

Apocalypse 2011 hunts down a profit, gives money and food to charity

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Organizers of a ghoulish game of zombies vs. human tag held Oct. 15 in downtown Longview needed 700 participants to break even on the \$3,500 they sank into the event.

Based on the number of registration forms, "Apocalypse 2011: Zombies Invade Longview" had at least 921 participants who paid \$5 and two cans of food to play, said organizer Anna Goff, who runs DIY Party Supplies on Commerce Avenue. That meant organizers had money left over for charity after paying the cost of four Longview police officers, street closures and insurance, Goff said.

The event also generated 1,556 pounds of canned food for Lower Columbia CAP's Help Warehouse, the distribution center for local food banks.

"I told them next year we're going to double that," Goff said Friday.

She wants to put on the event again next year but hopes the Downtowners Association, individual businesses and more volunteers can help because it was too much for her small group to handle, she said.

Despite a critical shortage of manpower, "I think it went awesome," Goff said. "Everyone I talked to was on board for doing it again."

Asked what she'd do differently in 2012, she started laughing.

"Everything," Goff said. "How that came together was by the grace of God."

Long-sleeved, acid-green Zombie Apocalypse 2011 T-shirts are still available for \$12 at DIY Party Supplies, 1318 Commerce Ave.