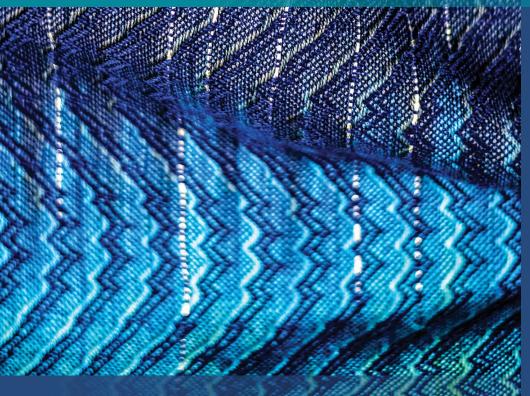


# **ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT**



This report was paid for by a concerned donor's designated gift, believing that donors invest in outcomes, and we all learn from clients' stories. A celebration of the impact by our volunteers, staff, and donors woven into services in 2022, our 50th year.

April 2023



We hope you are inspired by the stories of our brave clients. They were helped last year by our incredible volunteers, donors, and staff.

*Our work was fueled by contributions from people like you who* supported our life-changing and life-enhancing services for seniors, adults with disabilities, and caregivers in our community.

Thanks to this wonderful community, we were able to reach our fundraising and programmatic goals in 2022, and with your help we can continue to provide crucial resources in the years to follow.

*Here are some of the personal stories about the impact* Island Senior Resources had in our community.



*Meet Jeremy.* Living comfortably in a tiny home, Jeremy is 75. Born and raised on Whidbey, he takes care of himself, always saying proudly, with a grin, "I'm never sick." Which was true, until it was not. One day he needed an emergency room visit and a prescription. He tried to reach Medicaid but could never get through to a person. He had never called Island Senior Resources, not wanting to be a bother. But one call for help with Island Senior Resources specialists resulted in answered questions, an evaluation, and help from four other programs. Jeremy is back to his healthy self, his questions have been resolved, and he knows that we are here for him if he ever needs help as he ages.

### Interwoven



- *Meet Simon.* After 70 years of marriage, Simon was his wife's only caregiver in her final years. He was suffering from burnout and grief when he called Island Senior Resources, experiencing depression. Simon needed help. Widowed, and in his 90th year, he had never lived alone before. We helped Simon navigate grieving processes and then, in time, cast a new set of life goals as part of our Aging & Disability Resources program, which integrates care with multiple collaborative agencies. Throughout 2022, Simon began to unfurl like an island fern, slowly at first and then with new vigor. He is now doing 70 pushups daily, is planning a new business as an artist, and is considering dating.
- *Meet Nellie*. She and her husband moved to the island in 1952, purchasing their small home on the water in Oak Harbor for \$15,000. Nellie is now 95 and lives alone after her husband's death two decades ago. She bustles around, serving on boards and helping her neighbors, but her income is reduced, and she was often eating crackers for dinner. She began receiving Meals on Wheels so that she had a healthy, tasty meal every night. She can afford her \$50 annual gift to Island Senior Resources. Nellie is remembering the agency in her will with a bequest of her home.



#### **OUR COMMUNITY IMPACT**

**Clients served** in 2022 reached 3,000

24.000 Number of calls seeking help or information



Our clients rang from 25 to 104. **Over 90% of our clients** are 60+.



We provide a broad spectrum of services:

- Aging and disability resources
- Nutritious meals
- Essential transportation
- Case management
- · Family caregiver support
- Medical equipment lending
- Home visits
- Community education
- Support groups
- Medicare consultations

#### **OUR COMMUNITY IMPACT**



In 2022, our Senior Thrift store sold over 200,000 affordable items to approximately 35,000 customers seeking inexpensive household goods and clothing, keeping things out of landfill and making them available to many families in financial need.



*Individual giving helps* us qualify for grants. For every \$1 donated by individuals, \$2 is raised from grants



The distance agency volunteers drove, taking clients on essential drives, equaled

around the planet's circumference, alongside thousands of hours of human connection and conversation. *Meet Morris*. Morris called everyone "Sweetie" and everyone who met Morris called him "Sweetie" back! He was the life of any party, loving life with determined vigor. A retired navy man, he loved cars! He loved food, received diabetic Meals on Wheels deliveries, and yet, loved sweets! Morris's daughter is a dietician and tried desperately to change his diet. He just wanted to age in place with his family nearby. But over time, diabetes took his kidneys, then a toe, and then both legs. By the time he reached 77, he chose to stop dialysis and to spend those last eight days of life surrounded by his family, giving them time to make his transition beautiful and healing.



