

CASCADE CONNECTIONS
opportunities for everyone



OUTCOME REPORT 2016

Cascade Connections
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A message from the Executive Director

Cascade Connections mission is to empower individuals with disabilities to enhance their quality of life. In looking back at all of the growth and changes that have occurred over the years it is humbling to remember where we have come from. Cascade Connections began as a dream of a core group of parents. We have now grown into an organization who last year alone served over 249 people.

Over the years we have expanded and grown, but the values in which this agency was founded have not changed. Cascade Connections continues to keep the customers of our organization at the center of every decision that is made. Our staff continue to be our greatest asset and we are committed to ensuring they are trained and have the tools to maintain high quality services.



Executive Director, George Beanblossom, receives a donated car from Hinton Chevrolet Buick. We are blessed.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

~Margaret Mead

Our community has continued to provide support and encouragement throughout our years of services. This past year we were able to partner with many new business through two fundraising events, The Hamster Crawl and The Hamster Ball. This was not only a great way to raise funds for our mission, we also were able to raise awareness as well.

Cascade Connections has published our 2016 Outcome report. In this document we will highlight the impact we have made in the lives of people supported by Cascade Connections. When you are involved with the mission of Cascade Connections you know that your support matters to those we serve, our community and our organization. We truly appreciate your commitment to empowering individuals with disabilities to enhance their quality of life. To read the full report visit cascadeconnections.org

Sincerely,

George Beanblossom

Our Mission

Empowering individuals with disabilities to enhance their quality of life.

Our Vision

We promote opportunities for everyone through community partnership and service excellence.

Our Customers

Cascade Connections provides residential, vocational and home care services to individuals who have a broad range of skills, interests and abilities.

Our Employers

Cascade Connections is committed to providing Whatcom County with highly valuable applicants who add to the diversity and value of businesses. We pride ourselves in being a resource to local employers on disability related issues.

2016 At a Glance

Residential Programs:

Cascade Christian Home: 8 residents

Supported Living –Lynden: 16 residents

Supported Living – Bellingham: 7 residents

Pine Street Adult Family Home: 6 residents

Home Care Services: 54 customers

Training Department:

Total Students: 355

Total training hours: 11,095

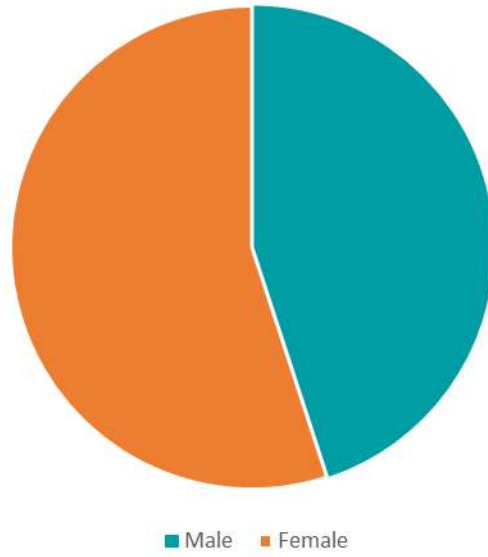
Vocational Services:

Vocational Rehabilitation customers: 56

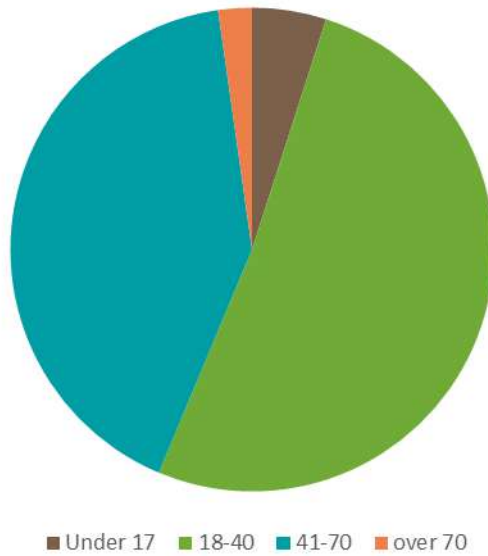
Long-term services customers: 102

DEMOGRAPHICS

Gender



Age of Customers





WESTERN WASHINGTON'S HOME TEAM
A TRONIX Company

CASCADE CONNECTIONS
opportunities for everyone



RESIDENTIAL



Supported Living customer Fran shows Susannah Frame around her apartment.

