

Overview

This report showcases the impact Community Initiatives has had from July of 2020 through June 2021. Community Initiatives is a body of work within the larger Learning and Impact department of Northwest Harvest.

The following pages showcase the total impact of Community Initiatives work based on several themes:

- Opportunities
- New knowledge and skills
- Relationships and Networking
- Activities and Impact

All themes were connected, as appropriate, to race equity if they had direct implications in this area.

You will find a visual of the complete REM map at the end of the report.



Methodology

We utilized <u>Ripple Effects Mapping</u> (REM) as our tool to record and evaluate. REM is especially useful when total program impact is difficult to conceptualize and measure with other evaluation methods. The process is highly participatory and takes an <u>Appreciative Inquiry</u> approach.

Core components of Ripple Effects Mapping include

- Conversations: Appreciative Inquiry
- Group Activity: Interactive Group Interviewing and Reflection
- Group Activity: Radiant Thinking (Mind Mapping)

For this report, we held one REM session with all the Community Partners (contractors for Community Initiatives) and then a second session for the Community Initiatives Manager and Community Initiatives Specialist. These sessions were then merged into one REM map.



Background on Community Partners

Who are Community Partners?

A. Community partners are contractors within Community Initiatives that work to increase access to food directly within the communities they work and live.

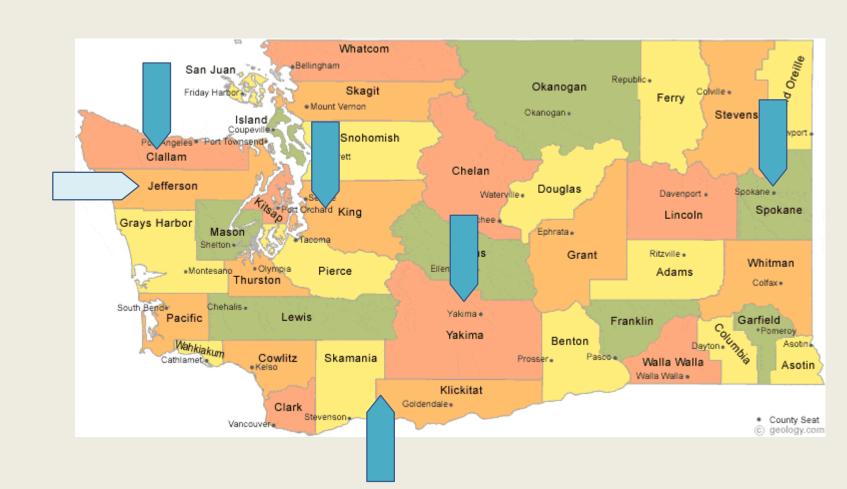
How many Community Partners are there?

A. Currently there are five. A sixth spot is vacant in Jefferson County that is projected to be filled by December of 2021.

Where are the Community Partners?

A. See the map to the right for locations.

Spokane, Yakima, Klickitat/Skamania,
South King County, Clallam





Opportunities

EXPANSION

- Being a Community Partner
- NWH is a trusted name in the community which has provided confidence and motivation to pursue relationships wouldn't have pursued otherwise.
- Because of this role can commit to more and have more access to resources
- · Being able to take work off others who are volunteers

FREEDOM

- · To do what's needed has been helpful within our communities.
- To allocate funding where it needs to go with limited constraints

SELF-GUIDED ROLE / FLUIDITY OF ROLE

- Builds confidence and approaching projects with more ease.
- · Producing more quality work and formed attachment to the work.
- Being flexible and adaptable even when creating a new program.

SEEING WHAT COMMUNITY MEMBERS NEED AND WORK FROM THERE

- Awareness of being respectful
- · Taking a step back from saviorism
- · Listening to not respond or damage the work we've done
- Set aside assumptions

creates more opportunity to expand work

> and provides more trust to do work in the community

makes a difference in how we administer and handle programs

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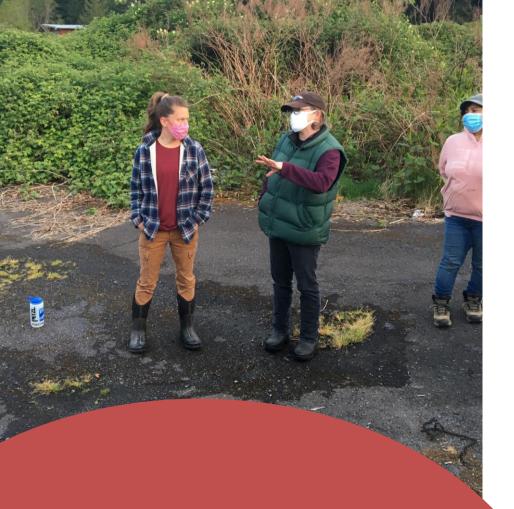
Opportunity Exploration





I've always loved community work. Imagination reform and first-generation education were the topics that always took my heart. But food access is intertwined with those topics. I see things from an immigrant's eyes, Spanish speaking household, single parent home, etc.. I engage with those values in mind and as I learn more about resources, I see the gaps that need to be looked at.

