

## Getting Ready for Winter

### CAMP weatherizes homes for people on a limited income

Fall is a beautiful time of year in Seattle. Driving through the local neighborhoods, the tree-lined streets of historic homes are especially charming under the colorful foliage. But many families and homeowners are struggling to keep up with the costs of living in an older home. From maintaining the roof to keeping the furnace running efficiently, the list of repairs can be endless.

Joanna, a CAMP client for about six years, had to take early retirement due to some health issues. As a working professional, Joanna didn't expect to need help at this point in her life. However, her fixed Social Security income is not enough to cover all of her living expenses. At CAMP, our Energy Assistance Program helps Joanna get her furnace serviced annually through her oil company. She is grateful for this preventative maintenance, which averts emergencies and extends the life of the furnace. "It's a relatively small amount of assistance for a huge impact," she said. We also helped to install energy-efficient windows and a heat pump in her home. This saves her money in the long-term by reducing her energy bills. "I won't have to choose between eating and heating," she said.

When she first came to CAMP, Joanna felt treated with a great deal of dignity and respect. "There was no sense of being de-valued for needing assistance," she said. Overall, our services have added stability to Joanna's life. "CAMP's Energy Assistance Program is not simply aimed at a short, one-time fix. They are addressing longer-term issues that help me to stay in the home I own. Without CAMP's help, I might have had to sell my house and move into senior housing. I feel incredibly blessed. Their assistance relieved a lot of my stress," she said.

We offer several services to help people get their homes ready for winter. Last season, we provided nearly \$1 million to 450 homeowners.



On average each homeowner received \$2,170 for home services and repairs. As part of the Energy Assistance Program, we provide up to \$1,000 per season for homeowners to fix or repair broken windows,

clean chimneys, and make small roof repairs and up to \$5,000 to service, repair, or replace a home's furnace or heating system. If you or someone you know needs assistance, please call (206) 812-4940 to speak with our staff.

## ClientTrack Helps Improve Client Service

CAMP recently implemented a new software called ClientTrack to help us improve the delivery of our services, such as gathering client information on special dietary needs in our Food Bank. We would like to give a special thanks to the volunteers who have helped to enter over 800 clients into our new database over the past few months. It is wonderful to have the support of our community!



### Thank You to our Project Volunteers

Abeni Edwards  
Betty Jimerson  
Jennifer Rouse  
Lafay Latif

Marc Gonzales  
Omega Williams  
Rebekah Fisher  
Seattle University Faculty and Staff Group

Seattle University MBA Student Group  
Senait Habte  
Tabitha Borchardt  
Tyler Kamins

## Staff Spotlight: Minh Dinh



Minh may very well be CAMP's best-kept secret! He runs our Housing Assistance Program helping clients with rental assistance to prevent eviction. If CAMP is unable to provide the services a client needs, Minh goes the extra mile to find another agency that does. Before we were lucky enough to have Minh on the CAMP team, he worked at the International District Housing Alliance as a social worker supporting residents in the Rainier Vista and Yesler Terrace communities. "What I like about working at CAMP is knowing that I'm making a difference by preventing families from becoming homeless," Minh said.

Minh's days are spent meeting with clients, helping them fill out applications, connecting them with the right programs and resources, and answering their questions. A man of many talents, he also speaks fluent Vietnamese and will help out as a Vietnamese interpreter when needed. "People everywhere have been so affected by the recession," Minh said. "Whatever I can do to ease their burden, I feel good at the end of the day."

When Minh is not solving housing issues he likes...bear wrestling? "Just kidding!" Minh said. "I enjoy camping and hiking, and most of all working out." Another little known fact about Minh: He can dance like Mick Jagger.

"Just kidding again," Minh laughed. It's always the quiet ones that have the crazy sense of humor! Well Minh, we can't wait to see the next time you decide to break out some dance moves at CAMP.