Experts say Washington is decades behind the times when it comes to its treatment of some of its most vulnerable citizens -- people with developmental disabilities. In Washington, more people with these disabilities -- conditions like autism, cerebral palsy, and Down syndrome -- are institutionalized than in most other states. That bucks a decades-long trend to stop the segregation of people with developmental and intellectual disabilities. The series by reporter Susannah Frame looks at the personal, financial, legal and public policy implications of the continued segregation of this population:

Until the early 1970s, people with developmental disabilities were systematically warehoused – cut off from society in institutions where cages, strait jackets, and beatings were the norm. The institutions have changed for the better, with dedicated staff providing a full range of services to residents. But instead of continuing to operate four large facilities, evidence from other states shows Washington should focus on integrating these residents into community settings. Cascade Connections is proud to be a part of the solution.

King 5 news featured many segments in regards to institutions. Cascade Connections has always been committed to support people to live in our community. King 5 was there to capture the transition from institution into the community living with our newest customer Shawn. Shawn now lives in his own home in Lynden and is enjoying having a life with support to achieve his goals and dreams.



Shawn is enjoying his new home and support from Cascade Connections supported living program.



“Caregiver’s for Heather are like big sisters or aunts “

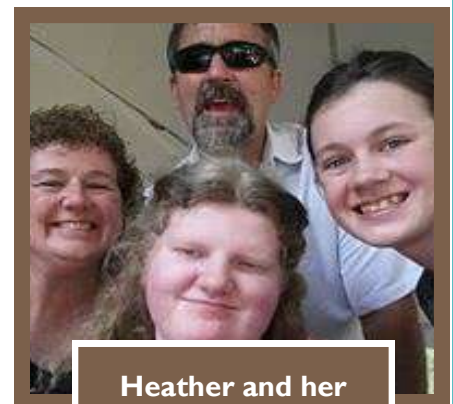
Heather is a happy teenager with a fabulous family who need a little support and Cascade Connections Home Care is happy to provide that support. Heather’s mother de-

scribes Cascade Connections staff, “Caregivers for Heather are like big sisters or aunts that come and hang out with her. Honestly, she is like any other teenage girl

who pretty much gets tired of having her mom around too much!” Heather loves having books read to her and doing five puzzles at once with someone next to her. She likes to take a caregiver to her room and sit on the bed and ‘talk’ about life – just like a typical teenager. Other highlights for her have been going to the library and exploring through lots of books, carving pumpkins or making cookies, and going to

Edaleen Dairy for vanilla milkshakes with her favorite caregiver coming with us next to her in the car.

“I feel our caregivers go above and beyond every shift as they have made themselves an integral part of our lives. Their attitudes are positive and they truly desire to help Heather and our family in whatever way they can. I have found my dishes done and kitchen clean because ‘Heather helped me do it.’ Both of our current regular caregivers have patiently sat with Heather for an hour or more during a seizure episode, talking gently to her, stroking her hair, and watching for her safety. They love her and she adores them. Every day, the first thing Heather talks about is who is coming today and she is very upset if there is no caregiver on the schedule!”



Heather and her family



Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Customers referred by Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) & contract for short term services including:

- Independent living skills
- Community based assessments
- Job placement
- Retention services

Outcomes



Michael at Bellingham Promotional

Total Number of Participants Served \Rightarrow 54
Total Contracts Completed: 83
Average Starting Wage: \$10.91
Average Starting Weekly hours: 14.5

Average days per type of contract:

Community Based Assessment: 38 days
Job Placement Services: 140 days
Job Retention Services: 94 days



**Jordan at the
Rusty Wagon**

NEW JOBS CREATED

Number of jobs created in 2016: 52

Cascade has created a total of 829 jobs since 1994



Isaac filling paper while on the job at Anvil Corporation

Long term Vocational Services

Customers with developmental disabilities receive long term vocational services including:

- Discovery
- Job preparation
- Job development
- Job coaching
- Retention services

Outcomes

Total Number of Participants ⇒ 100

Total Wages Earned ⇒ \$256,847

Total Hours Worked ⇒ 21,562

Eric is a valuable member of the Lynden Door team!



