



Area: 6,347 sq mi • Population: 42,000-44,900 • Average Number of Households: 18,760

Serving all of Siskiyou County!



GREAT NORTHERN
- services -

Weaving a stronger community, together...

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

“Being disabled I spent the majority of the winter months in my apartment wearing a heavy jacket, hat, leg warmers and sometimes gloves. Watching the clock for how long the heater was running and petrified to open my power bill. I am widowed, without any remaining family, so there is no backup or safety net for me to access. When I discovered your Energy Assistance Program it was a Godsend! I had almost forgotten what it was like to be warm and comfortable all day. To stay warm after my shower. To experience less pain from my rheumatoid arthritis. Then to sleep deeply and for more than 2 hours at a time. I cannot fully express the extent of my thankfulness for what this program contributes to my well-being and quality of life during our cold winter months.”

Shireen Ann N., Weed CA

HIGHLIGHTS FROM NEARLY 5 DECADES OF PARTNERSHIP AND SERVICE

Energy and Weatherization

Over \$25 million directed to secure energy assistance for 62,500+ households.

\$31.5 million invested in weatherization improvements for over 9,000 homes.

Community Development

114 business loans totalling \$9.5 million, resulting in the creation of 400 jobs.

Over \$25 million allocated to support housing rehabilitation, benefiting over 300 homes in various municipalities within Siskiyou County.

Infrastructure projects spanning all 10 Siskiyou County jurisdictions, with investments exceeding \$20 million.

Community Services

Aid extended to over 556,000 individuals through food commodities and emergency distributions across 23 sites.

11 Emergency Food Pantry Sites provided assistance to over 178,600 people.

Two Soup Kitchens served over 371,520 meals, benefiting 143,000 individuals in need.



Sustaining Local Economies

Annual expenditure averages \$1.5M with local vendors.

Provides steady employment for 30 individuals year-round.

Great Northern Services operates as a nonprofit organization dedicated to addressing pressing community needs in pursuit of our mission. Unlike for-profit entities, our primary aim is not to generate profits for individuals but to promote positive change within our community. We rely on a diverse funding base, including administration of federally funded assistance programs, generous donations, and grants. Any surplus funds are reinvested directly into advancing our mission. Governed by a dedicated board of directors, we adhere rigorously to regulatory standards to maintain our tax-exempt status. This report underscores our unwavering commitment to transparency and the effective utilization of resources to fulfill our organizational goals, ensuring that every dollar contributes meaningfully to our collective vision of a stronger, more vibrant community.

Established in 1978, Great Northern Services (GNS) embarked on its journey with a singular mission and humble beginnings. Since then, the organization has undergone a remarkable transformation, growing from a solitary employee and a modest grant into a thriving entity comprising more than 30 dedicated professionals.

GNS takes pride in its esteemed staff, each excelling in their respective fields. With an in-depth understanding of the unique challenges faced by the community, these professionals offer tailored solutions and steady support to individuals in need.

GNS has, throughout its history, showcased constant dedication to the community by managing an array of extensive programs touching the lives of hundreds of thousands. These undertakings span a spectrum of essential areas, from home energy assistance and home weatherization to senior nutrition services and emergency food assistance. With a proactive and caring approach, the organization has touched the lives of countless individuals, ensuring that fundamental needs are met, and vital services are delivered.

Furthermore, GNS plays a pivotal role in administering Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds

for local jurisdictions. Over the years, GNS has collaborated with various cities, including Dunsmuir, Mt. Shasta, Weed, Dorris, Fort Jones, Etna, Yreka, Tulelake, Montague, as well as Siskiyou County, to complete projects of enduring impact. This has included facilitating economic development through securing substantial loans for local businesses, thus creating numerous job opportunities. The organization has also been instrumental in supporting housing rehabilitation efforts, channeling significant funds into rejuvenating homes in many communities. GNS' role extends beyond this, as we have provided crucial support in grant writing and the management of projects aimed at enhancing critical infrastructure, such as water and sewer systems, and other essential public services elevating the living standards for communities across Siskiyou County.

In addition to these sustained efforts, Great Northern Services takes pride in its dynamic approach to community needs. Some programs are short-lived, tailored to provide solutions as new challenges emerge. This adaptability ensures that we continue to meet the evolving needs of the community, reinforcing our commitment to making a lasting impact.

