

Rebuilding Together * Washington County,

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- **Who We Are-** We are a local affiliate of the leading national, non-profit volunteer low-income housing preservation organization that, in partnership with the community, repairs and rehabilitates the houses of low-income homeowners, particularly the elderly, those with disabilities and families with dependent children, so that they may continue to live in warmth, safety and independence. We have been performing these free repairs in Washington County since 1994.
- **What We Do-** Low-income, elderly and disabled homeowners and families with dependent children often have no place to turn to when the roof begins to leak or the furnace quits working. Our goal is to assure that these people can get the housing rehabilitation help they need. Repairs may include dry-rot repairs, painting, roof repair or replacement, plumbing repairs, electrical repairs, yard debris removal, window and door replacement, accessibility modifications and many other tasks.
- **Who We Help-** The number of low-income homeowners increases each year. The current 24 million low-income homeowner households are expected to grow to an astonishing 28.5 by the year 2010. More and more of these homeowners are placed in the position of choosing between vital necessities such as food or medicine and a roof that does not leak. According to the 2000 Census, 14,694 seniors living in Washington County were disabled. It is estimated that approximately 1,616 elderly people are living in poverty level standards in Washington County.
- **When We Work-** Our major rehabilitation efforts culminate on National Rebuilding Day, which is always the last Saturday in April each year. On this day we repair or rehabilitate in some way between 15-34 homes that have been selected throughout Washington County. The deadline to apply for National Rebuilding Day, is in December every year. Applications can be obtained from most social service agencies, or by calling the office at (503) 644-4544. We also have a year-round "Emergency Small Repair Program" and a monthly "Mid-Sized Repair Program". Applications can be obtained from calling the above phone number.
- **Our Results-** Last fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, 111 separate repair projects were completed which benefited 77 households and 3 non-profit facilities serving developmentally disabled and mentally handicapped adults in Washington County. Most of the homeowners were elderly, disabled or families with dependent children. From skilled craftspeople, businessmen and women, students, church and civic groups and just about anyone over 14 who can wield a paintbrush or a rake takes part in this "neighbor helping neighbor" effort. The estimated value of these repairs is \$164,258.01 which includes materials, services and labor. 500+ volunteers donated 3,211.25 hours to make these repairs happen.

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