

# Creating



NORTHWEST PILOT PROJECT 2017—2018 IMPACT REPORT

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# Housing Seniors

A SNAPSHOT OF OUR WORK IN 2017-18

Our Housing Program provides assistance in obtaining and maintaining permanent affordable rental housing for very low-income seniors 55 years and older, who live in Multnomah County and are capable of independent living.

## Housing Program Outcomes

1,108 seniors received a thorough one-on-one housing assessment that created a housing plan to stabilize their housing situation

241 households were placed into permanent affordable housing

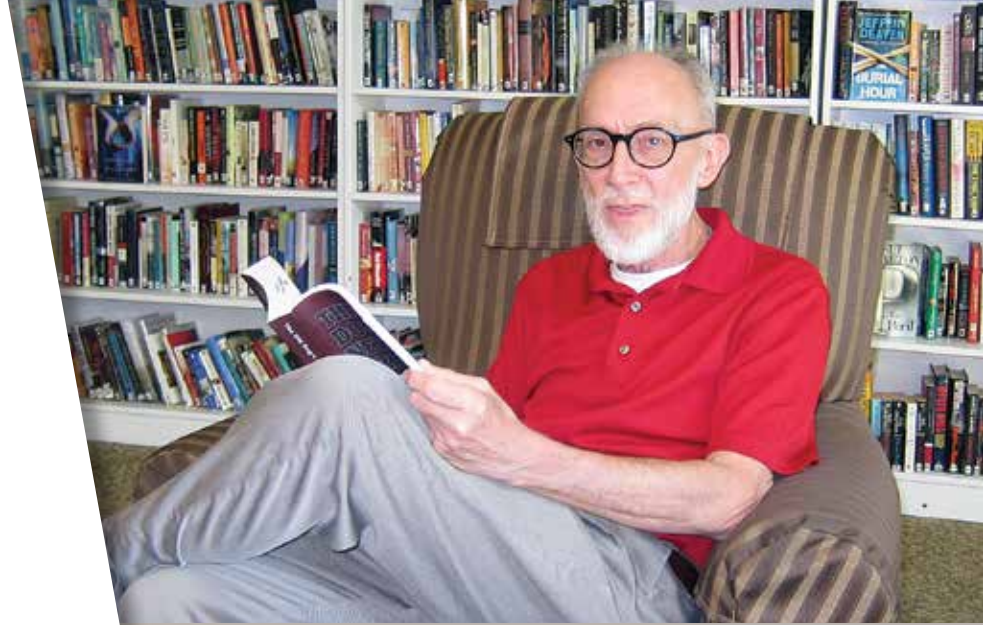
357 households received rent assistance to prevent an eviction

\$1,400 was the average cost to stabilize a senior in affordable housing

88% of households who received housing assistance were still successfully housed after 12 months

**What Is permanent housing?** When we help someone move from homelessness or temporary living situations into housing that is affordable and without time limits, we call this "Permanent Housing Placement." Permanent housing placement may include locating the apartment, completing or paying for the application process, paying a deposit or first month's rent, coordinating the physical move, providing basic furniture to get started, or any combination of these services.

**What Is homess prevention?** Homeless prevention services may include financial help, advocacy with landlords, coordination of in-home services, budgeting, referrals to healthcare providers; in short, anything that stabilizes seniors in their current housing or helps them access more stable housing.

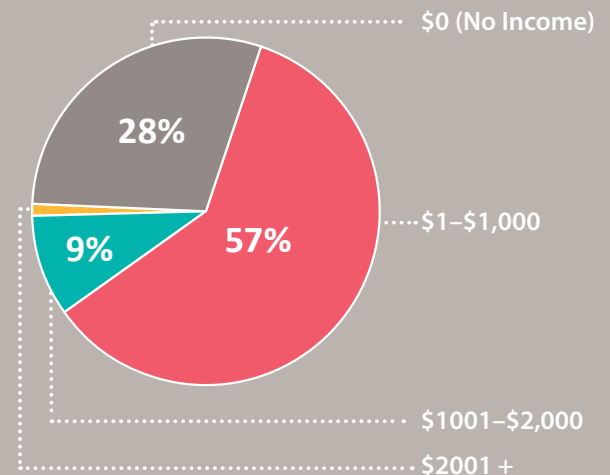


David, age 65

*"I am impressed by the creativity of the staff at NWPP to try and meet my needs."*

## Between 2014 and 2018 homelessness among seniors increased by 19%

Total monthly income of NWPP clients





## Creating Stability and Lasting Change

NWPP Housing Program staff members provide services that have lasting success. All seniors who receive housing placement or homeless prevention support complete a housing plan and receive follow-ups at 3, 6 and 12 months to ensure they continue to do well in housing.

