

A WORD FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Dear Friends:

I am very pleased to share the results of our efforts for fiscal year 2014. The Washington Access Fund's commitment to improving financing opportunities for people with disabilities who need assistive technology and business equipment is at the core of our work. During 2014 we made it easier for people to get the modified vehicles or home modifications they need by increasing our loan amounts to \$25,000. We made more loans for assistive technology and business equipment in 2014 than we made in any prior year – a total of 112.

People with disabilities experience poverty at twice the rate of those without disabilities and are twice as likely to be unemployed. Because nearly 90% of our clients are low-income, we are confident that in 2014 we are reaching those who need our services the most. In 2014 the number of clients served through our matched-savings Individual Development Account (IDA) program, which is only available to low-income people with disabilities, grew from 57 to 112.

While 2014 was a year of progress in many ways for us, we also felt a deep loss as our long-time friend and the Chair of our board, Ron Adams, unexpectedly passed away. We honored Ron and his commitment to those we serve by naming our Outstanding Client Award after him.

I write this following the completion of my first year as Executive Director. My predecessor, Frances Pennell, has been the heart and soul of the organization since its founding. She was most gracious throughout the transition process and has continued to serve as a volunteer. We are all so thankful to her for her years of dedication and the standard of service she set for the organization.

The Washington Access Fund has been fortunate in having a fantastically devoted and efficient staff as those of you who have had the opportunity to work with them know. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank them for the vital contributions they make. I'd also like to thank our Board of Directors whose expertise and reliability have kept the organization on a positive path.

We all appreciate your support and partnership as we help people with disabilities help themselves.

Sincerely Yours,



Jack Brummel, Executive Director

MISSION

THE WASHINGTON ACCESS FUND

HELPS PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

IN WASHINGTON STATE ACHIEVE

FINANCIAL CAPABILITY AND

STABILITY BY IMPROVING

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES,

LEVERAGING COMMUNITY

RESOURCES, PROMOTING ACCESS

TO TECHNOLOGY AND BRIDGING

FUNDING GAPS THROUGH LOW-

INTEREST LOANS, MATCHED

SAVINGS, AND OTHER MEANS.



INDEPENDENCE
IS PRICELESS.
WE MAKE IT
AFFORDABLE.



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Suite 280
Seattle, WA 98104

STAMP

Want to get involved?

Visit our website to learn more about our Annual Awards Program.

washingtonaccessfund.org

View this report online at
washingtonaccessfund.org/2014-annual-report

2014

Here's what we got excited about in 2014:

- 1. Our loan caps increased from \$10,000 to \$25,000**
- 2. A new IDA program helped people find employment**
- 3. We celebrated our 10 year anniversary & \$2 million in loans!**

Now our loans can help more than ever before with larger assistive technology purchases like modified vehicles and home modifications. This long sought policy change was made possible by grants applied for and received in FY13 from the US Department of Education and the US Department of Treasury CDFI Fund.

The Disability Employment Initiative (DEI) was a new matched savings program launched as a test project in King & Snohomish Counties. Funded by a grant from the Dept. of Labor, the savings and match are used to purchase equipment for employment related goals. In FY14, 33 low income DEI job seekers saved \$50,360.

We celebrated 10 years of providing access to economic opportunity and technology for people with disabilities by inviting journalist, John Hockenberry, to speak at Town Hall and launching a new Awards Program honoring businesses, organizations and individuals who make a difference in the disability community in Washington.

— BRANDON, BORROWER

Through the Access Fund, I was able to get a car with hand controls.



— LORI, IDA SAVER

I was hired today for work and without the IDA I could not have applied.



My hearing aids have made such a difference in my personal and work life I cannot tell you!

— TIM, BORROWER





WASHINGTON ACCESS FUND

ANNUAL REPORT FY 2014

55 IDAs

New Matched Savings Accounts for low-income Washington residents with disabilities.

