

Annual Report 2016-2017

Believing that our community is more diverse and vibrant when everyone thrives, West Marin Community Services has served as a central hub to support the residents of West Marin for 40 years.

In 2016-2017 we provided over 8,600 direct services through the Food Pantry, Thrift Store Emergency Distribution Fund, Holiday Food and Gift Program, *Abriendo Caminos*, and Waterdogs Swim Classes.

Abriendo Caminos (Finding our Path)

Abriendo Caminos, a partnership developed in 2014 between agencies in the West Marin Collaborative and the local Latino community to increase civic engagement and leadership, continued in Point Reyes and expanded to Tomales. With support from the Marin Community Foundation we were able to present trainings on new topics (e.g., Board Roles) and the group was involved in a wider range of community events. We also began planning an expansion of the program into Bolinas and San Geronimo that will begin in 2017-18.



Una Comunidad Gathering on January 20, 2017

Immigration became an unexpected additional topic for *Abriendo Caminos*, and we began working with Standing Together West Marin, Canal Alliance, Mainstreet Moms, and other groups/volunteers to

offer guidance, legal advice, etc. For example, we presented numerous Know Your Rights workshops and developed a West Marin Rapid Response System to send alerts, verify rumors of ICE actions, and coordinate volunteer assistance.

Community Resource Center Core Services

The Community Resource Center was as busy and lively as ever in 2016-2017, with the food pantry open five days a week, emergency assistance and case management services, and event supplies rentals. We hired additional staff to help with increased demand for these services.

The food pantry, which operates with support from the Marin-San Francisco Food Bank, the USDA emergency food program, Respecting our Elders, and community donations, distributed approximately 180,000 pounds of food (7,900 units of service) in 2016-2017. It is the only food pantry in West Marin that is open five days a week.

West Marin Community Thrift Store

The West Marin Community Thrift Store saw many positive changes in 2016-2017 such as a new credit card machine and several physical improvements – new racks, shelves, and reorganization of merchandise.

Thrift store profits go back to the community, providing funds for emergency needs, scholarships for



child care, and other support of WMCS programs. In 2016-2017, we distributed a total of \$38,598 in grants and \$860 in loans. These annual totals included \$23,900 in childcare scholarships, \$5,417 in rent assistance, \$5,838 in car repairs, and \$1,291 in medical expenses. The Thrift Store has provided over \$700,000 to the community in individual and non-profit grants since its inception.

The Thrift Store also benefits from the generosity of local volunteers who help keep the doors open every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Waterdogs Swim Classes

Waterdogs, the traditional Tomales Bay swim program for local kids, had record enrollment in 2016 with a total of 43 students, including 13 students who received scholarships. These Red Cross-certified classes started in the early 1940s and are held every summer at Shell Beach to help our kids feel safe in Tomales Bay. Funding for Waterdogs was provided by tuition, proceeds from the Tostada Booth at the Inverness Fair, a grant from the West Marin Fund, and individual donations.



Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Our busy Fall 2016 included that great tradition, the Community Thanksgiving Dinner at the Dance Palace for over 300 people. With home-cooked food – almost all organic this year, including the turkeys – and convivial atmosphere, cheerful volunteers, and the captainship of Socorro Romo, a delicious time was had by all.

Holiday Food and Gift Program

The 2016 Holiday Food and Gift Program served 372 individuals (including over 200 children and teens) thanks to the teamwork and commitment of many volunteers and organizations. With generous

community support, we were able to provide a real holiday for local families and seniors.



Fiscal Sponsorship and Contracts

In 2016-2017, we continued fiscal sponsorship support for community partners who work within our mission: Tomales Bay Youth Center, Point Reyes Farmers' Market, Point Reyes Community Garden, and the Rotary Peace Garden at Toby's, which was dedicated on January 20, 2017. WMCS was the fiscal sponsor for the Far West Fest, and, upon closing down they generously donated remaining funds to the Family Emergency Fund, which is used to support local families in crisis. Thank you Far West Fest!

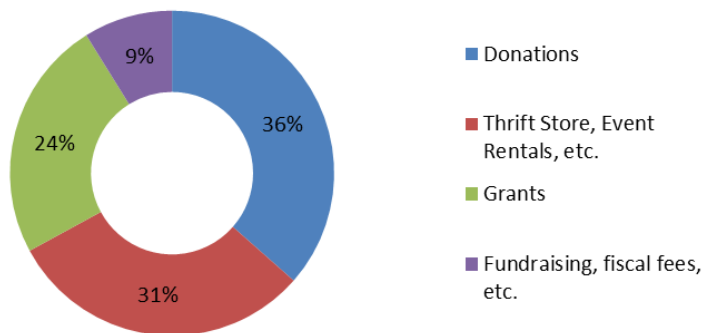
We also contract with Shoreline Unified School District to provide bilingual Family Advocates in the schools.



2016-2017 Operating Financial Report

Income

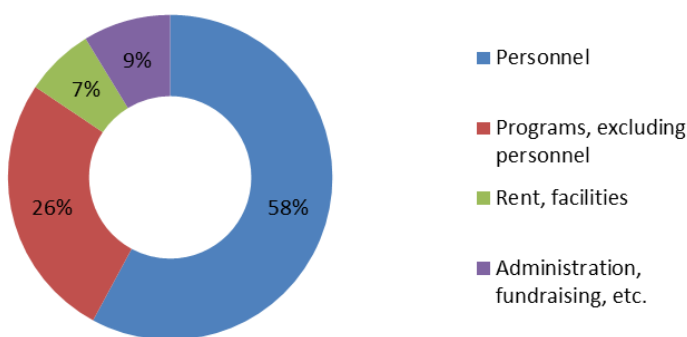
Donations	145,302
Thrift Store, Event Rentals, etc.	121,755
Grants	95,755
<u>Fundraising, fiscal fees, etc.</u>	<u>35,330</u>
Total Income	398,142



Expense

Personnel	193,917
Programs, excluding personnel	88,816
Administration, fundraising, etc.	29,230
<u>Rent, facilities</u>	<u>23,069</u>
Total Expense	335,032

Expense



Net total income 63,110
(\$40k for 2017-18 program expansion)

Principal Staff

- Wendy Friefeld, Executive Director
- Socorro Romo, Program Director
- Heather Ivey, Associate Director
- Adee Swanson, Thrift Store Manager
- Martha Martinez, Assistant Manager, Resource Center
- Angelica Martinez, Resource Center Assistant
- Jorge Martinez, Program Assistant

Board of Directors

- Kris Brown, President
- Kate Levinson, Vice President
- Jim Pellegrin, Secretary
- Larry Enos, Treasurer
- Jeff Felix
- Ernesto Orozco
- Melanie Stone
- Patricia Thomas

WMCS Advisory Board

- Steve Costa
- Debbie Daly
- Mark Dowie
- Dolores Gonzales
- Nancy Hemmingway
- Martha Howard
- Gary Ireland
- Gina Kutchins
- Cindy B. Mann
- Michael Mery
- Yvonne Morales
- Carlos Porrata
- Angelo Sacheli
- Mark Switzer