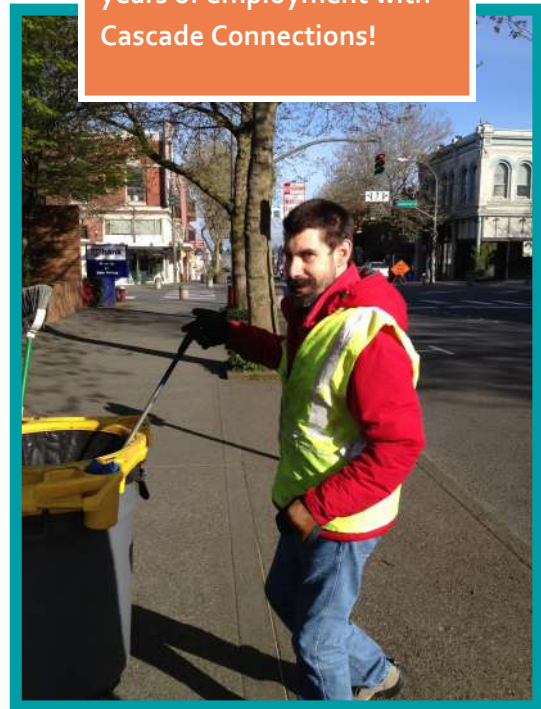


Contracted Services

Cascade Connections employs individuals with disabilities on mobile custodial crews and enclaves throughout Whatcom County. These crews provide long term employment for many participants. In 2016 CVS contracted with the following locations:

- ⇒ Barkley Company
- ⇒ Bellingham Food Bank
- ⇒ City of Bellingham
- ⇒ Developmental Disabilities Administration
- ⇒ Department of Homeland Security
- ⇒ First Christian Church
- ⇒ Flowserve
- ⇒ General Services Administration
- ⇒ Landmark Property Management
- ⇒ Max Higbee Center
- ⇒ Northwest Health Care Linen
- ⇒ Opportunity Council

Jason celebrated twenty years of employment with Cascade Connections!



Outcomes

Total Employed by CC contracted services ⇒ 66

Total Hours Worked by CC crew employees ⇒ 24,595

Total Wages Earned by CC crew employees ⇒ \$401,720

Training Services

Cascade Connections created a training department in January 2012. Since that time the trainers of Cascade Connections have become some of the best in the State of Washington.



