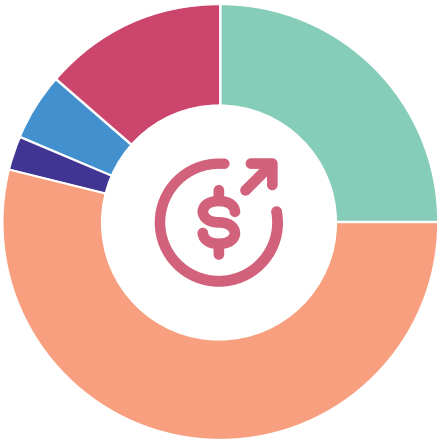
07/01/24–06/30/25



| | |
|---|---|
| GRANT REVENUE–GOVERNMENTAL | $22.2M |
| GRANT REVENUE–OTHER | $1.3M |
| REVENUE–OTHER | $88K |
| REVENUE–SERVICES | $4.1M |
| RENTAL INCOME | $949K |
| CONTRIBUTED ASSETS | $144K |
| **TOTAL REVENUE** | **$28.81M** |

## Expenses

07/01/24–06/30/25



| | |
|---|---|
| DIRECT EXPENSES | $7.34M |
| PERSONNEL | $15.68M |
| OCCUPANCY | $719K |
| PROFESSIONAL FEES | $1.57M |
| GENERAL & ADMIN EXPENSES | $3.94M |
| **TOTAL EXPENSES** | **$29.25M** |

## Net Balance

| | |
|---|---|
| TOTAL REVENUE | $28,808,502 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | $29,246,620 |
| REVENUE LESS EXPENSES | ($438,118) |
| NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR | $2,630,435 |
| **NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR** | **$2,192,317** |

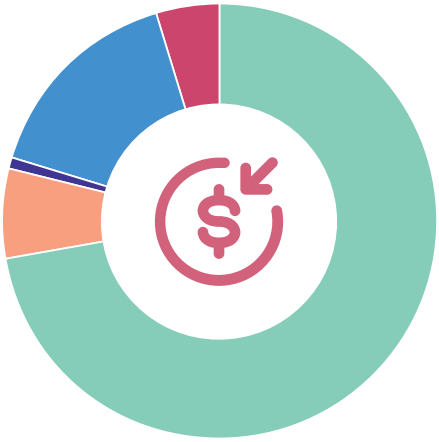
*Rural Resources' Form 990 and audit are available on our website at [ruralresources.org/public-documents](ruralresources.org/public-documents)*

# JULY 1, 2025–JUNE 30, 2026 | FINANCIALS

At the time of publication Rural Resources is undergoing the annual audit process for Fiscal Year 2025–2026. The following financials are unaudited; we anticipate our audit to be completed and available on our website by March 2027.

## Revenue

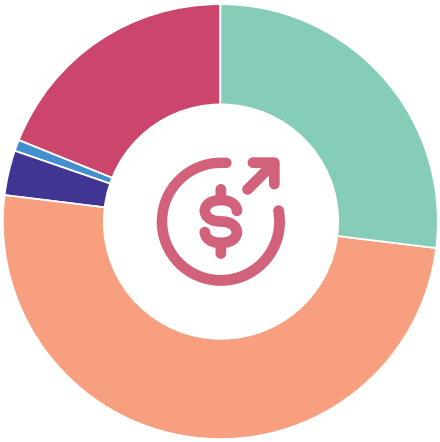
07/01/25–06/30/26



| | |
|---|---|
| GRANT REVENUE–GOVERNMENTAL | $19.79M |
| GRANT REVENUE–OTHER | $1.8M |
| REVENUE–OTHER | $37K |
| REVENUE–SERVICES | $4.7M |
| RENTAL INCOME | $1.22M |
| ANTICIPATED AUDIT ADJUSTMENT | ($459K) |
| **ANTICIPATED TOTAL REVENUE** | **$27.09M** |

## Expenses

07/01/25–06/30/26



| | |
|---|---|
| DIRECT EXPENSES | $7.39M |
| PERSONNEL | $13.4M |
| OCCUPANCY | $881K |
| PROFESSIONAL FEES | $162K |
| GENERAL & ADMIN EXPENSES | $5.31M |
| ANTICIPATED AUDIT ADJUSTMENT | ($459K) |
| **ANTICIPATED TOTAL EXPENSES** | **$26.68M** |

## Net Balance

| | |
|---|---|
| TOTAL REVENUE | $27,087,969 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | $26,683,117 |
| REVENUE LESS EXPENSES | $404,852 |
| NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR | $2,192,317 |
| **NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR** | **$2,593,167** |

Rural Resources Community Action

956 S Main Street
Colville, WA 99114

509-684-8421
ruralresources.org

Gold Transparency 2026

Candid.