

Activities at the EWRRC



opportunity
council

Below you'll find a list of events or activities (both past and present) that have been hosted at the East Whatcom Regional Resource Center, sorted by topic. Many of these events were created, supported or made possible by partner organizations and community volunteers. Please reach out if you would like to see more!

Classes

- Afterschool Programing: Dance, Martial Arts, Theater (YMCA run with Opportunity Council (OC) support)
- CERT Classes (CERT led with OC support)
- Canning Workshop (WSU Master Gardeners run and OC supported)
- Cooking Matters Classes (SeaMar run and OC supported)
- Energy Efficiency Classes (OC run with Foothills Food Bank support)
- Free exercise classes from local inst. who later charged & no charge from SeaMar instructor (OC supported)
- First Aid and CPR (Fire Department, Community Member led with OC support)
- Goodwill Job Training and ESL Classes (Goodwill run and OC supported)
- Parent Education Courses (Bridget Collins led OC and WCHD supported)
- Senior Health Classes (YMCA led & OC supported)

Community

- Annual Volunteer Appreciation Events (OC run with one year being supported by The Volunteer Center of Whatcom)
- Autumn Fairs (OC run and EWCC supported)
- Book Group (OC led)
- Community Design for buildings 2 & 3 based on Strategic Planning(Community Member, Bellingham Food Bank, Whatcom County, Whatcom County Parks Department, East Whatcom Community Council, Foothills Food Bank, supported, led by E-Works Community Design Center)
- Community Senior Movie Matinees (OC and EWCC run)
- Kendall Summerfest (Community Member and WFCN run with OC, EWCC and WCHD support)
- Outdoor Movie Nights (OC and EWCC run)
- Resource Fair with Community Hot Dog Dinner (OC Led with EWCC support)
- Spring Fairs (OC run and EWCC supported)
- Strategic Planning in 2011, 2015/16, and upcoming in April 21 & 28 6-8PM 2022 (OC and EWCC supported)
- Voter Registration Support (League of Women Voters run and OC and FFB supported)
- Walking Space indoors (Community Member run and OC and EWCC supported)
- Weekly Coffee & Tea with little one play area (OC run with volunteer host who onboarded after a few years)
- Weekly Game Time (OC led)

Employment

- Goodwill Job Training and ESL Classes (Goodwill run and OC supported)
- Employment Fair (OC run, multiple organization supported)

Elder

- Senior (Pre-COVID-19) Vaccine Clinics (OC and Provider Led)
- Elder Weekly Gatherings with various themes and activities (community led by a group called KWEST and EWCC supported- NEW Group Starts April 13th 2022 on Wednesdays 2-4PM)
- Aging Well Cook, Craft, & Connect 2022 Project (FFB Led with WCHD, OC, TSM, WCoA,CHF,WSU SNAPed)
- Senior Movie Matinees (OC run and EWCC supported)
- Focus Group to learn more about what seniors would like to see at the EWRRC
- YMCA Health Classes- (OC supported and YMCA run)

Entertainment

- Afterschool Programing: Dance, Martial Arts, Theater (YMCA run with OC support)
- Community Movie Nights (OC and EWCC run)
- Outdoor Movie Nights (OC and EWCC run)
- Autumn Pie Contest (OC led)
- Senior Movie Matinees (OC run and EWCC supported)
- Weekly Game Time (OC led)

Family

- Autumn Fairs (OC run and EWCC supported)
- Community Meals (EWCC, WCHD Volunteer and OC led)
- Community Movie Nights (OC and EWCC run)
- Cooking Matters Classes (SeaMar run and OC supported)
- Kendall Summerfest (Community Member and WFCN run with OC, EWCC and WCHD support)
- Labyrinth Walk (Community member run and OC supported)
- Outdoor Movie Nights (OC and EWCC run)
- Parent Education Courses (Bridget Collins led OC and WCHD supported)
- Parent Support Group (parent and OC led)
- Spring Fairs (OC run and EWCC supported)
- Weekly Coffee & Tea with little one play area (OC run with volunteer host who onboarded after a few years)
- Weekly Game Time (OC led)