Even in the face of adversity, as seen during the devastating 2014 Boles Fire in Weed, GNS demonstrated remarkable resilience. Swiftly relocating its operations and resuming its needed programs within days of losing our offices, the organization showcased its adaptability and dedication to the community's well-being.

Great Northern Services embodies the spirit of community service through its support, adaptability, and resilience. Its legacy transcends mere numbers and programs, finding its deepest resonance in the countless lives it has transformed and the communities it has lifted up. GNS has etched an indelible mark that will endure through time as a proof to the enduring power of community care and commitment.

DYNAMIC PILLARS & AGILE PIVOTS: ALWAYS READY TO RESPOND

Great Northern Services plays a crucial role in the administration of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for local jurisdictions that have received awards.

Our specialization lies in various key areas, including writing and overseeing grants directed towards the rehabilitation of sub-standard homes and the enhancement of critical infrastructure such as water and sewer systems,

alongside other essential public services. GNS boasts a dedicated staff with expertise spanning a range of fields, including Public Works Projects, Environmental Reviews, Weatherization, Community Facility Rehabilitation, and Prevailing Wage Certification.

Our role is multifaceted, encompassing technical assistance, in-depth research into available funding options, and close collaboration with community partners on specific projects. As part of our contractual responsibilities, we diligently oversee wage compliance on all public works projects, conduct employee interviews, and ensure the precise use of language in all contracts.

Additionally, we extend our support to other nonprofit organizations by assisting them in the administration and reporting processes for their grants.

RECORD-BREAKING NUMBERS

\$2,991,231
secured for jurisdictions

\$1,277,526
administered

\$1,720,311
spent for energy Assistance

\$850,783
invested weatherizing homes

374,774
pounds of food delivered

18,540
miles driven

ENERGY DEPARTMENT

Great Northern Services' work and impact is anchored by two programs: weatherization and energy assistance. Through these pillars of service, we've reached thousands and thousands of households, providing support in times of need and challenge.

The Weatherization Program serves residents by making their homes more energy efficient, meaning they're warmer in the winter and have reduced heating costs. The department, thanks to its federal and private funding sources, has become more nimble to meet a wider array of issues with a growing tool box of services.

The Energy Program helps households struggling to pay their energy bill by providing a direct grant payment to utility or heating providers. In recent years, federal funding programs have enabled the assistance to grow to include water bills, cooling and air purifying in times of wildfire.

Great Northern Services operates senior and child nutrition programs, along with providing emergency food services to those in need, while supporting community partners such as food pantries and school mini pantries. The department's growth remains significant as staff, community members, and volunteers

continuously explore new approaches to address the expanding needs and prevent hunger across all age groups.

Since 2013, this innovative department has consistently identified various needs within our communities. Through diligent efforts, we strive to discover innovative resources and develop effective strategies that uplift lives and enrich the societal fabric.

Our programs include the Siskiyou Senior Nutrition & Community Café, School Mini Pantries, Holiday Baskets, Snack Bags, and the distribution of USDA Food Commodities, including emergency food and senior commodity boxes.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Great Northern Services' mission is to invigorate communities by initiating positive social change to improve economic conditions.

I have the highest respect for an organization who looks after those to help them to look after themselves. We have all been, or know, the single mother supporting her children. Many of us have wondered how we can pay the heating bill. We all know of those who need more food on the table. We all know of our elders who are hungry. There is no lack of those in need. It is right here in our community. For those of us who live here, it is important to stay focused on where contributions make a difference. When we uplift those in our environs, we uplift all of us.

Jessie Zapffe, Mount Shasta CA

But, we can't do it alone...

Your generous donations have been the lifeblood of our work, ensuring that our services remain not just operational, but thriving. Every contribution, no matter the size, plays a pivotal role in fueling our mission. It's your support that enables us to keep the lights on, the programs running, and the positive impact rippling through countless lives. In these trying times, your involvement is more crucial than ever. By joining hands with us, you become a catalyst for change, and a partner in creating a better tomorrow for all.

Whether you contribute monetarily, volunteer your time, or share our story, your involvement magnifies our reach and strengthens our ability to make a real difference. So, let's stand together. Let's build a future where compassion knows no bounds, where opportunities abound, and where every individual, regardless of their background, can thrive. Your support isn't just a donation; it's an investment in a brighter, more equitable world.

Join us in this noble pursuit. Be a part of our journey. Your impact starts now – be the change you wish to see. Together, we can transform lives, one act of kindness at a time. Join us in making a difference, donate today!

Great Northern Services is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit recognized by the IRS



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