



**Barrier
Breakers
Foundation**



2024 IMPACT REPORT



**January
2025**

Prepared by

**Barrier
Breakers
Foundation**

Prepared for

**Skagit and
Surrounding
Communities**

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Organizational Overview



Vision

SEEKING HUMAN KINDNESS

To live in a community without barriers and prejudice of a person's past or current self. To allow them to achieve their goals with the guarantee that no one spends a night without shelter.

Mission

UNITED WE STAND to advocate for a future where our unhoused neighbors and those previously incarcerated are given the knowledge, stability, confidence, and a pathway to self-sufficiency in their lives by breaking down the prejudicial barriers that made it impossible in the past.

Values

- Community
- Compassion
- Collaboration
- Integrity
- Creative opportunities
- Advocacy

Letter from the Executive Director



Rob Preston

Founder/Executive Director
Barrier Breakers Foundation

Barrier Breakers Foundation (BBF) was incorporated in 2022 after the pandemic changed the availability of community resources for unsheltered and formerly incarcerated individuals to find support and meet their basic needs. BBF is governed and operated solely by volunteers who have experienced circumstances similar to those we support.

We work from our own personal experiences to be a resource and guide for our community, working tirelessly through immediate shelter referrals, case management, connections to healthcare and mental health services, access to phone services, and basic needs such as food, clothing, hygiene, and identification documents **to support more than 2300 individuals and families with basic needs, community resources, and shelter referrals.**



As we close our second full year at Barrier Breakers Foundation, I want to take a moment to reflect on our journey and the impact we've made together in the fight to support our formerly incarcerated and unsheltered neighbors in our community. Your support has been invaluable, and it is with deep gratitude that I share our Annual Impact Report for 2024.

As we mature from a small start-up nonprofit to an established grassroots organization we are achieving significant milestones that are transforming lives and strengthening our community.

2024 Highlights:

In May, 2024 BBF introduced a new Lifeline Connectivity Program, providing same day service and connection to low-income residents in Skagit and surrounding counties. This program offers Lifeline cellphone services and a free smartphone to qualified subscribers who meet certain eligibility requirements, such as government subsidies. Since the launch of the Lifeline Connection Program, **BBF has helped over 1200 individuals with cell phone services.**

Looking Forward:

As we move into 2025, our commitment remains strong. We aim to expand our outreach efforts, support services, and staff to accommodate our growing services in Skagit County. We cannot do this without your continued support. Your contributions enable us to provide essential resources and create sustainable solutions for those in need. Help us bring hope home to Skagit, one donation at a time.

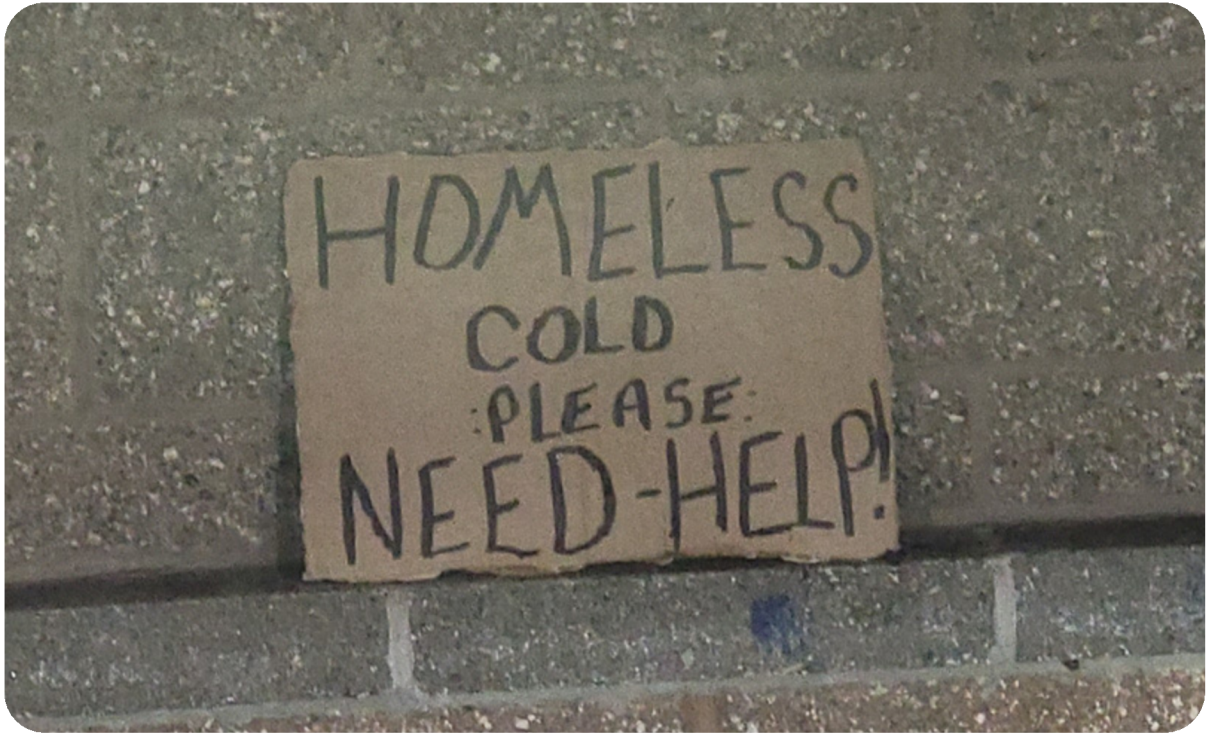
Thank you for being a vital part of our efforts and for standing with us in our mission to end homelessness. Together we can create a future with the guarantee that no one spends the night without shelter.