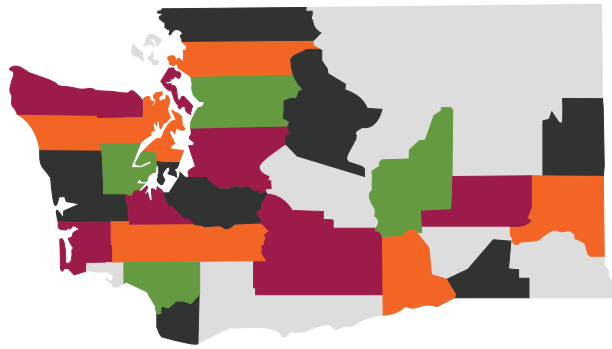
112 Loans

New Microloans to purchase assistive technology and start small businesses.

44 CCTVs

Desktop magnifiers rented to low-income Washington residents with low vision.

OUR GEOGRAPHIC REACH



Your contributions helped serve **443 people*** with disabilities in **24 counties** this year.
*112 IDA clients, 287 Loan clients, 44 CCTV clients

OUR DEMOGRAPHICS

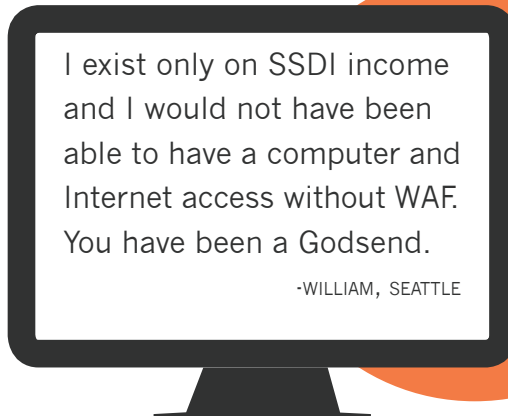
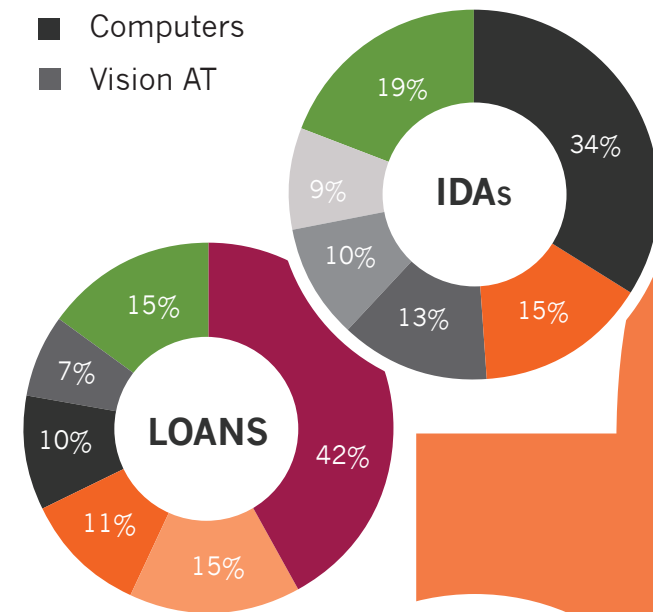
65% OF HOUSEHOLDS SERVED LIVE ON LESS THAN \$29,202

<50% median income 50%-80% median income 80%-100% median income >100% median income



TYPES OF ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FUNDED

- Hearing Aids
- Mobility
- Business Loan
- Computers
- Vision AT
- Communication
- Sport & Rec
- Other



I exist only on SSDI income and I would not have been able to have a computer and Internet access without WAF. You have been a Godsend.

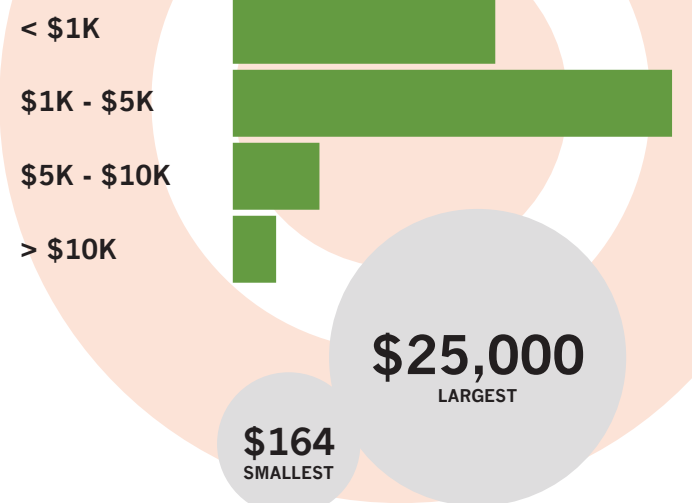
-WILLIAM, SEATTLE

Thanks so much. I can hear now.


