



The Outreach



A Newsletter from Siuslaw Outreach Services

Summer 2018

Volume 13, Issue 6



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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Siuslaw Elementary School Kindness Club Visits SOS	2
Thanks to Rob's Crew	2
2018 Annual Golf Tournament	3
Thank You ~ 2017-18 Donors	4-5
Prison Outreach & Education	5
A Survivor's Story	5
Over the Rainbow Update	6
Tim Weese Promoted	6
Be Safe! Be Seen!	6
Board of Directors & New Board Members	7
Intern Chelsea Smart	7
Stats & Other Info	8

~ Dates to Remember ~

SOS will be CLOSED:

- ◆ Monday, September 3 for Labor Day

SOS Adjusted Hours:

- ◆ Wednesday, August 1 Opening at Noon

EVENTS

- ◆ 2018 Golf Tournament
~Florence Golf Links
~Saturday, September 8
- ◆ March Against DV
~Veteran's Park, 1 p.m.
~Sunday, September 30

Western Lane Community Foundation Gives Grant to SOS



Bob Teter accepts grant funds from Western Lane Community Foundation President Tom Bassett and Nancy Walker.

Western Lane Community Foundation showed their support of Siuslaw Outreach Services by awarding funding toward the Emergency Voucher Fund in the amount of \$5,000.00.

The grant was presented March 13th at the Rotary Club Luncheon. The Foundation was started by the Rotarians in 1974 "for the purpose of receiving and distributing charitable funds for the benefit of residents of Western Lane County," according to WLCF Executive Director, Gayle Waiss.

WLCF provides support to various community service organizations each year to assist with the improved quality of life in four major areas: medicine and science; culture; social and civic services; and education. These funds are granted through both designated and discretionary grants.

Siuslaw Outreach Services is so grateful to Western Lane Community Foundation for their support!



Traveler's Story

Traveler is a homeless individual who found his way to SOS as he was passing through the community recently. He had been traveling on a bicycle he had built out of spare parts. He arrived at SOS searching for a shower, a pair of shoes and perhaps some help getting his bike fixed.

You see, Traveler was on a quest to go up and down the coast making people aware of the challenges experienced by those who are homeless. He wanted to advocate for the rights and struggles of the homeless through public education by speaking to the media, civic leaders and posting notes. Traveler, originally from the Portland area, had been homeless for several years.

Traveler's struggles began several years earlier

growing up in an environment of abuse, drugs, and a series of unfortunate circumstances. These events began to form a mental illness that he continues to suffer from. This condition makes it extremely difficult for him to maintain any job, secure stable housing, and develop close relationships. He also reports struggles with access to mental health and physical health care programs.

One of the things that tugged at the staff member's heart strings was his willingness to work for the help or re-pay in some form or fashion the kindness he had been shown. He was not asking for much, just some relief for his feet and some dignity. As the staff continued to hear Traveler's story, they were impressed by Traveler's determination, perseverance and cheerful attitude through what life had thrown at him.

The staff member went

on to share with Traveler some of the resources SOS had to offer in support of his situation; clothing, food, a shower and laundry voucher, names of people who could repair his bike, and health care information. However, Traveler was clear he was content and really only wanted the ability to have a shower so he could feel a little more "human."

At the conclusion of the visit, Traveler thanked the staff expressing his gratitude for the services being offered. He said to the advocate, "Thank you for your kindness and making me feel like a regular human being, not being judged and just being heard." Traveler also mentioned churches and individuals in the area whom he felt had treated him with respect as well. We are truly fortunate to live in such a caring community.

* These stories are about actual clients assisted at Siuslaw Outreach Services. Their names have been changed for confidentiality.

Siuslaw Elementary Students Give Back to Their Community



Executive Director, Bob Teter shows the Kindness Club donations made to SOS for clients.

This winter members of the Kindness Club paid a visit to Siuslaw Outreach Services.