Tracking outcomes is important because it helps us understand how well our assistance works in creating long-term housing stability for the seniors we serve. Our data this year reflects that 88 percent of the seniors we helped are still successfully housed 12 months later.

## Piloting Change through Advocacy— Long-term Rent Assistance

Our advocacy efforts led to the development of an 18-month pilot project to create a local-funded and managed long-term rent assistance program. In partnership with Home Forward and the Joint Office of Homeless Services, and with funding from Meyer Memorial Trust, NWPP worked to develop a streamlined application process focused on reducing barriers, and an evaluation that will help determine the program's efficacy. Forty NWPP clients were enrolled in the program in its first six months, and an additional five participants were enrolled through partners CareOregon and JOIN. While a small sample size, this project is offering an innovative solution to housing for low-income people in Multnomah County.

## Our Transportation Services

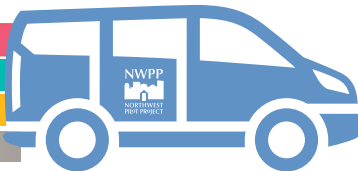
The NWPP van provides rides to seniors who are clients of our Housing Program. Our transportation services are designed to support seniors in maintaining their health and independence as long as possible. During the 2017–18 fiscal year, we provided more than 2,000 rides. Here's where we drove:

49% Medical visits

23% Personal business/shopping

16% Recreation/events

12% Nutrition



*"I am grateful for the medical rides from Northwest Pilot Project."*

Lorna – Age 64



### Helen, age 85

Due to dwindling income and increasing costs associated with owning her own home of twenty years, Helen decided to sell and moved into a duplex three years ago. Unfortunately, in just a few short years she again could no longer afford to pay the rising rent and came to NWPP for help. She was still working at age eighty-five to try to make ends meet, because her Social Security retirement was not keeping up with the cost of housing. "I had to borrow money from family to buy groceries and pay for my electricity," Helen remembers.

Helen was selected and enrolled in the Long-term Rent Assistance program as one of forty participants and now pays 30% of her income towards rent and utilities reducing her portion of the rent from \$1,050 per month to an affordable \$158 per month. Helen now spends her time volunteering at her local church and tending to her garden which brings her so much joy.

*"I don't know what I would have done without the [Long-term Rent Assistance] program and Northwest Pilot Project."*

## Our Volunteers and Donors

These wonderful people are the backbone of NWPP and instrumental in helping us deliver services. They bring passion and expertise to help us meet our mission in many valuable ways. Our volunteers include individuals, non-profits, faith-based groups and schools. Here's just a few of the things they do:

### Volunteers tasks include

- ◆ Office/clerical support
- ◆ Large mailings
- ◆ Client support
- ◆ Walk-A-Thon and events
- ◆ Art in the Lobby artists

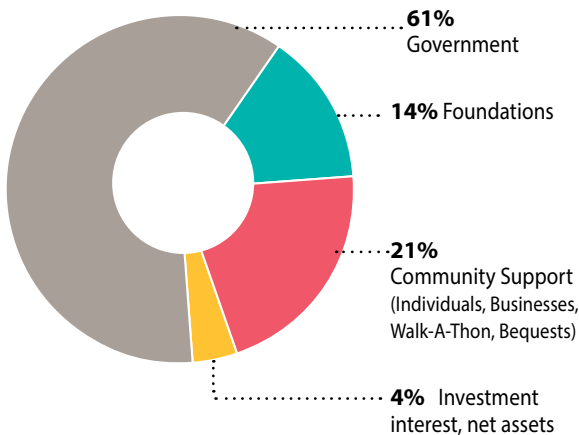
### Donors generously give

- ◆ Financial support
- ◆ Bedding kits
- ◆ Kitchen & cleaning kits
- ◆ Comfort kits
- ◆ Pet supplies
- ◆ Gift cards
- ◆ Bus passes
- ◆ Books
- ◆ Quilts & knitted items

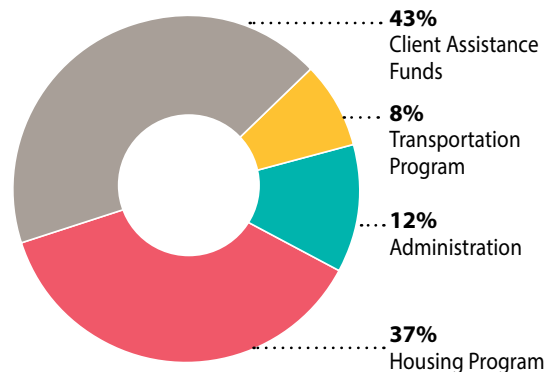
## Demonstrated Sound Fiscal Management

The financial information shown represents Northwest Pilot Project's unaudited\* financial overview for fiscal year 2017-18. Our organization is efficient and lean, dedicating eighty-eight percent of our operating budget to serving low-income seniors.