- I lead the food access call and knowing how to keep people interactive and interested was a skill that I have gained.
- Expanding knowledge on food access work happening in the area.
- Learning to facilitate many types of conversations.
- Getting out of comfort zone and becoming more of a leader and facilitator.
- Something that I have learned and continue to grow in is directing conversations. Being able to direct dialog into a fruitful conversation and interactive was a challenge for me at first.



 Community Partner role allowed for adding the Growers Collective work and a conference to facilitate learnings

· Connecting deeper with city council

 Partnership with Tukwila Pantry and being able to deepen this work and relationship connecting to community perspectives work at NWH

 Helping Food Innovation Network at the market to provide more food services to shoppers

Supplying funds to their Heart Bucks program

Able to deepen relationships with Forks Human
 Rights Group because of Community Partner work.

Relationships: Networks allowed for more trust which meant that I could hear more needs and goals

bring them more of what they want to see



 Building relationships with growers and folks at the prison being able to expand purchasing program with prison

- Volunteering with Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFQ)
- Connecting with Holly Chilinski (Mobility)
 led to new program of bike delivery

 Met people outside of region. Form deeper connections and learn from one another tribal
community
relationships
have
expanded

 Peacekeepers society - heavily involved with their food distributions

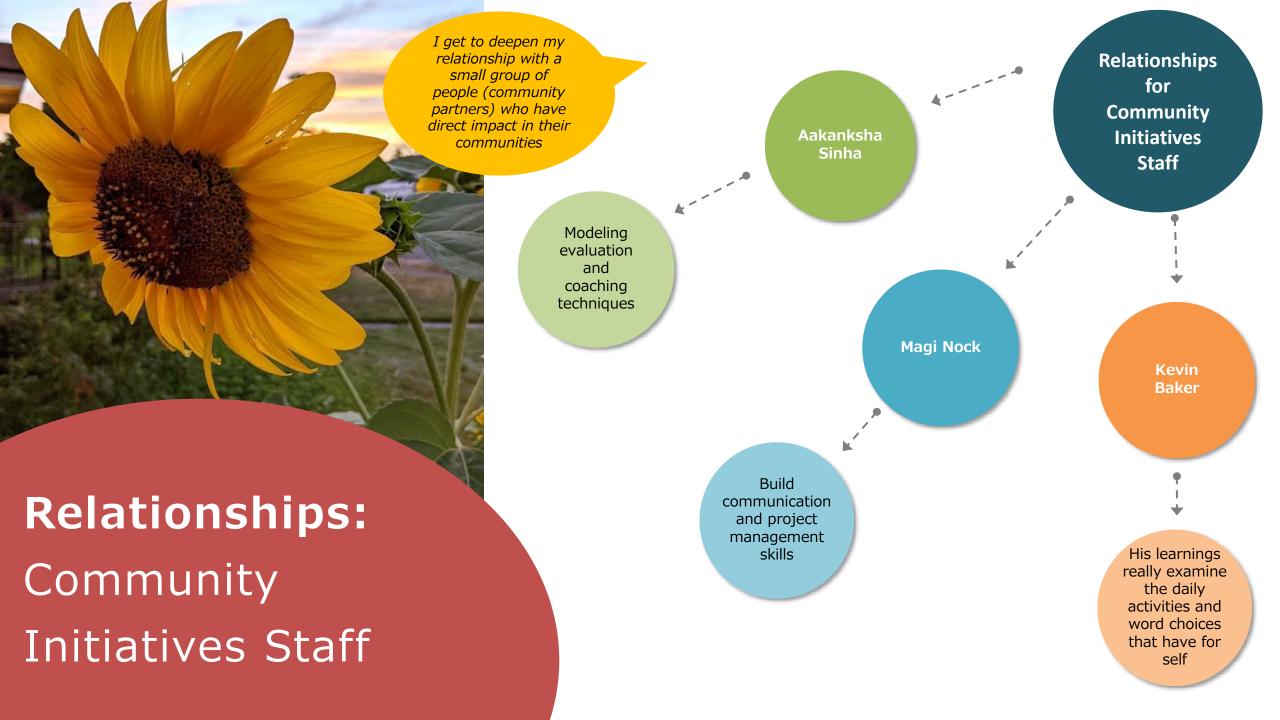
> my network has grown because of work

people doing similar work who had resources that I needed, and insight on projects they had done that allowed me not to have to recreate the wheel.

