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## NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Federal Funds Available to Local Emergency Food and Shelter Providers**

**Bellingham** — Whatcom County will receive federal funds to supplement emergency food and shelter programs of non-profit and government agencies during the coming year.

Public or private organizations interested in applying for Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds must attend a Technical Assistance Meeting at 9 AM on **April 8, 2015** at the United Way office, 1500 Cornwall Ave., Suite 203, Bellingham. All applicants must attend. To register for the meeting, contact United Way, [janet@unitedwaywhatcom.org](mailto:janet@unitedwaywhatcom.org) or 360-733-8670.

The deadline for completed applications is **April 15, 2015** at 3 pm.

Under terms of the federal grant, local organizations chosen to receive funds must: 1) be private voluntary non-profits or units of government, 2) have an accounting system, 3) practice non-discrimination, 4) have demonstrated the capacity to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs, and 5) if they are a private voluntary organization, they must have a voluntary board. Qualifying organizations are urged to apply.

A Local Board will determine how the funds are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local service organizations in the area. The Local Board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds and any additional funds available under this program.

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