Food

- Canning Workshop (WSU Master Gardeners run and OC supported)
- Cooking Matters Classes (SeaMar run and OC supported)
- Mobile Food Pantry (Foothills Foodbank led with community member and OC support)
- SNAP Food Recipe Tasting Station (WSU SNAP ED run with OC and Foothills Foodbank Support)
- Spring and Winter Pantry (Foothills Foodbank led with community member and OC support)
- Weekly Coffee & Tea with little one play area (OC run with volunteer host who onboarded after a few years)

Health

- Child and Senior Vaccine Clinics (pre-covid) (OC and Provider Led)
- Exercise classes by local instructors who charged and SeaMar who did it for free (OC supported)
- First Aid and CPR (Fire Department, Community Member led with OC support)
- Labyrinth Walk (Community member run and OC supported)
- Meditation Group (Community Member Led OC support)
- Monthly Healthcare Services Meeting (OC convened with support from PeaceHealth, WCHD, & other partners)
- Pop up Health Clinics (OC and Provider Led)
- Walking Space indoors (Community Member run and OC and EWCC supported)

Home

- Energy Efficiency Classes (OC run with Foothills Food Bank support)
- Garden Plant sales (EWCC Garden Committee run and OC supported)
- Houseless Neighbor Support/Outreach (OC and community member run)
- Septic Tank Classes (WCHD led and OC supported)
- Woodstove Education Workshops (NWCA run)

Information & Resource Outreach

- Autumn Fairs (OC run and EWCC supported)
- Community Design for buildings 2 & 3 based on Strategic Planning (Community Member, Bellingham Food Bank, Whatcom County, Whatcom County Parks Department, East Whatcom Community Council, Foothills Food Bank, supported, led by E-Works Community Design Center)
- Houseless Neighbor Support/Outreach (OC and community member run)
- Pop-up outreach tables at events in the community (OC run)
- Resource Fairs (OC run and EWCC supported)
- Spring Fairs (OC run and EWCC supported)
- Strategic Planning in 2011, 2015/16, and upcoming in 2022 (Community, OC and EWCC supported)
- Voter Registration Support (League of Women Voters run and OC and FFB supported)
- Woodstove Education Workshops (NWCA run)

Legal/ Financial

- Annual Tax Help (OC run)
- Notary Services (OC run)
- Legal Aid ACCESS ID (Law Advocates run OC supported)

Pet

- Pet Education Series for youth (WHS run OC supported)
- Pet Food Bank (OC and Community Member Led with Donations from WHS and Community Drives)

Safety

- CERT Classes (CERT led with OC support)
- First Aid and CPR (Fire Department, Community Member led with OC support)

Support Groups

- DVSAS Walk-in hours (DVSAS led and OC supported)
- DVSAS Youth Support Group NEW! in 2022 (DVSAS led and OC supported)
- Houseless Neighbor Support/Outreach (OC and community member run)
- NAMI Support Groups (HMN started, NAMI and volunteer run with OC support)
- Parent Support Group (parent and OC led)

Veterans

- Veterans Support (Veterans Support Services, local volunteers led and OC supported)
- Veterans Homeless Housing applications (OC led)

Youth

- Afterschool Programing: Dance, Martial Arts, Theater (YMCA run with OC support)
- Child Vaccine Clinics (pre-COVID-19) (OC and Provider Led)
- DVSAS Youth Support Group (DVSAS led and OC supported)
- Pet Education Series for youth (WHS run OC supported)
- Spring and Winter Pantry (Foothills Foodbank led with community member and OC support)
- Teen Time (OC led)

Additional Information

- Support includes: outreach networks, planning help, posting at bulletin boards, printing, scheduling of space, finding volunteers, referring and helping folks sign up for activities, set up tear down assistance, no cost use of the space, etc.
- Run means: the entity/people named staffed the program.
- EWCC is the East Whatcom Community Council who helps to guide the work of the EWRRRC.
- Please note this list is not exhaustive and some listings are in more than one location due to the multiple ways they connect with our community. Any program you would like to see happen again has a precedence for existing and there are some lessons learned which may support a future activity. Please feel free to reach out to the coordinator to learn more. Currently this is Jessica Bee at jessica_bee@oppco.org
- Programs with a consistent community member or members who ran/hosted the activity consistently create sustainability and interest. Opportunity Council actively supports these actions whenever possible.