### Operating Support & Revenue: \$2.35M



### Operating Expenses: \$2.08M



\*Our completed financial audit will be available to view in November 2018 at [nwpilotproject.org](http://nwpilotproject.org)



### Oscar, age 64

After many years of homelessness, Oscar moved into a permanently affordable apartment where he pays 30% of his income in rent and utilities. "I had been sleeping in a park for quite some time, searching for a steady job when I went to NWPP for help. After a little wait, I moved into a shelter and have not had to sleep outside since." Oscar now lives independently in a downtown studio apartment.

*"NWPP has continued to support me even after I moved into housing, which has helped me a lot."*

### Who We Serve

- |                       |                                 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 49% Female            | 77% Disabled                    |
| 51% Male              | 10% Veterans                    |
| 27% Elderly (over 65) | 8% Chronically homeless         |
| 73% Age 55-64         | 12% Domestic violence survivors |
| 39% Seniors of Color  |                                 |

# Creating Hope

**Thank you!** Without your contributions of funds, time and supplies, Northwest Pilot Project would not be able to support the thousands of low income seniors in Multnomah County helped by our housing assistance and transportation services. Your support also allows us to provide that intangible ingredient so key to success and resilience: **hope**. In responding to the needs of those we serve we are reminded of just how important hope is.

As you'll see from the numbers in this report, during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018 Northwest Pilot Project helped over 3,000 seniors. For many, we found stable, safe and affordable housing. For others, we provide needed information to guide them in securing housing. Our transportation service allowed many seniors to remain living independently.

As the total number of older adults in our community rapidly increased last year, so did the number of older adults with challenges to stable housing. And we also saw an increase in the number of homeless and chronically homeless older adults. Why? Because rents are rising faster and higher than the fixed incomes so many seniors have to live on and support services are harder to secure.

In response, we made changes to our service delivery during the past fiscal year. We increased the amount of housing case management provided; it is more needed now than in previous years because of the severity of the housing crisis. We focused services on the most vulnerable of our low-income clients, providing more intensive housing case management and more short term rent assistance. This resulted in a **32% increase in the number of our clients prevented from losing their housing**. And we increased our focus on serving more low-income seniors of color, addressing the inequities and disparities that have created many barriers to housing.

The increased impact of our services in 2017-18 was due in part to a significant new program for NWPP. We created a partnership and a new program that resulted in locally-funded, long-term rent subsidies for 40 extremely low income seniors. This program, the Long-term Rent Assistance Program, is in a successful pilot phase that promises a viable solution to the housing crisis.

We couldn't have done any of this without your generosity and support. On behalf of the board and staff of Northwest Pilot Project, thank you.

With appreciation,



Laura Golino de Lovato, Executive Director



## Meet Roy, age 66 and Lydia, age 64

Roy and Lydia came to NWPP when they found themselves with no income and sleeping in a car with no place to go. In order to access immediate shelter, the two had to be separated into different shelters – one for women and one for men. Due to their disabilities, finding employment was not an option.

NWPP assisted them in applying for disability benefits, accessing medical care and applying for subsidized housing. Roy and Lydia worked with NWPP to successfully move into subsidized housing. They also receive transportation assistance from NWPP to get to and from medical appointments and are very stable and flourishing in their community.

*"NWPP rescued us from homelessness; they will walk side by side with you until you get to your destination."*





**Our mission:** Northwest Pilot Project offers opportunities for a life of dignity and hope to very low income seniors in Multnomah County by solving housing and transportation needs.

**Our vision:** Safe, affordable, permanent housing for all seniors in Multnomah County who are homeless or at risk for homelessness.

**Your donation** to NWPP will help us make this vision a reality while benefiting our community. Learn how to get involved by visiting [nwpilotproject.org](http://nwpilotproject.org) or calling 503-227-5605.

# Thank you NWPP supporters!

Your support means the world to us. We couldn't do this work without you.



**NORTHWEST  
PILOT PROJECT**

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PILOTING CHANGE

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