



Twenty on the Twenty

A 20-second (or so) monthly update about co-op development in the Pacific Northwest provided to you on or about the 20th of each month. **Please share with your network!**

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NWCDC Staff Retreat



The Bubble Agenda from the Retreat

The day long retreat involved discussions around multiculturalism, drama triangles, empowerment dynamics, personal and group accountability, and "real-talk" check-ins. A major takeaway from the day was the NWDC Community Contract that focused mostly on communication between the group members.

Staff came away engaged and excited about building stronger engagement with one another, NWDC clients, and the GRuB Community.

NWCDC held its first staff retreat as Albee Gardens in Olympia. Kim Gaffi and Kerensa Mabwa from GRuB, an Olympia-based non-profit with the aim of "growing healthy food, people and communities".

In addition to the facilitators from GRuB, a number of helpers included the dogs and cats that populate the gardens created a relaxed atmosphere.



Kim Gaffi and Sam Green and co-facilitators at Albee Gardens.

A Quick Round of of NWDC Activity

- Rural Cooperative Magazine published an article on [Dynamic Governance](#) written by John McNamara.
- Sp'q'ni Food Truck organizer Norm LeBret, with John McNamara, met with the Sp'q'ni Business Council Board about the project and working towards a farm-to-table mobile food system. The Board endorsed the proposal and NWDC looks forward to helping the Food Truck Co-op begin work on a bigger project.

Skyline Begins Operations and Plans the Future

Skyline Homeowners Cooperative in Moses Lake, Washington, the newest Resident Owned Community (ROC) in the Pacific Northwest, is wrapping up it's second month in operations. This is not an easy task for the hard working board of director and membership (36 member households!). The board has been busy as always, knocking on doors to inform members of new procedures and policies, announcing the upcoming board election meeting, and collecting member dues and occupancy agreements. A volunteer operations committee has been formed which meets once a month and makes recommendations and decisions on repairs and community improvements. The community runs their own electrical meter system, and member Bill Gildow has stepped as lead volunteer for reading the meters and reporting out to management. The group is already reaching out to gather bids to replace their water system that hasn't been upgraded since the 60s. Top on the agenda for next weeks operations meeting is weatherizing pipes for the harsh Eastern Washington winters. Congratulations Skyline Co-op and and best of luck with the election!



Members of the Skyline Homeowners Cooperative and Ponderosa Homeowners Cooperative alongside staff from Banner Bank and Coldwell Banker Property Management in Moses Lake, WA.

Elmwood Co-op Begins Major Infrastructure Improvement

The board at Elmwood has signed the contract to begin Phase 1 of their sewer connection project. This phase includes the mapping, survey, and design work for the project. They are hoping to begin Phase 2 in November. The overall project would draw from both ROC-USA financing supported by the Washington State Housing Finance Commission and significant grant funding through Pierce County's SHB 2060 program.

The beginning of Phase 1 marks a significant step for this project, which had a number stakeholders involved in its formulation including State, County and local government agencies.

Capital Homecare Coop Fun-Raises

The [Capital Homecare Cooperative](#) initiated a crowdfunding campaign this month. You can donate directly at [StartSomeGood](#). They hope to raise \$10,000 to cover basic start-up costs and offset how much they will need through debt-equity.

In addition, they will be hosting the "**Come As You Aren't Costume Bash and Dance Party**" at **Obsidian Venue and Lounge** across the street from our offices at **414 4th Avenue East** on **October 26th from 7-10**

pm. The party will be a fundraiser and feature music by **Rooster Crow** (anchored by NWCDC's own **Miles Nowlin**), Tarot readings, a Costume Contest, and a kissing booth.

If you are in Olympia, join the fun or donate on-line!

CHC hopes to be operational by January 1, 2018.



Help us provide technical assistance to co-ops!

You don't have to wait for the end of the year to support our programs! You can provide a **tax deductible** one-time donation or monthly sustaining gift to help fund the work of co-op development!

You may earmark specific projects.

DONATE NOW!

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