The group, started by Siuslaw High School senior Kaylee Graham, consists of 12 kids in grades 3, 4 and 5. The students heard from Bob Teter, Executive Director, about the role SOS plays in the community and the important role volunteers play in the agency. Kaylee started "The Kindness Club" last year to share her passion for volunteering with kids, instilling in them a sense of community. The group meets monthly to hear presentations, and organize weekend service projects.

Through the club, kids complete acts of kindness, visit local nonprofits, and learn about the importance of helping others. Kaylee states, "Our kindness activities have helped to make a more positive school environment, from making New Year's gifts and appreciation cards for staff, to writing positive and uplifting sticky notes for anyone to take." Teter told the kids, "It is so inspiring to see young people not only want to make a difference but to actually do it."

Since the visit from the club, one young fellow, Quoyale Dramer, was inspired to initiate a book drive to help the children



Quoyale Dramer gives SOS Children's books.

whose families benefit from supports at SOS. When asked by Bob Teter how many books he thought he could collect Quoyale's response was, "Oh, I don't know. Maybe a hundred." Quoyale exceeded his own expectations and collected enough books for both SOS and DHS! This is the type of kindness that continues to give hope to us all; that there is still a sense of kindness and empathy for others, beginning with our youth. Thanks so much for your kind thoughts and dedication to other people, Quoyale!

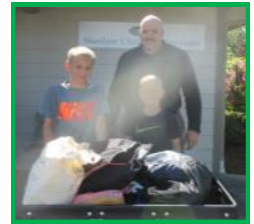
Following the successful book drive, club member Chloe Goss and her sister Mia hosted a can & bottle drive. Their

Chloe and Mia Goss present SOS a check from their Can Drive

efforts brought in a generous donation of

\$580.00!

Dylan Jensen, a 5th grader and his brother Sailor Jensen, a 2nd grader were also inspired to help by initiating a "Pack Drive." The brothers reached out to the community and were able to gather 28 bags filled with essentials like toothpaste, toothbrushes and a variety of other toiletries.



Dylan and Sailor Jensen gather and present SOS with 28 bags

WOW, Kids! SOS and the families we serve are so fortunate to have people like you reaching out to our community! Thanks Kindness Club Members!



Snack Time!

If you are wondering about another way to support the families and individuals we serve at Siuslaw Outreach Services, you may consider donating some snack foods.

Often, people come into the office and need a "little something" to snack on. These snacks could fill a hunger void, stabilize a diabetic condition or simply relax someone who is stressed and needs that extra boost of nutrition to help calm the nerves.

We will gladly accept your donation of individual serving size snacks such as: crackers (cheese or peanut butter filled), fruit snacks, nuts or another type of single serving food. Financial contributions marked for "snacks" are also welcome!

Thanks for considering this donation!



A Big Thank You



A special shout out to Rob Long and the Western Lane County Road Maintenance Zone 5 crew. Rob and his crew gave of their personal off-duty time in May to do some yard work around the office.

Their selfless service is greatly appreciated!



8th Annual

Siustlaw Open



Saturday, September 8, 2018

**At Florence Golf Links
Florence, Oregon**

**Florence
Dental
Clinic**

Sponsored by



A Charity Golf Tournament To Benefit



SIUSLAW OUTREACH SERVICES

FUNDS RAISED WILL GO TO HELP NEEDY INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES EXPERIENCING
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, HOMELESSNESS AND OTHER FORMS OF CRISIS.