2016 Outcomes

Number of Cascade Connections employees who received training \Rightarrow 259

Total number of individuals from other agencies \Rightarrow 79

Total number of families/ individuals \Rightarrow 17

Total Training hours \Rightarrow 11,095

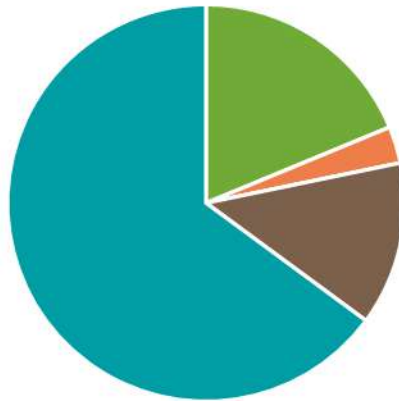
Prometric Testing

Cascade Connections hosted 38 testing dates in 2016



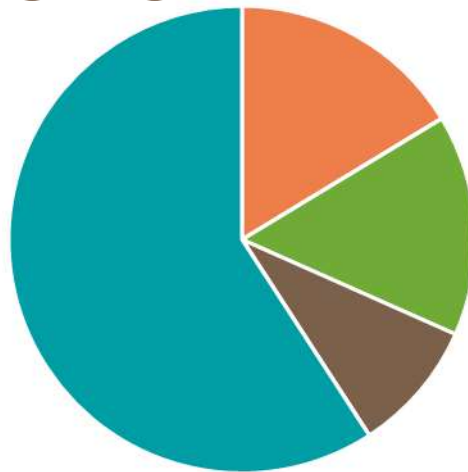
Financials

INCOME



- Commercial Operations \$1,079,974
- Donations \$185,145
- Training Department \$14,144
- County Services \$823,549
- State Income \$4,007,442

EXPENSES



- Commercial Operations \$1,087,150
- Training Department \$96,960
- Vocational Services \$1,017,047
- Management General Expenses \$616,100
- Fundraising Expenses \$8,800
- Residential Services \$3,947,812

Thank You to our Community Partners!

12th Street Chsoes
A Child's Life learning Center
Acme General Store
Affordable Auto
AHA Childcare Center
Allignment and Brakes Plus
Anvil
Anytime Fitness
Appel Cheese
Applebee's
Bellingham Arts Academy for Youth
Bellingham Baptist Church
Bellingham Boys and Girls Club
Bellingham Central Lion's Club
Bellingham Childcare and Learning Cen-

Bellingham Food bank
Bellingham Healthcare and Rehabilitation
Bellingham Promotional Products
Bellingham Public Library
Bellingham Senior Center
Bellingham Technical College
Benjamin's Hair Salon
Big 5
Big Fresh
Big Lots
Blaine Library
Bookkeeping Solution NW
Brigid Collins Family Support Center
Burlington
Christ the King
City of Bellingham
Community Food Coop
Connections Speech language Pathology
Conservation Northwest
Cornwall Church
Cost Cutter
Costco

Dalquist Kitchen
Department of Homeland Security
Developmental Disabilities Administration
Downtown Bellingham Partnership
ECig Express
Endless Potential
Evergreen Supported Living
Everson Auction Market
Everson Market
Faith Life
Fanatik Bikes
Fast Cap
Ferndale Library
Ferndale Senior Center
Film is Truth
First American Title Co.
First Baptist Church
First Christian Church
First Congretional Church
Five Guys Burger and Fries
Flax 4 Life
Fred Meyer
General Services Administration
Glacierview Animal Hospital
Goodwill
Green Acres Memorial
Green Barn
Grocery Outlet
Haggen Food & Pharmacy
Hardware Sales
Healthcare Services Group
Hearing Speech and Deafness Center
Hertco Kitchens
Homestead Golf and Country Club
Hope House
Hope in Christ
Kelly's O'Deli

Kia Smith
Kids World Northwest
Kmart
Landmark Property Management
Launching Success Learning Store
Leaps and Bounds Preschool
Life Cycle Pet Cremation
Life Impact Church
Lynden Door
Lynden Food Pavillion
Mad Cat Salsa
Management Services Northwest
Marshall's
McDonalds
MGM Solutions
Millard Mall Services
Northwest Health Care Linen
Office Max
Old Navy
Opportunity Council
Pacific Security
Pegasus Trucking
Pickford Theater
Rebound of Whatcom County
ReStore
Ricoh USA
Rover Stay Over
Rudes Auto
Rusty Wagon
Safeway- Lynden
Salvation Army

Samuel's Furniture
Saratoga Property Management
Saturna Capital
Senate Smoke Shops
Senior Support Services
Soy House
St. James Prebyterian
Stampadoodle
Terra Organic
Thai House
The Soy House
TJMAxx
Tonja's Treasures
Trapezer Café
United Church of Ferndale
United Church of Ferndale
Unity Spritual Center
Unlimited Services
Walgreens
Walgreens
Walmart
We Care
Whatcom Alzheimer's Society
Whatcom Community College
Woodway Senior Living
WorkSource
WWU Maintenance Department
YMCA of Bellingham
Youngstock's Produce



**Thank You from
Everyone at
Cascade Connections!**