WENDY, SPOKANE



LOANS BY SIZE



A CAR FOR MAYA

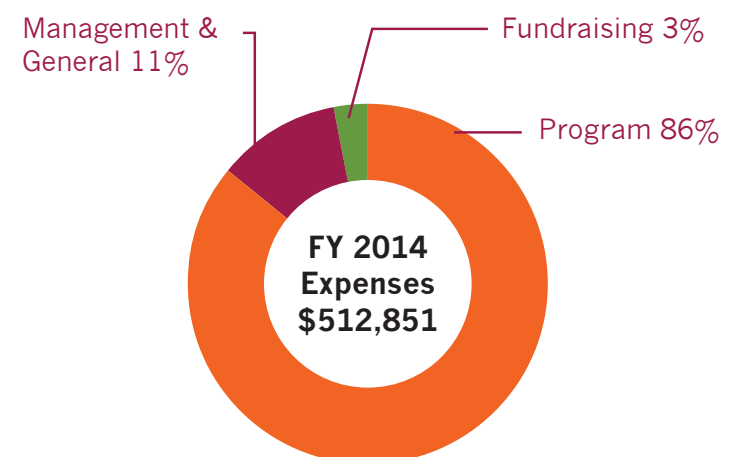
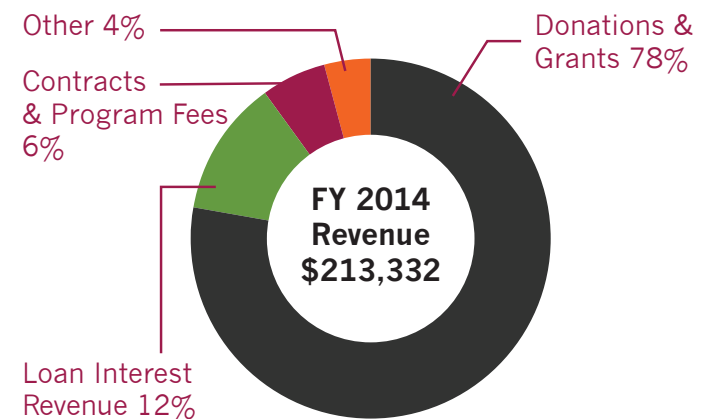


As they waited for the ambulance to arrive, Angel and his wife knew they had to get a new car. At six years old, Maya was getting too big to lift in and out of their car, and this time her feeding tube got tangled in the seatbelt strap and was ripped out. "She was so brave though. She's a tough girl," Angel says remembering the terrifying moment.

Maya was born with cerebral palsy, and when she was two years old she had a seizure that left her paralyzed below her neck. Her family cherishes her, saying she loves to laugh. As she grows older her assistive technology needs change too.

After having difficulty finding financing for a new van because of a sparse credit history, Angel was relieved to find that the Access Fund was willing to take chance on him. The Access Fund loan allowed them to purchase a modified van that will safely transport Maya and her wheelchair. "This is all about Maya," he says with a smile, "This car is for Maya."

REVENUE & EXPENSES



ADD IT UP: 10 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

MICROLOAN DOLLARS LOANED
\$2,191,550

DEFAULT RATE | **2.7%**

IDA MATCHING DOLLARS GRANTED
\$105,590

I am so thankful for this program. It has enabled me to return to school, and to work again.

-JASON, BELLEVUE

FY14 losses reflect allocations to loan loss reserves, new IDA commitments and program expenses funded via grants received in FY13 and earlier years. Net assets as of 9/30/14 totaled \$1,885,371 including \$588,886 in Loans Receivable.

Independence is priceless. We make it affordable.