Meet Laura and Trent. Trent was entering gentle dementia alongside cancer. Medical bills piled up. When Trent needed in-home care, Laura went to Island Senior Resources for the medical equipment needed for his final months at home. She borrowed a medical bed and set it up in their guest room. Our case workers found funding for a



daily caregiver. The next day, Trent went missing. Laura worried he had wandered out of the house. They looked everywhere with increasing panic. Soon they found him sitting happily in their original bedroom, where things seemed familiar and safe to him. The mirrors of the guest room had made him feel anxious. They swapped rooms. Trent, currently on a waiting list for hospice, is now peaceful, as is Laura.



Meet Joshua. He regularly drove Sean to and from Seattle for cancer treatments as a volunteer with our Medical and Essential Transportation Program. Joshua stopped by to fetch Sean one day and found he was not home. Sean was in the ER and was soon to be admitted. He did not care about his illness or his hospitalization. All he could say to Joshua, through sobs on the phone, was "My dogs. My beautiful dogs. I never said goodbye." Joshua, who rescues and raises dogs as a hobby, asked Sean if he would like the dogs picked up and cared for until Sean was out of hospital. "Oh! Yes, please." Sean died that evening, peacefully at 79, knowing his beloved dogs would be safe and well. Sean's dogs still live with, and delight, Joshua.



#### **OUR COMMUNITY IMPACT**

ISR served almost 85,000 meals in 2022 to over 945 clients including:



### 12.045

Community or Takeout Meals in Langley, Coupeville, Oak Harbor, and Camano

### 66.923

+

home-delivered Meals on Wheels across Island County

### 5.552

+

liquid meals for supplementation

Expenses \$4.170 million

**Programs and** Services

Administration

Fundraising

The difference between revenues and expenses was covered with reserve funds.

"In 2022, I wove the Island Senior Resources Story Cloth with the blues and greens of the islands and the silver of our aging seniors. I made the cloth a gift to this agency I love. Thank you for your gifts. We all give what we can."-Danette Sulgrove

We give to each other, and we thank each other. People like you funded our tremendous effort in 2022. Thank you. If you are not yet a donor, might you become one today?

### Thank you to all of our funding partners!

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We can't take our money with us. But we can make life better for others when leaving it behind. Our gifts, made in our wills today, make us good ancestors to the future clients of Island Senior Resources, perhaps people who today are your children, grandchildren, and greatgrandchildren. It is a beautiful thing for a person to plant a tree under which they will never be able to sit.

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Life's richness comes from our decisions to share ourselves such that we help, support, and companion others.

#### We value your gifts of time.

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If we made a mistake, please forgive us and let us know. Each gift has a kind person behind it. We are grateful for each gift. We worked to get the list as updated as possible at the time of printing. If any name is listed incorrectly or omitted, please call Charles LaFond, Development Director at 360-210-3011 anytime, and the correction will be made to future lists. Thank you for your patience as we improve our donor information.

Much gratitude to Danette Sulgrove for weaving the Island Senior Resources Story Cloth. It is on display at our office, 14594 WA-525, Langley, Whidbey Island, Washington. Photos of Danette Sulgrove, the Story Cloth, and donors by Dennis Browne.

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#### VOLUNTEER MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION

Anita King VMT Lead Specialist

#### SENIOR THRIFT

Jamie Badger Office Assistant **Cindy Bellinger** Clerk

Alec Brown Clerk

Catherine Hall Assistant Manager

Raynor Johnson Maintenance Assistant

Vicki Lash Clerk

Joseph Lewis Clerk

Scott Mayhew Clerk Lee Newvine

Clerk



Senior Services of Island County Serving Whidbey and Camano islands P.O Box 939 Freeland, WA 98249 360-321-1600 senior-resources.org

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## Looking forward to 2023

These recent years of the COVID-19 pandemic exposed considerable, previously unmet needs on these islands for food, essential transportation, connection, information, and help. Island Senior Resources never missed a day of service to the residents of Island County, providing increased resources that enhance the emotional, social, and physical well-being of seniors, adults with disabilities, and those who care for them. As some COVID funding is now being reduced, the community needs are not.

Thank you for your maintained and increased gifts of time and money to support our work.



If you need the services of Island Senior Resources, please call us. One phone call can open many doors over many decades—call 360-321-1600 or complete our online help request at our website.



senior-resources.org

facebook.com/islandseniors

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Island Senior Resources envisions strong communities where seniors, adults with disabilities, and those who care for them are valued, heard and seen, cared for and about, afforded respect, treated with dignity, and supported to live their best life.



The Secret Sauce Charles LaFond, Senior Development Director, is also a potter and cook who combines both crafts in this beautiful film explaining why we must care for aging seniors. senior-resources.org/impact