

THE OUTREACH

FALL

A Newsletter from Siuslaw Outreach Services

2025

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Yes, We Serve Men, Too!

Curtis* had a question when he came to SOS for help after a partner continued to abuse and threaten him. "Do you serve men?" He was met with compassion and understanding. Our advocates helped him with a safety plan and gave him information on civil court and how to prepare a restraining order. He experienced discrimination and was denied services in other areas because he is a man who is a survivor of Domestic Violence. His ex-military, female partner's anger was fueled with drugs and alcohol and the latest abuse escalated to gun related threats to his life. DV is not something only children and women experience. Curtis was given clothing, food, a phone, a list of resources and help with transportation to a safe place to start over. He is safe now and stays in contact with law enforcement.

*Not his real name.

If you or someone you know is experiencing DV, call our Crisis Line at 541-997-444 for help.

Siuslaw Area Resource Center Grand Opening

After several years of planning, Siuslaw Outreach Services opened the doors of their new home... The **Siuslaw Area Resource Center (SARC)** on Monday, September 22, 2025. This 14,000 sq. ft. facility is not only a new home for SOS, but a regional one-stop social service resource center. The facility will house human service agencies that share a similar vision and are complimentary in purpose. Centralizing resources will give clients easy access to a multitude of programs which address immediate needs, provide support and encourage self-sufficiency. The facility will also serve as a place for area non-profits to come together for training, coordination and collaboration to further enhance the well-being of the community.

The SOS Board of Directors believe that the health of a community can be measured, in part, by the resources it provides to its citizens. The need for a new facility or one-site campus to enhance the delivery of current social services and provide increased assistance to low-income individuals and families in need.

The local congregation folded in October of 2021. The building owned by the Nazarene District, represented by District Pastor Steve Hamilton began discussion with SOS to carry on the mission of the church to assist and provide hope to those struggling. The church operated many social service programs from early 2000s until 2017. They operated support groups, addiction and grief recovery groups, a men's transitional housing program, veteran services and Women-Infant-Children Resource Program. Siuslaw Outreach Services also used the facility for large group meetings and fundraising events.

The purchase and renovation was made possible by a handful of donors who collectively raised 30% of the needed 1.7 million dollars. The former site for SOS is currently for sale and proceeds from that sale will go toward the new building costs. A capital campaign is also underway. An anonymous donor has issued a challenge that they will match up to \$50,000 raised from October through the

end of December. There will be rental income that will also contribute toward the building debt.

The vision for the project began over five years ago when then, Board President Bart Mealer, had a discussion with Executive Director, Bob Teter, about challenges that local individuals and families had in navigating resources. Logistical challenges regarding taking time off work to go to one appointment, then taking more time off to go to Eugene to access other resources were costly and traumatizing. Teter had experience in the development of multi-agency community centers in Sweet Home, Oregon. The center there was a recreation center and a meeting place for youth programs, senior programs, art studios and a food bank. That success gave inspiration to create this resource center.



In addition to providing direct services to community members in

need or crisis, the site honors the Indigenous people. We recognize the land this facility sits on once belonged to the people of the Siuslaw Tribe. We have partnered with the Confederated Tribes of Coos Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians to honor the tribe by promoting their culture and for their stewardship of the land. Signage in the building will be in English, Spanish, Brail, and Siuslaw. Patrons of the facility will be able to scan a QR Code to hear the language and learn about their culture. Artwork by tribe members will also be on display within the building. The facility is owned and operated by Siuslaw Outreach Services. The facility will feature offices, meeting and classroom spaces. Normal open hours will be 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. Regular office hours for SOS program services are 9:30 am to 3:30 pm, Monday through Thursday with Friday working with those with arranged appointments. Multiple Agencies will be offering services Monday through Friday at various times in the Resource Center.

This facility is the first of its kind on the Oregon Coast. If you would like more information on how you could contribute or would like to inquire about sponsoring opportunities, please call our Executive Director, Bob Teter at 541-205-9011.

New Advocate Hours:

Monday - Thursday
9:30 am - 3:30 pm

Friday by appointment only

Closed:

Nov. 27 & 28 (Thanksgiving)

Dec. 25 & Jan. 1 (Holidays)



**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: 1536 West 12th Street Florence, OR 97439

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

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

October Is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Each October, Siuslaw Outreach Services highlights the issue of Domestic Violence and its affects. The awareness month was kicked off by a silent walk through of Old Town lead by local students and community members. Earlier in the month, Mayor Rob Ward proclaimed the City of Florence recognizes October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and stressed the need for everyone to do their part to end domestic violence.

Domestic Violence is not an issue between two persons. It is everyone's business. Over \$8 billion is spent each year nation wide on medical expenses associated with injuries from domestic violence. Nearly \$8 billion is spent each year nation wide on legal fees. Each year over 12 million persons are affected by domestic violence. One in four women and one in seven men will have experienced domestic violence within their lifetime. Insurance rates are affected by domestic violence statistics. Poor student performance are often related to experiencing domestic violence within the home. Domestic Violence is the number one cause of homelessness for women and children in the state of Oregon.



Bob Teter and High School volunteers

Locally, Siuslaw Outreach Services receives between 200 and 300 requests for help each year, to flee from a domestic violence situation. Siuslaw Outreach Services provides a wide range of services to help get to safety, and start the healing process. Services are delivered by Advocates with nearly twenty years of experience. If you know of someone experiencing domestic violence, let them know help is available 24/7 by calling the DV Crisis Hotline at 541-997-4444 or stop by The Siuslaw Area Resource Center. If you would like to get involved to help your neighbors by volunteering, contact Melissa, our volunteer coordinator at 541-204-1523.