Entry Fee: \$99/ Player OR \$396 Team of 4

Early Bird Discount if paid by 8/10/18: \$89 per player OR \$350 per team

Register at Florence Golf Links or SOS. For more info call 541-997-2816

**More than
30 prizes
to win!**

**A CHANCE TO WIN A
FORD F-150
FROM JOHNSTON MOTORS**



**A CHANCE TO PUTT FOR
\$5,000**



FY 2017-18 Financial Supporters

1285 Restobar	Green, Lynda	Network for Good
ACS	Green, Ronald & Catherine	Nichols, Ralph & Karen
Action Realty Property Management	Groves, Kevin & Lori	O'Connell, Ann & James
Ada Grange	Hadley, Bruce	Oregon Community Foundation
Adams, Kym	Hale Greta	Oregon Department of Justice
AmazonSmile Foundation	Hanen, B. Renee	Oregon Pacific Bank
American Endowment Foundation	Hanson, Jeanette	Oregon Pacific Bank Employees
Applebee, Michelle & Cal	Hipkiss, Mary A.	Ortiz, Theresa
Armstrong, Gary & Marlena	Hughes, Bruce & Campbell, Linda	Payn, Thomas & Deborah
Autzen Foundation	Integrity Plumbing, Inc.	Peace Health
Bailiff, Diane	Janowski, Kenneth & Mary	Pearson, John
Banner Bank	Jarman, Ian & Heidi	Pennington, Mary & Charles
Barrett, Jeff H.	Johnston Motor Co.	Peters, Bob & Peg
Bigham, George & Vicki	Johnston, Mary	Power of Florence
Blodgett, Charlene	Jones, Johnie & Sandra	Preisler, Ron & Judy
Blue Herron Gallery, Inc.	JW Data LLC dba Aurelius Golf	Presbyterian Church
BPOE Elks Lodge No. 1858	Kimball, Jeanne S.	Presbyterian Church Women
Burch's Roofing, Inc.	Klessig, Rick W.	Repovich, L. Don & Harris, Karol
Candela, Dona L. H.	Kosman, Eugene, & Monica	Resurrection Lutheran Church
Chapin, Donald	Kroger (FM Community Awards)	Rhododendron Quilt Guild
Chase, Fredrick & Rita	Kuhar, Mary J.	Rickaby, Frances
Chehak, Donald & Virginia	Ladies of Elks	Robertson, Lori & Gordon
Clement, Chad E. DDS	Lamb, Debra & Larry	Rogers, Mecken
Coast Real Estate, Inc.	Lane County Human Services	Russell, Doris E.
Coastal Fitness	Commission	Salisbury, Timothy & Carol
Community 101	Lane, Alice H.	Saltman, Marina
Copeland Lumber	Latham, Ronnie	Sandland Adventures
Coughlan, Nancy	Lenox, Jack & Kathryn	Scarberry, Dan
Cow Creek Umpqua Indian	Lepore, Denah P. & DJ	Scarberry, Suzanne M.
Foundation	Lewis, Melvin	Schurr, Albert
David, Sharon	Lighthouse Electrical Contractors	Schwab Charitable Fund
DG Marketing LLC	Lizsow, Ivy C.	Schwartz, Michael & Judith
Dumas, David & April	Long, James A.	Seventh-day Adventist Church
Durst, William & Mary	Lysdale, C.A. & Nancy	Simms, Mary Louise
Edstrom, Robert & Melissa	M'Gonigle, John & Joanna	Siuslaw Friendship Club
Edward Jones	Mann & Associates Appraisal	Siuslaw High Leadership Club
Englund, Larry & Florence	Services, LLC	Siuslaw River Coffee Roasters
Erickson, Kimberly & Timothy	Mans, Justin	Skidmore, Stephen
Escher, John	Mathis, Donald & Marthena	Small, Larry
Firehouse Restaurant	McAllister, Sara	Smith, Cheryl Sue
Florence Christian Church	McArdle, William & Patricia	Smith, Lamina M.
Florence Church of the Nazarene	McClure, James & Nadine	Smith, Lee & Petrina
Florence Dental Clinic	McCorkle, Roger & Sherrie	Smith, Richard & Harriet
Florence Rotary Club	McDaniel, Brenda & Bear	Sobottka, Nancy L.
Florence Unitarian Universalist	Mealer, Bart & Lacer, Susie	Soroptimist of Florence
Fellowship	Millsap, Teresa	St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
French, Jennifer	Mlott, M. Luthera	St. Mary's Women's Guild
Gates, Lori & Steve	Moore, Anna	Statler, Zevion & Gail
Giles, Barbara	Moore, Donald & Glenda	Stead, John
Giles, Nadine	Moursund, David G.	Stiles, Sharon
Gillem, Nancy	Murphy, Justin & Dayle	Stutzman, Patricia

