

THE OUTREACH

SUMMER

A Newsletter from Siuslaw Outreach Services

2021

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Intersectional Advocacy

A transgender woman from the area came to SOS seeking refuge from domestic violence. She experienced homelessness as a part of her struggle to separate herself from her abuser. On top of that, she had chronic health conditions that made life on the streets increasingly difficult. As her abuser began to stalk her and her medical needs became more urgent, she knew she needed a refuge and not just another place to hide. After connecting with an advocate at SOS they both determined that leaving the state entirely would be her best option. SOS provided her with a plane ticket and the client found a transitional project to take her in directly from the airport. She has since acquired an army of support behind her, obtained health insurance to cover her life-saving surgery and now has access to hormones to begin her transition. She has expressed her gratitude to SOS for helping her get to a safe place where she can finally begin to thrive.

CLOSED

**September 6, November 11,
25 & 26, 2021**

Open Office Hours:

**Mon.-Fri. 10:00 - 3:30
Fri. by appointment only**

SOS and the Community Come Together

To say that the past 18 months has been stressful is quite an understatement for some. The numbers are alarming so we also want to share some hope and success made possible by our community.

In 2020, the number of local domestic violence survivors increased more than 60%. The number of local households seeking rent assistance rose more than 40%. As we passed the halfway point of 2021, trends point to those numbers increasing yet again!

The economic woes, governmental mandates, temporary and shifting landlord-tenant laws, and the uncertainty the future holds have pushed some to the breaking point.

Last year, through government and private foundation grants, Siuslaw Outreach was able to respond with nearly 1 million dollars in direct aid to our clients. This year, the need for aid seems to be greater than ever. In just the past two weeks alone, 47 survivors of some of the most violent forms of domestic and sexual violence imaginable sought help from SOS.

Despite this almost overwhelming picture, we have members of our community willing to stand up for the oppressed and help fund solutions available only through Siuslaw Outreach Services.

Three Big Successes by Our Amazing and Generous Community

On May 22, SOS held our 11th annual Siuslaw Open Benefit Golf Tournament. Dedicated community partners including golfers, volunteers, and sponsors came together to raise thousands of dollars for programs and resources to benefit our full spectrum of clients. It was a record breaker for SOS.

Earlier this summer a plea went out to the community specifically for funds for children and their families who are experiencing abuse or facing extreme financial hardships. Spearheaded by three donors, a challenge went out to triple their donation to raise \$21,000. Not only did the community meet that challenge, they went above and beyond by raising **\$51,000!**

In addition, SOS received a separate donation of \$30,000 from community leader Peace Health as a "gap filler" to support clients affected by Covid-19.

Each of these financial successes are further evidence of a committed community with a heart to support and transform the lives of those in crisis.

Where Do You Fit into All of This?

Amazing as that these three circumstances are, they only provide a temporary resolution to an ongoing and growing condition in our community. If you are reading this, you are likely already a supporter. If not, I invite you to join us. Support from businesses and individuals in our community—in the form of regular gifts of amounts from \$25 to \$1000, direct donations of clothing and household items, or contributions of volunteer time—are the backbone of our success. Your support is a big reason that these and other successful efforts by this amazing community demonstrates a heart for the abused and marginalized among us. Your ongoing contributions are a true investment in the health and safety of our community. All of us at SOS, and every one of our thousands of clients, are deeply grateful for your support in whatever form it comes. Thank you!



**SIUSLAW
OUTREACH
SERVICES**

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

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 19000 Florence, OR 97439

Physical Address: 1576 West 12th Street Florence, OR 97439

Phone: (541) 997- 2816 Fax: (541) 997- 7257 Crisis Line: (541) 997- 4444

E-mail: exec@florencesos.org Website: www.florencesos.org

CHIPPING IN FOR A GREAT CAUSE



Saturday, May 22nd, at Florence Golf Links was the scene for the 11th annual Siuslaw Open Benefit Golf Tournament presented by **Oregon Pacific Bank, Florence Dental Clinic, Peace Health, Mehlum Family Foundation, and Banner Bank.** Eighty-eight golfers, eighteen volunteers and thirty-five sponsors converged onto the Scottish style course to raise funds toward programs and resources to benefit victims of domestic

violence, sexual violence, human trafficking and homelessness. Although Governor Brown had lifted the requirements for masks outdoors, servers and many volunteers were masked and gloved and each golfer was supplied with hand sanitizer and mask. The covid restrictions did require staggered start times. Due to covid restrictions, instead of a closing dinner, golfers received a "build your own" sub sandwich box at the clubhouse sponsored by Siuslaw Glass & Mirror and Hyak provided grilled hot dogs on hole #7. Despite the changes, many reported having a wonderful time. Jason Hoffman of Coos Bay said, "This was our first time playing. It was a lot of fun! Count us in for next year."



