

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Independence
is priceless.

*We make it
affordable.*



◀ The new van
wheelchair
conversion will
change the lives
of we 3 Smiths.

— PAULA & DODDIE,
MODIFIED VAN LOAN



I'm interacting in social
groups and networking
with people again. ▶

— RICHARD,
HEARING AID LOAN



▲ I'm taking
a class
right now.

— CHARITY,
IDA SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Here's what's new:

AT Loans in Oregon

Recognizing a need for increased alternative financing for people with disabilities in Oregon, our Board of Directors voted to expand our services in late 2015.

Now, Oregon residents with disabilities, seniors, and their families are eligible for 5% no-fee loans to purchase Assistive Technology.

Call us at (206) 328-5116 or apply online at:

washingtonaccessfund.org

Your Gift Matters

Why should you support Washington Access Fund?

- People with disabilities are twice as likely to experience poverty and twice as likely to be unemployed compared to people without disabilities.
- 47% of low income people have a disability nationwide, while 80% of our clients are low-income.
- Most of our clients say they wouldn't have been able to get their assistive technology any other way.

Save the Date!

Join us in celebrating the individuals, businesses, and organizations who have made a significant impact on the lives of people with disabilities in our community.

WASHINGTON
ACCESS FUND
AWARDS DINNER NOVEMBER 3
THURSDAY
5:30PM - 8:00PM 2016

A WORD FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

We had a busy and exciting 2015 at Washington Access Fund; I am very pleased to share how your support helped make it all happen.

To understand the **impact of your support**, just ask our clients. They will tell you that Washington Access Fund has given them the opportunity to become more active, independent, and engaged in their communities. At our core is the belief that everyone should have access to affordable assistive technology and economic opportunity. Through our low-interest loans, IDA matched savings accounts, and financial capability services, we are helping our clients build assets, improve their credit, and navigate our complex financial landscape.

Last year, you helped us enroll about 20 low-income participants off the waiting list and into our **Individual Development Account (IDA) Matched Savings program**. Through our unique savings program, we supported 50 IDA participants to purchase a variety of assistive technology, small business equipment and employment assets, including the purchase of hearing aids, modified vehicles, computers, smart phones, and other communication devices. In our 2015 fiscal year we distributed \$62,502 in matching funds.

Another exciting development of 2015 was the expansion of our financial capability services. We were one of six sites nationwide who participated in the **ROADS to Financial Independence** pilot program, sponsored by the National Disability Institute and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. With support from our local collaborative partners, we completed 156 financial well-being assessments and referred clients to financial and benefits counseling. We continue to apply the knowledge we gained from the pilot while adapting our financial capability services to better serve our clients.

Thank you for your continued generosity. We value your commitment to our mission of helping people with disabilities purchase assistive technology and achieve independence.

Sincerely Yours,



Jack Brummel, Executive Director

MISSION

THE WASHINGTON ACCESS FUND PROVIDES FUNDING TO PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES IN WASHINGTON & OREGON TO PURCHASE ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY AND ACHIEVE GREATER INDEPENDENCE.

BOARD

ALAN KNUE, PRESIDENT | JOAN DINKELSPIEL, VICE PRESIDENT | GINA IANDOLA, SECRETARY | WARREN WEISSMAN, TREASURER | JUAN AGUILAR | ALICE CODAY | EDUARDO CORONA | COLE HARDMAN | SUSAN MCNAUGHT | CHRIS MILLETTE | MICHAEL RICHARDSON | NOAH STOCKTON | DAMAN WANDKE | SANDRA WIDLAN | JOE WYKOWSKI



WASHINGTON ACCESS FUND

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

99

Active Matched Savings Accounts for low-income WA residents with disabilities.

IDAs

283

Active Microloans to purchase assistive technology and start small businesses.

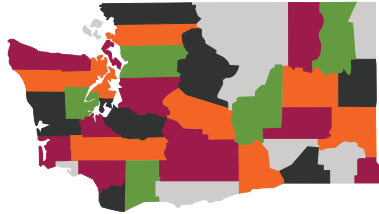
Loans

156

Financial Well-being Assessments for low-income WA residents with disabilities.