I was connected to other

Relationships: Networks







Activities & Impact

Jefferson County

• I helped coordinate a program that provided over 1600 bags of food delivered to houses all over Jefferson County for free

Having increased funding for community partners increased their successes.

Spokane

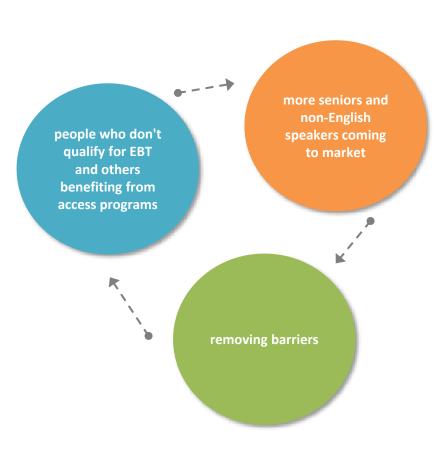
- Installed 12-15 Little Free Pantries
- Began a food delivery system
- · New community gardens being built
- · Collected donating goods for home gardening

Yakima

- Started a community garden with group
 - Direct link to the Yakima Coordination calls

South King County

- Helping growers with legal stuff licenses, etc.
- Adding a food access lens to the market
- Heart Bucks voucher
 - learning about heart bucks and adapting to Clallam
 - · helped build relationships with Tukwila Pantry, SHAG,
 - and IRC





Activities & Impact

Klickitat/Skamania

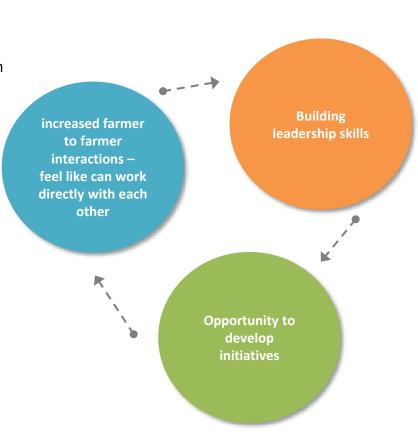
- Gorge voucher program partnering with several orgs to make happen
 - gorge grown
 - culture seed
 - · white salmon school district

Clallam

- donated tools for farmers (tool library) and supporting each other
- Clallam Voucher
 - Being able to purchase culturally relevant foods for Latinx families in forks
 - supporting 2 Hispanic grocers in community

Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health CDC Grant

- · Anti-racism intensive
 - 13 food pantry attendees
- Developed and launched the community advocate program
 - facilitation packet for community advocates to develop leadership skills
- "How to use a food pantry" video and booklets
 - 14 different languages for print
 - partnered with Mother Africa on video versions
 - shared video directly with their community and broader community
 - Whatsapp / Facebook / link sharing
 - Mailed booklets to 14 organizations
- Anti-racism resource packet
- Community Perspectives Implementation plan and worksheets
 - work is based off report completed in 2019-2020