Sue Gilday Insurance Agency
 Sydow, Dennis & Diane
 Taylor, Lynn & Shelley
 Tevlin, Eunice
 The Kindness Club
 Three Rivers Casino
 Thrivent Choice
 Titus, Harold & Janet
 Tollefson, Roland & Helen
 Tony's Garage
 Truist
 Turner, Tom
 United Methodist Church
 United Methodist Women
 United Way Donor Designations
 Vaccaro, Linda L.
 Vaccaro, Sandy & Catherine
 VanGuard Charitable Endowment
 Vermilyea, Elmer & Shirley
 Walker, Renee & Keenan

Walters, Jan
 Weathers, Susan C.
 Wells, Bobbie & Ray
 Western Lane Community Foundation
 Whiteside, Alan & Patricia
 Whitmore, Richard & Barbara
 Wilcox, Linda
 Wikstrom, Lynnette
 Willard, Rhodell R.
 Williams, Paul & Pamela
 Williams, Steven & Rebecca
 Wilson, James & Sherry
 Wrightson, Mary
 Yecny, Rick & Jane
 Young, Toni D.

*To all of these very generous
 community members, on
 behalf of those served at
 SOS, the Staff and
 Volunteers say...*

*Thank
 you*

And many anonymous donors!

Prison Outreach & Education Update

In our previous edition of The Outreach, it was noted that Executive Director Bob Teter was asked to talk with inmates at the Oregon State Penitentiary in Salem about domestic violence. In that article it was reported that Mr. Teter addressed 10 former gang members who were serving 15 plus years prison terms for violent crimes. He spoke for several hours about what domestic violence is and how it affects not only the primary victim but also their children, extended family members, and the community.

The program was such a success that Mr. Teter was asked to return to speak with another group this past May. Some of the things Teter discussed with the inmates are the psychological and emotional effects that can damage the primary victim as well as friends and family members for a lifetime, including the developmental concerns for children. Teter also shared the economic impacts on businesses and the community that

occur. He went on to share that businesses affected by domestic violence deal with production loss, higher insurance rates as well as safety concerns for the victim and their co-workers. Last year, businesses collectively lost over \$1.8 billion in revenue as the direct result of domestic violence.

Mr. Teter then concluded the class by illustrating what healthy relationships look like and empowering them to make change in their prison community as well as the community to which they will eventually be released. Teter has been asked to return on a regular basis to teach classes on the effects and causes of other forms of crime and to provide motivational speaking. Currently, SOS and the Oregon Department of Corrections are seeking funding and donations to make this happen.

A MESSAGE OF SURVIVAL



Recently, a Siuslaw Outreach Services advocate received an email from a client who, with the help of SOS, escaped a life of domestic violence.

The email contained the following message, "Hi there! I came there last week and you helped me with a bus ticket after my husband had left me stranded. I just wanted to say thanks so much again and to give you an update. I finally made it to my destination. I'm currently staying at the women's shelter here, and they helped me out with some more clothes and shoes. I've attended church and a couple AA meetings, I set up a med management

appointment for this afternoon, and I just finished filing for divorce and a restraining order from my husband. I'm on the right path and I had to let you know that you played a big part in that. I felt so utterly hopeless when I got to your office, but you helped change my attitude about the whole situation and I'm so grateful for everything you and your organization did to help me. Keep doing what you do, because it makes a difference in the world! Thanks again."

Your generous support is vital in continuing these life changing services.

Over the Rainbow

Where There's No Place Like Home!