Rob Preston

Financial Highlights



In the past year Barrier Breakers Foundation achieved significant financial milestones that underscore our commitment to our mission. BBF has spent the past two years focused on establishing services within the community. This year our efforts are starting to pay off. We experienced a staggering 45% increase in item (in-kind) donations thanks to major donors and community partnerships. This staggering increase enabled our programs to assist those in need, positively impacting the communities we serve, and to create a healthy reserve, ensuring our sustainability and capacity going into 2025. BBF is currently operated by volunteer's keeping our operational expenses low. These financial highlights reflect our dedication to transparency and responsible stewardship of donor contributions.



→	Cash Donations	\$21,539
→	In-Kind Donations	\$77,716
→	Operating Costs	\$14,889
→	Program Expenses	\$58,399
→	Remaining Assets	\$25,967

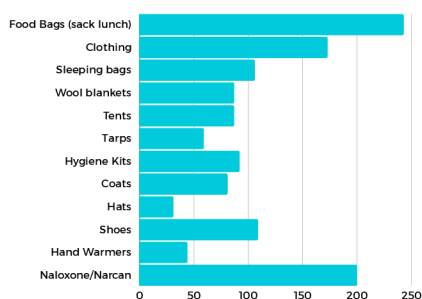
Program Analytics



FIVE MAIN PROGRAMS

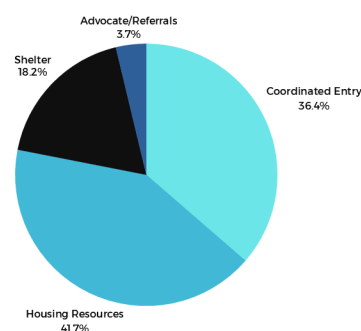
Street Outreach/Essential Needs

286 Individuals Served



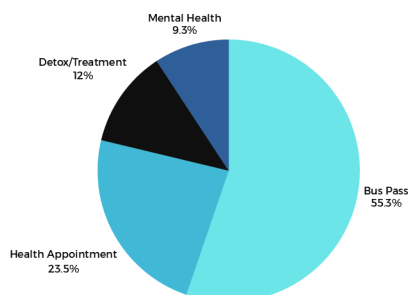
Housing

146 Individuals Served



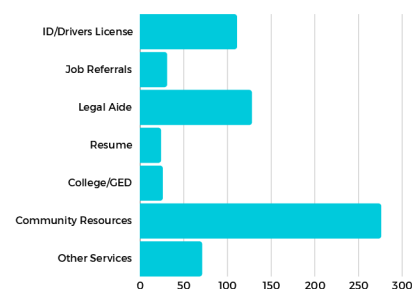
Transportation

403 Individuals Served



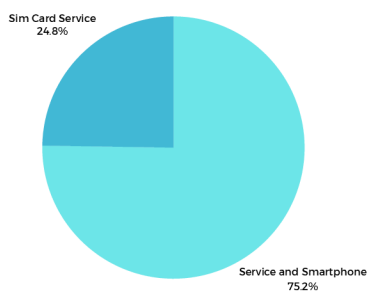
Support Services

318 Individuals Served



Lifeline Connectivity Program

1232 Phone Services Connected



IMPACT

2385 Program Services

75% of Participants are Living Unsheltered

24% of Participants are Veterans

86% Request Multiple Services

Success Stories



As we reflect over the past year, we are reminded of the incredible impact support like YOURS can have on those in need such as Amie, Donovan, and their nine year old daughter, Margarita.

Amie and her family got connected with BBF after experiencing a string of unexpected and traumatic events leaving their family distraught and in desperate need of resources and housing. Prior to this string of events, Amie and her family had stable housing for over five years. Amie's husband, Donovan worked in construction making \$40 an hour. His income covered the household expenses leaving Amie free to focus on her daughter's education.



Thank you so much Rob for your care and understanding you are a light in a dark place! God bless you!
- Amie

In August 2023, Donovan injured his back leaving him unable to work. This injury forced him to get a lower paying job in retail. Given the sudden change in income, Amie decided to return to work to make ends meet. But just as Amie began to look for work, she received devastating news - she had stage-four, terminal, adrenal cancer. Unable to meet their monthly expenses, Amie and her family were evicted from their home. With nowhere else to turn, they had no choice but to sleep in their truck.

After a month of enduring this lifestyle, Amie's health began to rapidly decline. Desperate for support, Amie's family was referred to BBF. That same afternoon, a volunteer met with the family and learned about their incredible story of survival. Within 24 hours, BBF was able to secure Amie's family a spot at Interfaith Family Shelter.