First place went to "The I Don't Cares" consisting of Justin Mans, AJ Davidson, Jake Wells and Jeff Noonan. Second Place went to Terry Bruns, Rich Jenson, Kyle Wolf and Donald Chipman of "Donald & The Three Seaman." Third went to "Off Constantly" with Jason Hoffman, Travis Elam, Keifer Allen and Travis Hoffman. The tournament used the Calloway scoring method. Mike Caldwell won the Putt-off prize of \$100 and the trophy. Donald Chipman's name was drawn to attempt sinking a 60' putt to win \$5,000. Unfortunately, Chipman's putt narrowly missed the cup by a couple inches. AJ Davidson won the men's long drive. There was a tie in the women's Long Drive competition between Elisha Young and Veronica Thompson. Jim Achison won the men's KP on hole #11. New to the tournament was the Poker run with "The I Don't Cares" winning \$320. No one scored a "a hole-in-one" sponsored by Johnston Motors on hole #5 to win a new travel trailer.

This year's event raised a net of just over **\$13,000.** Tournament co-chair and SOS Board member, Justin Young was thrilled about the number of golfers. He went on to say, "We had concerns going in that changing the date and the uncertainty of covid that this could be a down year. We were pleasantly surprised how much the community stepped up. This was a record turnout." SOS Executive Director, Bob Teter added, "The success of this event will help us help many families who are struggling." Knowing those challenges, the golf committee of Justin Young, Stephanie Wright, Nick Johnson, Rick Yecny, Dr. Brian Holmes and SOS Executive Director Bob Teter along with SOS Board of Directors and staff want to thank the following businesses and individuals for making the event so successful:

Oregon Pacific Bank, Florence Dental Clinic, Peace Health, Mehlum Family Foundation, Banner Bank, Johnston Motors, Jady Chiakowsky Orthodontics, Hanawalt/Ferguson-Attorneys At Law, 1285 Resto Bar, Hyak, Jerry's Place, Dutch Bros, Sign Stop, Siuslaw News, KCST Radio, Copeland Lumber, Florence Motor Sports, River Roasters, Shirvin's Tire & Auto, Lighthouse Electric, Siuslaw Glass & Mirror, Sweet Cheeks Winery, Florence Rotary Club, Y-Marina, Holloway & Assoc., Edward Jones Investments-Andy Baber, Hop Valley Brewery, Safeway, Fred Meyer, State Farm Insurance-Sue Gilday, Pro Lumber, Leisure Excavating, Yecny Family, Steve & Lori Gates, Justin & Elisha Young, Bob & Stacey Teter, the many volunteers and Florence Golf Links.

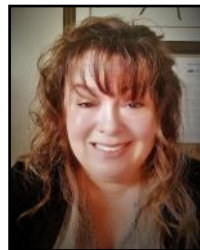
The success of this event could not happen without these community partners.

New Website Brings Enhanced Access

The new Florence Siuslaw Outreach Services website is now up and running! As you may have read in our last newsletter SOS Executive Director, Bob Teter, and Board Vice-President, Chris Saltmarsh, have been working with Scott Steward of Creative Wave Marketing and Uplink Spyder to update the website and enhance the online presence of SOS overall. Clients can now more readily access resources and information relevant to SOS online and have multiple avenues through which they can find services. The new website is also more user-friendly for those wanting to make a donation. Donors can easily contribute from the website through the PayPal portal, while those interested in donating their time and talents can access the volunteer application online. Check it out at **www.florencesos.org**.

New Faces and New Places at SOS

Siuslaw Outreach Services welcomes three new staff members to the team: Karen Lundstrom, Joseph Bernard and Karisa McDonell. Karen comes to us from the Fresno area where she worked with the Sheriff's Department there. Karen is a Special Victim's Advocate who works with clients who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking and elder abuse. She will also be managing day-to-day operations at the safe house. Joseph is joining the Crisis Assistance Department where he will be aiding clients with housing, utilities and those experiencing homelessness. Joseph has extensive experience in the mental health field and providing support to individuals who have experience trauma in the workplace. Karisa is filling a new position on the administrative team as Assistant Director of Resource Development. She will be responsible for private grant management, social media and marketing. Executive Director, Bob Teter said, "I am very pleased with the new hires. I feel they will be a tremendous asset to the team and the agency."



Karen Lundstrom



Joseph Bernard



Karisa McDonell

Tim Weese, who served as Housing & Utility Assistance Program Manager, has left SOS to lead a similar program with Mid-Willamette Community Action in Salem. Michaela Olivieri, who has been a Crisis Assistance Advocate in the housing program for the past year, has taken over as manager of the housing and utility assistance programs at SOS. Teter commented, "I wish Tim all the best, I know he will do great things for MWCA. I have full confidence that Michaela will do great things as she now leads that program. She has a real heart to see clients succeed."

LET'S STOP DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Domestic Violence is a problem that plagues our community. In 2020, the number of reported cases of domestic violence rose more than 60% from the previous year. Current trends and stats point to even higher numbers in 2021. Each year, SOS draws the community's attention to this troubling issue. The following activities are planned for Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

- September 20th: Mayoral Proclamation
- October 3rd: March Against Domestic Violence and Silent Vigil
- October 4th: Paint The Town Purple
- All Month Long: Newspaper, radio articles and programs

For more information on how you can get involved and be a voice for those experiencing abuse, please contact our office or any staff member.