Siuslaw Outreach Services has been at the forefront of helping homeless families secure stable housing for many years. Last year, Siuslaw Outreach Services served over 900 homeless individuals by providing vouchers for laundry and showers as well as clothing, food, and in some cases, emergency motel vouchers. Of this high number of homeless individuals served, some are children. Often these children come from families where one or two parents are working but cannot earn enough to cover move-in costs. The average cost of move-in expenses in the Florence area is \$1500. This does not include utility deposits or the purchase of a bed.

There is also a housing crisis and there are not enough rentals available. Most low income or affordable housing complexes have a 2 year waiting list. A child experiencing homelessness could potentially develop mental illness or social disorders that can come from lack of sleep, living in fear of not knowing where they might lay their head that night or if they could even be taken away from their parents. Many lack proper

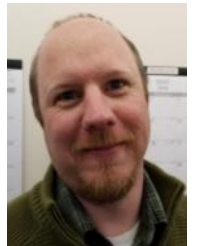
nutrition because the only decent meal they can get is at school. Also, the fear of other students judging them because they wear clothes that do not fit, are dirty or smell, are all very real challenges for homeless children.

In 2017, a local resident was heartbroken to recognize this trend that seemed to be increasing. She and Bob Teter, SOS Executive Director, met to work together as to how these struggling youth could be supported. The result was the establishment of a fund that can be used to facilitate getting youth into permanent stable housing, provide tutors, clothing, extra-curricular activities, as well as bridge any financial gap for medical or dental care. The fund is called, "The Over The Rainbow Fund for Homeless Youth." Last year, the community came together to raise over \$21,000 to support these at-risk youth. Those funds helped 12 families secure stable housing or stave off an eviction. This year's goal was to raise \$20,000 in 60 days. At the end of this year's campaign, over \$23,000 was pledged. It is so wonderful and inspiring to see what a caring community we live in.

Tim Weese to Manage Housing & Utility Assistance Programs

Tim Weese has been hired to fill the vacancy of Housing & Utility Assistance Program Manager that was created when Dianna Huenergardt moved to the valley this past spring. Tim has been working part-time with Siuslaw Outreach Services as an advocate since June of 2016. Weese, an Oregon State University graduate with a degree in sociology also has a background in social services working at a youth residential treatment facility, as a case worker and activities supervisor.

As program manager, Tim is responsible for managing and implementing programs to help those experiencing an unexpected financial crisis. Services may include assistance with past due rent or utility bills. He also helps clients develop goals and safety plans; monitor self-sufficiency plans; creates and establishes self-sufficiency classes and homelessness prevention activities. Tim also oversees the Low-Income Housing Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Tim's reputation as a supportive team member and his passion for social services makes him a great fit for the position.



BE SAFE! BE SEEN!



It is no secret that Highway 101 is a very busy roadway and often times dangerous for pedestrians. The City of Florence and ODOT have been working hard to make it safer. However, there are still many who have expressed concerns about the homeless traveling on 101. They often wear dark clothing and the winter weather makes it very difficult for drivers to see them.

SOS has responded to this concern by implementing the "Be Safe-Be Seen Program." The program involves educating the homeless about this danger and providing them with flashing reflectors that can be clipped onto their clothing, bags

and bicycles. SOS saw over 900 homeless individuals in our office over the past year. There is no funding for this other than community donations. To provide two or three reflectors to each homeless individual will cost an estimated \$2,000 annually.



Donations from several community members has provided nearly 200 of these reflectors to get this program off the ground. It will not solve the entire problem but it is our hope that this will save some lives. If you would like to financially support this effort, please contact our staff or stop by the office.

CHELSEA GRADUATES!



Siuslaw Outreach Services has been fortunate to have Chelsea Smart on board as an intern while completing her BSW degree.

Chelsea is so determined to reach the finish line, she has jumped right back into her studies for her master's degree. Due to scheduling conflicts, she was unable to attend her graduation so her friends at SOS held a graduation ceremony honoring her accomplishment.

Among the guests at her celebration were her parents and sister, SOS staff and a board member who stated, "A very special way of celebrating a fine young woman's

achievement. It was a delight to share in a bit of this auspicious occasion."

