

Total Number of Persons Served	89
Number of Adults (age 18 or over)	57
Number of Children (under age 18)	32
Youth (18-24)	4
Adults	
Male	24
Female	29
Non-Binary	1
Different Identity	1
Race and Ethnicity	
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	1
Hispanic/Latina/e/o	4
White	71
White & American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	2
Hispanic/Latina/e/o & Black, African American, or African	4
White & Hispanic/Latina/e/o	7
Veterans	
Total Veterans	0
Domestic Violence History	
Yes	26
No	31

January At the Columbia Inn

The new year met Columbia Inn with many highs and a heartbreaking low. January started with 6 units moving to permanent housing situations, and we were able to see and feel like what we were doing was really working. We had a daily average of around sixty people, twenty of them being minor children. Twenty of the sweetest, kindest, most polite, and grateful kids around. They bring us, on the staff, so much happiness. We hosted a make your own pizza event that was a huge hit and brought lots of smiles. Our plan is to have a weekly event for the children, including crafts, cooking, and games. A fun weekly break for the kiddos and the staff!

Mid-month was a bit rough as the whole town was frozen over. Columbia Inn remained staffed throughout the storm, with staff walking (sliding) to work, braving the drive, or with the much-appreciated rides from the Astoria Police Department. CCA was also able to open an emergency shelter for four nights during this time, again with the help of Astoria Police Department's safe rides.

Unable to travel to pick up meals during the storm, the staff prepared meals in house for the guest. These "home-made" meals brought as much joy to the staff preparing them as they did to the folks who were eating them. This led us to make the decision to put the meal pick up on hold and attempt to make the meals here for now. So far it has been a huge success, bringing lots of happiness to the guest and staff. We have had some visiting "chefs" who have

prepared some amazing meals! It's truly been a highlight of the month for all involved.

Unfortunately, we lost a young man to an accidental overdose in January. All the proper procedures were followed, and staff did everything they could. Devasted and heartbroken, the staff rallied around each other, offering love, support, words of encouragement and always a

Columbia Inn Report – January 2024



listening ear. CCA and their board offered support and insured that the needs of the staff were all met, community partners reached out, there was an outpouring of kindness when we really needed it.

Through the ups and downs of January we learned a lot, about ourselves, each other, our community partners, and sadly the unprecedented Fentanyl crisis.

- Cheryl Paul



Rides for staff provided by Law Enforcement during the storm



Build-Your-Own Pizza Night at the Columbia. (photos used with permission)