## Program Focus: Housing Assistance

On any given night, more than 8,000 people experience homelessness in King County. Homelessness can happen to anyone—families that cannot find employment, people with disabilities, or any number of unforeseen circumstances. CAMP's Housing Assistance Program prevents homelessness by helping clients to secure and maintain affordable housing. This program helps people that are at risk for eviction by financially assisting them with late rent payments. CAMP also partners with many local housing organizations that offer temporary, transitional, and permanent affordable housing for those clients that need referrals. Clients who are eligible for our Energy Assistance Program may also qualify for our Housing Assistance Program. Each season, CAMP serves about 200 individuals and families through housing assistance.

## Housing Assistance Partners

Ballard Food Bank

Neighborhood House

Capitol Hill Housing Improvement Program

Plymouth Housing Group

Catholic Community Services

Salvation Army

El Centro de la Raza

Seattle Housing Authority

Low-Income Housing Institute

St. Vincent de Paul

University Church



## Upcoming Events

- **Oct 5 - Dec 17:** Amazon Employees Adopt-a-Family Christmas Drive
- **Oct 3 - Nov 18:** King County Employee Giving Program Annual Drive
- **Nov 14 - 18:** Swedish Medical Center's Cherry Hill Campus Food Drive
- **Nov 28 - Dec 16:** Swedish Medical Center's Cherry Hill Campus Holiday Giving Drive

## How Can You Help?

- Tell others about CAMP's positive impact in the community
- Donate money
- Sponsor a program or event
- Host a food drive at your workplace
- Donate to CAMP through your employee-giving program
- Leave a legacy by naming CAMP in your will

*"CAMP provided a new furnace for me, but it meant so much more to me than that. For the first time in a long time, I had hope, the feeling that there were people that cared out there and I wasn't alone."*

**- Donna Jo, CAMP Energy Assistance Client**



## 12 Children Attend Islandwood's Sleep-Away Camp

In August, with the help of our program supporters, we sponsored 12 children from low-income families to attend Islandwood's Sleep-Away Camp on Bainbridge Island. Islandwood is a unique 255-acre outdoor learning center designed to provide exceptional learning experiences and inspire lifelong environmental and community stewardship.

Here's what one of our parents shared about the experience: "Lucy had a wonderful time playing, learning and doing all kinds of active outdoor stuff. She came home really happy. This was the first time that she went away to a camp—especially where she didn't know anybody. She was a little nervous and shy when she got there, but immediately made three new friends with her bunkmates."

### Thank You Program Supporters

Cascade Oil Company

Evergreen Power Systems, Inc.

Duro Heating Service

Powers Chimney & Masonry, LLC

Emerald City Chimney

Sound Oil

## Our Mission

Central Area Motivation Program (CAMP) is dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other as they move from poverty to self-sufficiency through programs and advocacy. We seek to create a healthy, thriving world free of poverty. Our organization values excellence, compassion, responsiveness, innovation, resiliency, and diversity.

## Learn about CAMP Online

- Visit [www.CAMPSeattle.org](http://www.CAMPSeattle.org)
- Download our 2010-2012 Strategic Plan
- Review results from our 2010 Community Needs Assessment
- Read client stories and the latest news on fighting poverty in Seattle
- Join us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/campseattle](http://www.facebook.com/campseattle)

## Contact Us

**722 18th Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98122  
(206) 812-4940**

# About CAMP

NON-PROFIT  
ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
SEATTLE, WA  
PERMIT 882

CENTRAL AREA MOTIVATION PROGRAM



CAMP serves a diverse group of low-income families, seniors, refugees and immigrants, and people with disabilities in Seattle through advocacy and programs. We help people of all cultures to meet their needs for food, housing, and financial education. We're committed to ending the cycle of urban poverty by helping move more families towards stability and self-sufficiency. Our programs include:

- **Energy Assistance:** Helps Seattle households with home-heating costs and improving energy conservation.
- **Other Energy Services:** Provides repair and replacement of broken furnaces or windows.
- **Housing Assistance:** Prevents homelessness through eviction prevention and move-in assistance.
- **Food Bank:** Provides nutritious food five days a week through walk-in service and home delivery.
- **Financial Literacy:** Improves financial stability by teaching clients about money management, banking, and credit.

**Learn more at [www.CAMPSeattle.org](http://www.CAMPSeattle.org)**