

**Executive Director's Board Report
December 21, 2022**

Celebrations

We have secured two \$5,000 gifts from longtime partners, the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation and the Community Foundation of South Puget Sound! We also were awarded an \$8,000 grant from Puget Sound Energy, which typically does not offer grants in areas in which we qualify. Go team!



Programs Snapshot

As we have seen throughout the fall, ERPP case volume remains quite high, with 187 cases closed in November alone. The lawsuit against the state regarding the constitutionality of the program has not yet been ruled on; we expect a written ruling before the end of January. A new wrinkle for the program arose on 12/5, when an appellate court ruled that any landlord that received Cares Act funds must use a Cares Act 30-day notice, not the 14-day pay or vacate. We are riding that wave, informing landlords and adjusting our protocols accordingly.

Family and small claims cases are quite steady and we are booking well into January now. Our multi-party mediation team continues to be busy, with two active, ongoing cases and more in the works.

Our training department saw many members of the Legislature come through two of this year's 40-hour trainings, which is an honor being the center that serves our seat of government. As an added end-of-year opportunity, they were delighted to serve the Washington State Governor's office with a custom training!

Strategic Direction & Revenue News

One marker of local donor strength is the number of folks giving at the leadership level each year. In November, we hit the annual goal of having 45 Leadership Circle households!

After many meetings and communications with key legislators and members of our Governor's office, we have learned that not only are we maintaining the current level of funding for core services in the House and Senate budgets, but it has also been included in the Governor's budget (likely \$300k for our center - \$7.1M for all of Washington's DRCs). This is separate from housing support dollars, but is a big win given that last year was the first year that we reached this new benchmark of long-sought core support.

Staffing & Volunteer Updates

We are delighted to welcome in Jill Busby in January as the new Training Manager. Charlotte has settled in Kansas and will work with Jill through the end of March, to get her equipped to step into this role. Charlotte then will be a staff trainer from afar, rather than leading the team.

Volunteer recruitment and retention exceeded its annual goals with 98 certified mediators, 14 apprentice mediators and 23 observers in the practicum as of the end of November. That's outstanding and supports the continually growing caseload.



Statewide Frame

My support to ResWA continues and is proving beneficial. In addition to the many efforts to secure statewide funding, both for core services and housing stability, other areas of focus include: strategic visioning for the association, advancing on our equity commitments, templates and structures to support committees in advancing the strategic plan and creating more resources for Directors and their boards for cohesive operations around the state. Our member centers will all be stronger and better off for this period of support.