Services at the EWRRC

Below are the services we offer here at the East Whatcom Regional Resource Center and the services we support folks in accessing. If you don't see what you're looking for, please ask; we love to improve our offerings and support the community we love! *All, items with asterisk were community requested.*



On the Grounds

- Bus stop*
- Community Garden* (pre-registration necessary for a space)
- Foothills Food Bank example garden
- Grassy fields for playing, picnics & dog walking
- Head Start
- Common Threads Garden
- EWRRC Emergency Shelter (If indicated by Incident Command)
- Picnic Tables*
- Wi-Fi hot spots with posted information at both buildings*

Community Activity Opportunities

- Annual Summerfest via Local Volunteers and WFCN*
- Building Space for Community and Private Events*
- COVID-19 Vaccines on site weekly through March 2022*
- East Whatcom Gets Active Classes* (Columbia Valley Park & Recreation District)
- Foothills Community Art Project Viewing in building 1&2
- Foothills Foodbank Shopping Distribution* Tues. 8am-12pm
- Mobile Food Pantry* 1st Saturday & 3rd Friday
- Quarterly Healthcare Pop-Up Clinics*
- School Break Youth Activities: Spring and Summer*
- Summer Meal Program with MBSD and Common Threads
- Community Meals run by the East Whatcom Community Council
- Teen Time D&D Fridays @ 4:30PM via zoom
- Teen Peer Support Monthly Groups
- Senior Activity Wednesdays*
- Aging Well Senior Quarterly Programing*

On-Site Resources

- Blankets*
- Bulletin Board*
- Bus Schedules*
- Charging for devices
- Clothing/household items*
- Community flyers
- Computer use*
- Condoms
- Copies/Printing*
- Courtesy Phone *
- Employment Hot Sheet *
(local job openings)
- Faxes*
- Feminine Hygiene Kits
- Emergency Food Resources
- Emergency Shelter
- Hand Sanitizer
- Homeless Housing Applications*
- Job search & Resume help*
- Little Free Library Books
- Maps of the area
- Masks
- Notary*
- Personal Hygiene -soap, toothbrushes, etc
- Pet Food*
- PSE Starter Emergency Kit for Qualified households
- Resource information sheets and brochures*
- School Supplies*
- Toys/Games & Puzzles
- Season Specific Clothing
- Water access*
- WTA Bus Passes 18 rides per month*

Referral Resources

- Basic Food EBT application support*
- Childcare*
- Community Activities & Information*
- Community Group Involvement Info:
Neighborhood Watch, Foothills Community Alliance, Columbia Valley Community Connections, Friends of the Library, etc*
- DVSAS
- Education Access: College, Goodwill Job Training, Etc
- Elder Resources*
- Email to print for legal and other documents*
- Emergency Shelter
- Employment Support: resumes, job training*
- Energy assistance information*
- EWRRRC Podcast On KAVZ 102.5
- Farmers Market Vouchers*
- Financial Assistance*
- Emergency food options*
- Furniture*
- Head Start*
- Healthcare*
- Holiday Gift Support*
- Home Business Information and Support
- Home repair*
- Housing for the unhoused*
- Housing to rent*
- Kinship Caregiver Support
- Legal Aid*
- Medicaid Transportation*
- Senior Meals on Wheels*
- Teen Programs*
- Unhoused Youth Services
- Veterans Services*
- Volunteer and Donation Opportunities*
- Water Assistance*
- Weatherization*
- Woodstove Information