Message from the President

Greetings everyone,
This month wraps up my term as SOS Board President. It has been an honor to help lead this organization through a difficult year. Before this year, I knew how the organization worked and who was in each role. However, over the past year, I was able to see first hand, and listen to staff express how much they care for our clients. They each have very difficult jobs, and they do those jobs with grace and humility. We as a board are so thankful for them. We are also thankful for our donors. This has been such a tough year with COVID, and shutdowns, and many financial uncertainties, but our donors stepped up, and enabled us to continue to help those in need. I thank you, you have no idea the lives your generosity touch. I am looking forward to what this next year has in store. Stay Safe- Justin



Justin Young

REMEMBERING ANN O'CONNELL & DON CHAPIN

This past year, our community lost some priceless treasures. Former SOS board members, Ann O'Connell and Don Chapin passed away leaving behind a legacy of giving. Ann was passionate about the movement. She volunteered many hours in the areas of human resource, oversight, and resource development. SOS Executive Director, Bob Teter said of Ann, "She was a very intelligent sharp individual. Her passion and insight helped our agency to improve and grow. A real champion of the cause." Don was very active with SOS in the area of marketing, golf tournaments, volunteer recruitment and board oversight. Don is affectionately remembered as the one who went around to staff and fellow board members to check on them and offering to help in any way possible. Teter remarked about his passing, "I miss my weekly meetings with Don. He would just pop in to see how we all were doing and to be sure we knew his latest joke." Both are greatly missed.



Ann O'Connell



Don Chapin



August 22, 2021 The Girl Scout Troop 20068 led by Norma Parry showed up with friends, a load of mulch and helping hands! The grounds looked refreshed in no time. Thank you so much for your help! It looks great!

GIRL SCOUTS BEAUTIFY SERVICE AREA



**Planting Pansies and
Watering Dahlias!**

TREASURE CHEST NEEDS

The Treasure Chest is the clothing room where clients who have experienced some form of crisis get their clothing needs met. It is in need of some specific items this season. Men's jeans in smaller sizes and men's shoes in larger sizes (size eight and up) have been short in stock. Infant and children's size clothing and shoes are also running low. As fall and winter approach there will be a greater need for warm, practical clothing in all sizes. In addition, camping gear such as sleeping bags and tents are always helpful for members of the community experiencing houselessness. Your donations are greatly appreciated!

Classes Available to the Public*

- ◆ Budgeting Square Pegs Into Round Holes
- ◆ Financial Management/Banking Basics
- ◆ Managing Stress So It Doesn't Manage You
- ◆ Meal Planning
- ◆ Employment Tips & Tricks
- ◆ Tenant Tips & Information

For more information about attending these classes, please visit us at 1576 W 12th Street or call us at 541-997-2816

** Reservations are required*

~ LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY ~

If you are 70 or older please consider a legacy bequest to Siuslaw Outreach Services. Your gift will help you with financial planning and ensure Siuslaw Outreach Services will continue to be here for people in need for many years to come. Those who contribute to our Legacy Campaign will receive special tax benefits, have their gift forever recognized and remembered, and gain the satisfaction that they have made a long-lasting impact on the health and livability of our community.

**Please contact SOS Executive Director:
Bob Teter at 541-997-2816**

or a member of our Board of Directors for more information.

SIUSLAW OUTREACH SERVICES BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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NOTICE of NONDISCRIMINATION RIGHTS and PROTECTIONS to BENEFICIARIES

Siuslaw Outreach Services, Inc. operates its program, services and activities in compliance with federal nondiscrimination laws. No person shall, on the basis of race, color, national origin (including limited English proficiency), disability, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any of our programs.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write Office of Civil Rights, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice (OCR), 810 7th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20531 or call 202-307-0690 (Voice) or 202-307-2027 (TDD/TTY). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may also contact OCR through the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339 (TTY), 877-877-8982 (Speech) or 800-845-6136 (Spanish).

2020 Statistics

TOTAL NUMBER OF CLIENTS SERVED IN 20202,669

Males.....1,197	Females.....1,461	Other Genders.....11
Children under 17.....499	Seniors (62 and older).....297	Disabled.....741
Homeless Individuals.....189	Veterans.....83	

Clients Receiving Domestic Violence Advocacy Services477	Sheltered Nights For DV/SA Survivors.....627
Clients Receiving Sexual Assault Advocacy Services.....44	DV/SA Survivors Participating In Support Group32
Clients Receiving Energy Assistance (LIHEAP).....564	Household Receiving Emergency Rent Assistance.....116
Response To After Hours Calls From Police/Hospital.....97	Participants in Parenting Education Classes.....28
Total Number Of Trained Volunteers.....36	Participants in Self-Sufficiency Classes & Workshops.....11
Total Number Of Volunteer Hours.....3,843	Total Visits.....9,492
Clients Served with Emergency Vouchers, Clothing and/or Rent Assistance (unduplicated).....2,013	

SOS is looking for committed volunteers to staff our Focus 4 Crisis Line. Please contact our Volunteer Coordinator for more information by calling (541) 997-2816 ext. 206 and talk to Lori.



SIUSLAW OUTREACH SERVICES
P.O. BOX 19000
FLORENCE, OR 97439

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