It was a privilege and a pleasure to acknowledge Chelsea and her determination to complete her degree while giving of herself at SOS.

Thanks so much for all of your dedication and hard work, Chelsea! We congratulate you, and look forward to your continued support here at Siuslaw Outreach Services!



Chelsea receives her "Mock" Diploma from Bob Teter, SOS Executive Director



FAREWELL DIANNA

In 2016, Dianna Huenergardt was hired as the Safe House Advocate. When Bob Teter was hired as Executive Director, Huenergardt was elevated to the position of Housing & Utility Assistance Program Manager. Dianna and her husband recently decided to move back to their hometown closer to family. We will miss Dianna and her amazing team spirit. We wish her all the best as she explores new horizons in her life.



Make a difference while you shop

Go shopping and give! Fred Meyer Community Rewards and Amazon Smile match a portion of your spending and send a check to SOS. Just go to www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards and link SOS to your Rewards Card using number **86049**. When you shop online with Amazon,

make sure you click on the Amazon Smile logo and select Siuslaw Outreach Services as the organization to receive benefits.



SOS WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Siuslaw Outreach Services welcomes four new members to our Board of Directors. Each new member brings talents and skills that are true assets to the group. We would like to say "Thank You" to these individuals for selflessly giving of their time to serve those in need.



Montee Kennedy



Chris Saltmarsh



Denise Tarvin



Justin Young



Judy Schwartz
President



Bart Mosler
Vice-President



Jennifer French
Secretary



Lori Gates
Treasurer



Bob Teter
Executive Director



Diane Boliff



SIUSLAW OUTREACH SERVICES BOARD OF DIRECTORS



David Dumas



Chris Saltmarsh



Justin Young



Denise Tarvin



C. Montee Kennedy



Ann O'Connell



Jane Vecny

Clients Served with Emergency Vouchers, clothing and/or Rent Assistance (unduplicated).....2716	
Males.....1387	Females.....1743
Children under 17.....366	Seniors (62 and older).....651
Disabled.....757	Homeless Individuals.....936
Veterans.....85	Low Income Households Receiving Housing Assistance....114
Clients Receiving Domestic Violence Advocacy Services299	Sheltered Nights For DV/SA Survivors.....1358
Clients Receiving Sexual Assault Advocacy Services.....13	DV/SA Survivors Participating In Support Group65
Clients Receiving Energy Assistance (L.I.H.E.A.P.).....578	DV/SA Survivors Receiving Legal Aid97
Response To After Hours Calls From Police/Hospital.....44	After Hours Calls to Crisis Line.....208
Participants in Self-Sufficiency Classes and Workshops.....64	Total Walk-In Visits.....7326
Total Number Of Volunteer Hours.....9857	Total Number Of Trained Volunteers.....37
ESTIMATED TOTAL NUMBER OF CLIENTS SERVED (unduplicated).....3130	



SOS Needs You!

SOS is looking for committed volunteers to staff our Front Desk and Focus 4 Crisis Line. ALL TRAINING PROVIDED. Please contact our Volunteer Coordinator for more information by calling 541-997-2816 ext. 206 or stop by to see Lori at SOS.

Siuslaw Outreach Services Mission Statement

"To provide compassionate, respectful and confidential support to people in need."



To become a financial supporter of SOS, donations can be made by check or:



HOW YOU CAN HELP

We are looking for **volunteers** for: Front Desk Reception, Donation Sorters, Fund-raising, and Crisis Line. Stop by or call Lori at 541-997-2816, Ext. 206

Cash Donations are always welcome!

Items Needed: Clothing, Sleeping Bags, Tents, Shoes, Socks, Boots, Blankets, Small Household Items, Razors, and other items for everyday living.

Items we are **not** able to accept include: car seats, strollers, electric blankets, and other electrical appliances.

Please call for more information.

For more information on how you can help or get involved please contact SOS staff at 541-997-2816



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