



COMMUNITY RESOURCE NEWSLETTER

Week of January 25 - 31

Have an update
for the next
newsletter?

Email communityresources@oppco.org
by 2/4 at 12 PM

Helpful Resources

Community Resource
Center

Available by phone
M-Th 9am-4pm, F 9am-12pm
360-734-5121 ext. 0

Community Resources
During COVID-19

whatcomabc.org/covid-19

Food and Meal Guide

whatcomabc.org/food-access

EITC AWARENESS DAY

Earned Income Tax Credit Awareness Day (1/29/21) is an annual event aimed to educate the public about the [EITC, and requirements to claim this important credit](#). EITC is considered to be one of the government's largest anti-poverty tools, as it can increase a federal tax refund by up to \$6,660. Yet the IRS estimates 20% of eligible taxpayers miss out on this important credit each year. Many who are eligible won't receive an EITC because they are in an income bracket that is not required to file taxes, but filing taxes is the only way to access this credit. This year, ensure your eligible clients receive all the money they have earned by promoting EITC awareness, encouraging them to [utilize free tax preparation assistance](#), and urging non-filers to file this tax season. Determining eligibility is made easy using the [EITC Assistant](#) tool. If you have questions about this credit or other tax issues, please join us at the [2021 Tax Season Webinar](#) hosted by the WABC, and check out our [tax resource site](#) for the latest local information.

Resources for the growing **STUDENT LOAN CRISIS**



Last week, [COVID Emergency Relief Flexibilities](#) were extended through 9/30/21, meaning suspension of payments, collections, and interest on federal student loans. Additionally, student loans have been a hot topic in the news recently as President Biden is expected to prioritize his plan for [student loan forgiveness](#). As of 2020, student loan debt in the U.S. had reached \$1.68 trillion, and the average borrower owed \$37,584 in student loan debt. In response to this growing crisis, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has released a new resource, the [Financial inTuition Podcast](#), to provide education on topics like saving and paying for college, managing money, repaying student loan debt, and more. Another helpful tool is Apprisen's free [Student Loan Education Session](#), which can help borrowers manage their student loans and find financial stability.

COVID-19 Resources

Unified Command
whatcomcovid.com

Whatcom County Health Department
whatcomcounty.us

COVID-19 Vital Information in 36 Languages
informingfamilies.org

Newsletter Guide


To subscribe, email communityresources@oppco.org

Visit whatcomabc.org/crn to view past newsletters

Icon Key:



 Asset Building

 Updated/New resource

 3-in-30 Survey


COMMUNITY NEWS BULLETINS

News, announcements, & community updates

-  [New Base Camp flyer: how to access shelter and services](#)
-  [New financial education resource page for K-12 Students](#)
- [WA reaches 500,000 COVID vaccine doses administered](#)
- [WWU VITA site tax preparation information](#)
- [OppCo. Parents as Subs Class info in English, and Spanish](#)

INDUSTRY LIBRARY

Reports, articles, & tools for providers

-  [A Third of U.S. Families Face a Different Kind of Poverty](#)
- [Children's Hospitals Grapple With Wave of Mental Illness](#)
- [COVID-19 Pandemic Is Making 'Period Poverty' Worse](#)
- [The Looming Eviction Cliff](#)
- [Equitable Access to COVID Vaccine Emerges as Challenge](#)
- [The Best Evidence for How to Overcome Vaccine Fears](#)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

DVSAS

[Prevention Education Specialist](#)

Futures Northwest

[Operations Manager](#)

Mt. Baker School District

[Family Service Coordinator](#)

Northwest Regional Council

[Budget Administrator](#)

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WABC

WHATCOM ASSET BUILDING COALITION

www.whatcomabc.org