

# Dream Bigger

Rebuilding Women & Children's Lives  
After Escaping Family Violence

## Micro-Loans & Micro-Enterprising

Women often lose employment due to excessive absences for court appearances and unique children's needs as well as abuser interference. Women's self-owned businesses provide a flexible work schedule for legal appointments and parenting obligations unique to children who've been exposed to the trauma of family violence.



Starting a new business is no easy task, especially for women rebuilding their lives after escaping violent homes. Dream Bigger has been privileged to assist women in starting and growing their own businesses, which builds confidence and develops a much-needed work history & experience. In addition to providing crucial income so she can provide for herself and her children, it also opens the door for her to further her education if she chooses to do so via her flexible schedule. What she thought would be impossible to do on her own, was made possible by our Dream Bigger supporters.

## College Degrees Birthed From Unique Scholarship Program

Attending College can be challenging for women after escaping family violence. While scholarships are advertised as plentiful, it isn't always as simple as just picking up an application. The process can be very time-consuming & overwhelming in the midst of dealing with domestic violence threats, court, housing problems, children's needs and poverty issues. Government educational grants will often provide for tuition and books for those who are low income, but most often there are additional unique circumstances that interfere with and interrupt the educational process for victims of family violence. Dream Bigger is privileged to walk through the application process one-on-one with each individual client, achieving college acceptance, grants and scholarships as well as developing solutions to unexpected situations that may occur.

We're so thankful for W.I.S.P., the Women's Independence Scholarship Program provided by Doris & Warren Buffett. Their generosity has been life-saving for our clients, reaching far above and beyond what the average scholarship can do. WISP provides our Dream Bigger clients with funds to cover expenses that would normally interrupt or completely derail educational career goals. When our students experience a car breakdown, lack of groceries, overwhelming medical expenses, or lack of basic living expenses for heat, lights & so on, Dream Bigger applies the Wisp Scholarship funds to cover those special needs, freeing the student to focus her time and



energies on succeeding in school rather than stressing about basic needs. We have watched women blossom & succeed as a result of this program. Your support is needed to help us devote the time needed to mentor & advocate for these amazing women. We believe so strongly in this venture that we hope to build a matching scholarship program to complement the Wisp Scholarship as donor funds become available.



## Give Without Spending

Do you shop online at Amazon.com?



Start @ Smile.Amazon.com

It's The Same Amazon!  
Specify Dream Bigger as your chosen charity & Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchases to Dream Bigger!

... Please ...  
**SPREAD THE WORD !!!**

Follow this Link to Support Dream Bigger

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/26-3898006>

**Wanted:**  
**Like new Clothing, Accessories & Household Items**



Just drop off @  
**Labels Consignment**

near Trader Joe's at James & Alabama or @ 2<sup>nd</sup> location on Northwest Ave near Bakerview. **Ask that Dream Bigger receive credit for your donation.**

\*Increase your support by asking family, friends, neighbors & small group members to do the same ☺



### **Volunteer Student Intern Wanted:**

If your interest or experience is in Marketing, Economics, Bookkeeping and/or Event Planning, Dream Bigger would love to have your help! Make a difference in the lives of women & children by promoting, planning & raising funds for Dream Bigger. This internship offers a Flex schedule. Registration through Whatcom Volunteer Center preferred. Contact us by email at: Laurie@DreamBigger.info

### **Thank you to Rock & Rye Oyster House**

For hosting the Dream Bigger Charity Night Fundraiser! The evening was a great success! Your support is very valued & appreciated!



**The Dream Bigger Health and Wellness program** teaches Financial Budgeting Skills, Healthy Mental & Emotional Coping Skills & Support Network. Nutritional Meal Planning, Healthy Cooking Skills & Fitness Plans are blended in and contribute to the overall Health & Wellness of women as they heal from the trauma of domestic violence & rebuild their lives to becoming self sufficient.

**Women return to violent homes 7 times due to lack of finances & housing.** Shelters provide 2-3 nights temporary housing. 75% of our community's Homeless are women & children escaping Violence. **Dream Bigger's Safe Home Project** provides step-by-step search for long-term permanent safe, clean housing. This hands-on process includes budget coaching, housing application support, negotiation with property owners & landlords, gathering of furniture & household supplies and hands-on moving help. An increase in financial supporters is needed to help us maintain & grow these valuable programs.



Please Join Dream Bigger in  
**Preventing Violence  
against  
Women & Children  
& Rebuilding Lives!**

### **Your Financial Support Is Needed**

Charitable Donations are Tax Deductible through  
EIN # 26-3898006 & can be mailed to:  
**2221 "G" Street, Bellingham, WA 98225**  
360-676-4675 email: Laurie@DreamBigger.info

Donations can also be made online @  
**www.DreamBigger.info**

### **Thank You Supporters! We Couldn't Do It Without You**

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- Whatcom Volunteer Center
- Women's Independence Scholarship
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