Activities & Impact

Sodium Reduction CDC Grant

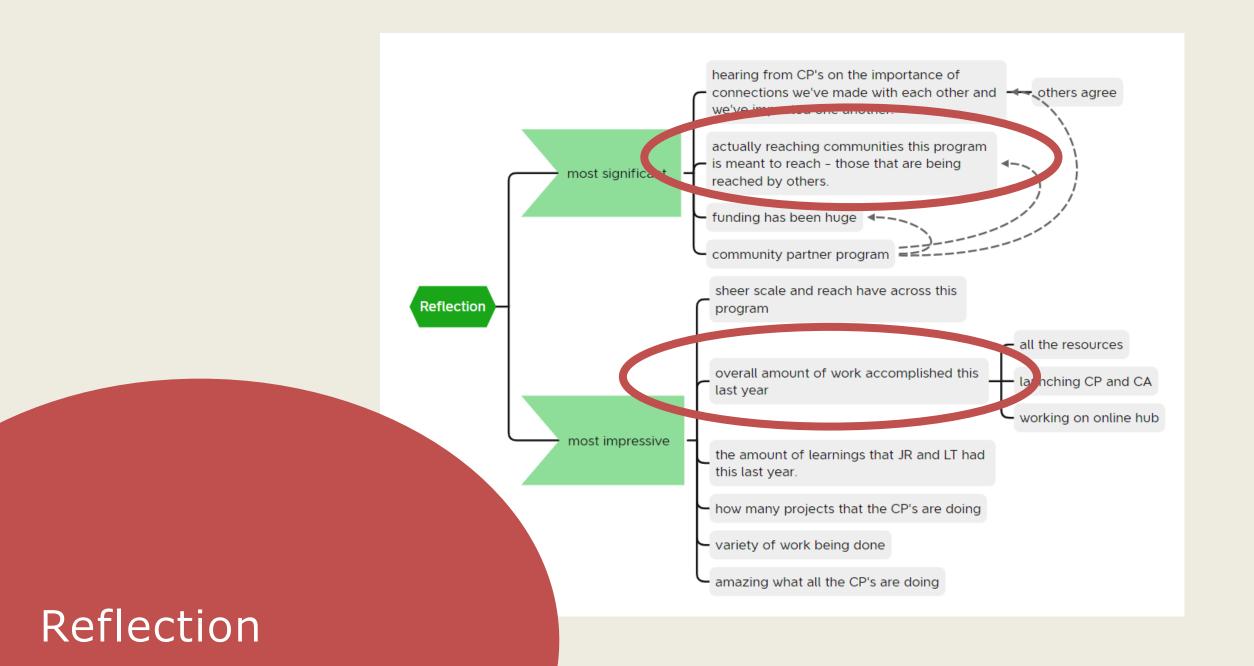
- Behavioral economic how-to toolkit
 - Guide created from 4 years of CDC Low Sodium grant work
- Created an online Nutrition Policy series
 - 2 programs created a nutrition policy

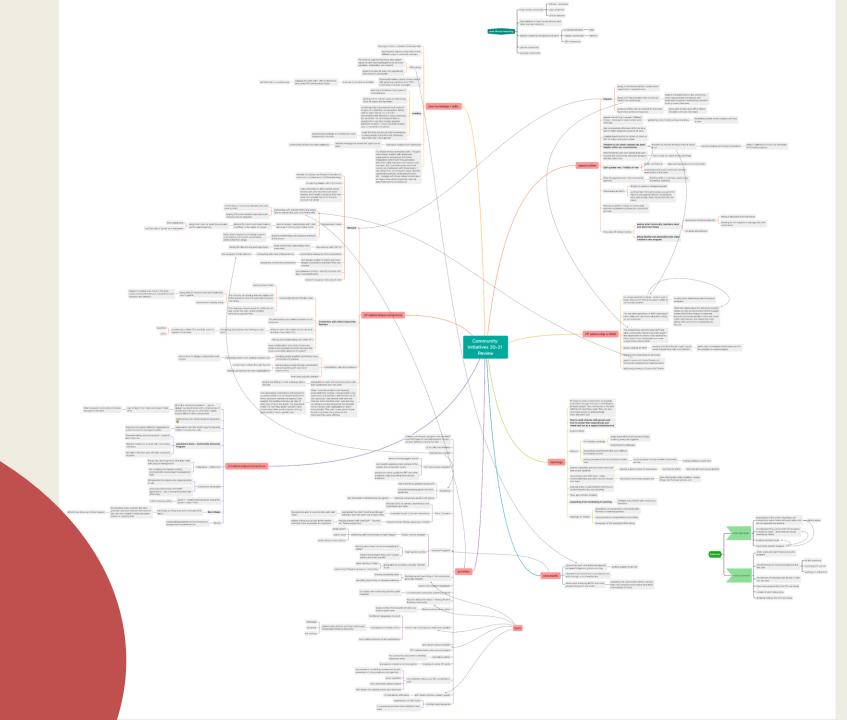
increased connections and awareness of other programs and agencies

General Community Initiatives

- Launching the community partners program
- Nutrition education report Sharing Power, Building Community
- Launched the Yakima and SKC coordination calls
 - SKC listserv for sharing events and resources
 - OIC Community Garden
- Strategic planning guide
 - presentation to HAH vistas
 - 2 community partners have utilized in their work

making it more accessible to customers





Full Ripple Map

Larger visual on next page