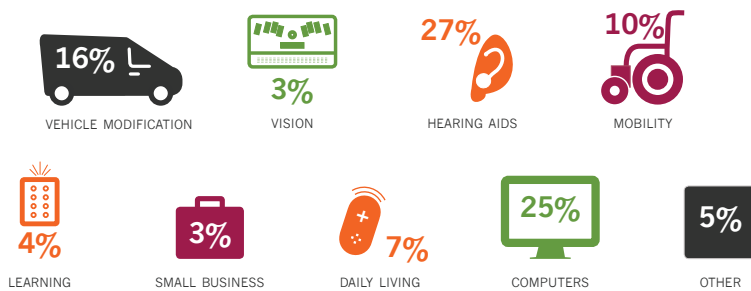
Assessments

OUR GEOGRAPHIC REACH



Your contributions helped serve **538 people** with disabilities in **30 counties** this year.

TYPES OF ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FUNDED



OUR DEMOGRAPHICS

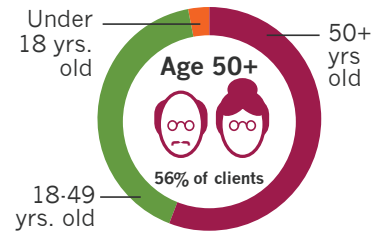
65% OF HOUSEHOLDS SERVED ARE CONSIDERED VERY LOW INCOME



52%



Percent of FY 2015 microloans to borrowers with subprime credit, poor credit or unscored credit.



Independence is priceless. *We make it affordable.*

BEAUTY & THE BEAST



"I didn't think I'd ever be 29 and driving a family van," says Dayana, "but it's given me freedom. Now I have quick and easy access to get to work, go to doctor's appointments, shopping, or the grocery store."

Born in El Salvador and raised in California, Dayana Ramos Vega had no symptoms when she was first diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) at age 14. As her muscles weakened from the disease, however, Dayana needed more assistive technology such as the mobility scooter she's been using for the last two years.

"It was hard, I'd put my scooter in the trunk of my car and then hold on as I hobbled around to the driver's seat," Dayana recalls. "I wanted to be more independent. People were concerned about my safety, even my boss said something."

On May 7th, 2015, Dayana drove home in her very own Dodge Caravan with an automatic wheelchair ramp conversion. She nicknamed her gray van "The Beast" and they've lived happily ever after since.

"This is a privilege and it's given me access to go back to school and finish my Bachelor's Degree. I'm truly grateful!"

THE NUMBERS

MICROLOAN DOLLARS LOANED

\$2,623,662

DEFAULT RATE | **2.0%**

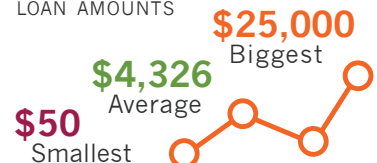
IDA MATCHING DOLLARS GRANTED

\$202,430

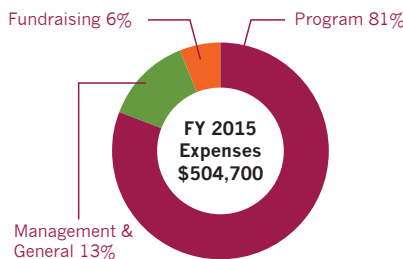
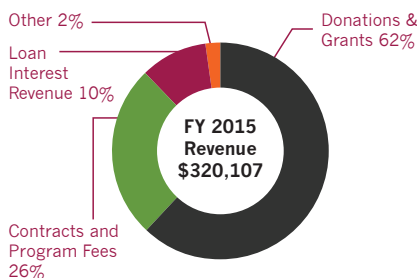
I am incredibly grateful for the opportunities Washington Access Fund has provided me to become more self-sufficient.

-LINDA, EVERETT

LOAN AMOUNTS



OUR REVENUE & EXPENSES



Our FY15 loss was covered by large multi-year grants received in FY13. Net assets as of 9/30/15 totaled \$1,700,778 with \$660,716 in Net Loans Receivable.