

## Program Aimed at Transporting Food To Concrete Food Bank Receives Statewide Recognition

The partnership that began in early 2008 between Skagit Transit and Skagit County Community Action Agency to help transport food to the Concrete Food Bank recently received recognition for its good works. On March 23, at the Food Lifeline Excellence Awards reception in Shoreline, the Community Action Agency was recognized with the “Agency Excellence Award” for Excellence in Collaboration. The Honorable Mention award was given to highlight the collaborative efforts between Community Action, Skagit Transit, the Concrete Food Bank and Chinook Enterprises, which supplies volunteers who help load food into the Skagit Transit bus.

Two times each month, Skagit Transit’s Route 8 (which travels to Concrete to begin its route and is mostly empty at the time) is used to transport food from the Food Distribution Center in Sedro-Woolley to the outlying Concrete Food Bank. This food arrives at the food bank at just the right time for volunteers to unload it for clients.

The idea for this project began during a Leadership Skagit project in 2008, when the team discussed the logistical challenges of transporting food to the Concrete Food Bank, which is 40 minutes away from the Distribution

Center in Sedro-Woolley. Working with SCCAA and the Concrete Food Bank, this project became a reality, and the Concrete Food Bank is now able to offer an additional 9,600 pounds of food each year, in addition to saving the cost of fuel and time it would take to transport this food.



To learn more about Skagit Community Action Agency and the Food Bank Distribution Center, please contact Arielle Stein, Distribution Center Coordinator at (360) 416-7585, or visit [www.skagitcap.org](http://www.skagitcap.org). ■



Volunteers lend a hand with Skagit Transit’s inaugural stop at the Food Distribution Center in Sedro-Woolley.

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