Aime and her family stayed at Interfaith Family Shelter through November until they were able to secure their own little house in Edmonds Washington. Donovan is working full-time, and Margarita is thriving in school, leaving Aime the opportunity to undergo her cancer treatment without the added stress. BBF was the lifeline that worked with Amie and kept her family afloat. But perhaps the most important service that BBF provided was keeping their family safe, together, and in permanent shelter. This unexpected act gave Amie and her family reassurance that they were going to be okay, they had support, and that they were not alone.

Partnerships



Upper Skagit Indian Tribe



Goals for 2025



Barrier Breakers Foundation is dedicated to expanding our impact and effectiveness, and a key component of our future plan is to increase our operating budget. To achieve this, we will implement a multi-faceted fundraising strategy that includes enhancing our grant application processes, cultivating relationships with local businesses for sponsorship opportunities, and launching targeted crowdfunding campaigns. Additionally, we plan to host community events that raise awareness about our mission while also generating financial support through individual donors. By diversifying our funding sources and engaging our community, we aim to secure the resources necessary to enhance our programs and services, ultimately allowing us to better serve those in need and fulfill our mission more effectively.



Increase Outreach Services

Objective: Expand our outreach team to provide services to 500 individuals experiencing homelessness.

Strategy: Utilize mobile outreach to reach underserved areas and conduct weekly community engagement activities.

Measurement: Track the number of individuals engaged and services provided through monthly reports.

Enhance Access to Housing Resources

Objective: Assist 300 individuals in securing permanent housing.

Strategy: Partner with local housing authorities and landlords to create a housing referral network and offer case management support.

Measurement: Monitor the number of individuals placed in stable housing through quarterly assessments.

Increase Community Awareness & Engagement

Objective: Raise awareness about homelessness issues and engage 500 community members in advocacy efforts.

Strategy: Host quarterly community forums, educational workshops, and volunteer opportunities to foster understanding and support.

Measurement: Assess participation levels and community feedback through event surveys and social media engagement metrics.

Our goals for 2025 are ambitious yet achievable, reflecting our commitment to making a tangible impact in the lives of those experiencing homelessness. Through strategic partnerships, community engagement, and a focus on holistic support, we are confident in our ability to create lasting change. Thank you for your ongoing support as we work together to achieve these goals.

Contact Information



Contact

Rob Preston



Phone

360-391-5501



Email

robertpreston@bbfbarrierbreakerfoundation.com



Website

www.bbfbarrierbreakerfoundation.com