Housing Assistance Changes

Each year for the past five years, SOS has provided for over 200 local households providing nearly \$900K annually towards addressing past due rent or help with move-in costs. Approximately 85% of dollars designated for housing assistance comes from Lane County Human Services Commission. Most of those funds are pass-through dollars from the state and federal government. Beginning July 2025, those dollars were reduced by more than 70%. Those funds are being diverted to support shelter programs in the valley. In addition, nearly all programs to help families get off the streets and into affordable housing are now controlled and managed at the county and state levels. What this means for Siuslaw Outreach Services is that families coming to SOS for move-in assistance, now receive referral service rather than direct aid. Applicants are being placed on what is now know as a 'Centralized Waitlist.' Local referrals are now put on a list with all other Lane County residents. Applicants must be willing to relocate anywhere in the county. The state of Oregon now dictates what unhoused individuals and families are served and when. This change is delaying the process for so many, and creating undue communication issues for landlords. This change is very disappointing for SOS staff and the board. SOS administration has been working to find other resources for those individuals. As resources become available, we will contact those on the waitlist and help those dropping in to seek housing services.

Power of Florence



On July 26th, over 34 community members contributed over 200 combined hours to clear brush, plant trees and shrubs as well as sweep and wash the grounds for the upcoming opening of the Siuslaw Area Resource Center. They also hauled away, with the assistance of County Transfer & Recycling, over 20 yards of debris. The Power of Florence is an annual community-wide event celebrating volunteerism and promoting beautification projects happening all over town. Vanesa Flosi of the Power of Florence said, "This project is an example of what Florence is all about. People coming together doing for our neighbors." Nearly half of the volunteers came from the Rotary Club of Florence. SOS is so appreciative of its volunteers and support of community groups like Rotary and Power of Florence. THANK YOU!



The First Place Winning Team
Coldwell Banker Coast Real Estate



Chipping In For The Cause 2025

Saturday July 19th at Sandpines was the site for 15th Annual Siuslaw Open. The event was presented by Waterfront Depot and sponsored in part by Abel Insurance, Peace Health, Elk Lodge #1858, and Three Rivers Casino. Fun was had by all as they gathered to chip in for the cause raising more than **\$12K** to support local individuals and families in need. **Results are as follows:**

1st Place Gross: Coldwell Banker Coast Real Estate (Nick Johnson, Jack Johnson, Lane Johnson and Kurt Hargins)

2nd Place Gross: Designated Drivers (Anthony Doheny, Jim Gilbert, Garison Lyman and Albert Barnier)

3rd Place Gross: Oregon Pacific Bank (Mike Webb, John Raleigh, Terry Madden and Ron Klampe)

1st Place Net: River Ridge Fanatics (Michael Schumacher, Chris Hammings, Andrew Miller and Aaron Oakley)

2nd Place Net: In For Laughs (Debrah Goetschi, Karen Twitchell, Bobbie Wells and Susan Weathers)

3rd Place Net: Huskies (Rick Yecny, Micheal Schick, Matt House and Darryl Sheets)

Putting Contest Winner: Gary Kadel

Hoagland Properties Chipping Contest High Score: Nick Johnson

Accuracy Drive Women's: Robin James

Accuracy Drive Men's: Brian Enochian

Long Drive Women's: Gayle Timm

Long Drive Men's: Kevin Lee

KP #11 Women's: Kelly Schmidt

KP #11 Men's: Jim Gilbert

Poker Run Winners: In For Laughs Team

There was no winner on the Hole-In-One Grand prize sponsored by Florence Motor Sports. Thank you all for your continued support!

Welcome New Board Members

In accordance with Siuslaw Outreach Services Bylaws and procedures, John Moore and Arlena Morrow have both been approved as members of the SOS Board of Directors.



John Moore

John Moore, a former Mayor of Yachats, comes to SOS with multiple years of experience in the mortgage and financial management industry. John is also a United States Army Veteran and passionate about increasing resources for our local veterans.



Arlena Morrow

Arlena Morrow has been involved with domestic violence shelter programs in Central Oregon before moving to the Florence area. She has also had years of professional experience in investments and banking.

Both have been very involved in many of the community projects through the Rotary Club of Florence. SOS is very excited about adding John Moore and Arlena Morrow to the leadership team.



Students Give Back

At the end of the 24-25 school year, the Junior Interact Club at Siuslaw Middle School held a clothing drive to support clients at Siuslaw Outreach Services. During a three week period of time, the students collected over 40 large bags of clothing. When Executive Director, Bob Teter, got the call that the kids had some clothes to donate, he greatly underestimate the volume they collected! Students smiled as they saw his jaw drop. Teter said, "It is inspiring to see our young community leaders stepping up like this. It truly touches my heart." Some of the student's families were already receiving assistance through SOS. To see them think of others while their own family was struggling is a selfless acts of kindness that should inspire us all.

FUUF Continues Their Support of SOS



Renea, a member of the Florence United Unitarian Fellowship stopped by to show support of those served by SOS with a check totaling over \$1,800 raised by the fellowship members.

Welcome New Resource Center Coordinator Melissa Hansen



Melissa Hansen

Melissa comes to Siuslaw Outreach Services from Klamath Falls. She has a degree in business and years of experience in mental health and resource development.

Melissa believes volunteers are a non-profit's most important resource. She plans to build a team of volunteers that shares SOS's mission to provide compassionate, respectful, and confidential support to those in need. We are very pleased to have her on our team.

Goodwill Does Good Work



Goodwill Industries recently held its annual roundup to support survivors of domestic violence during the month of October. Customers helped raise over \$770 to aid clients for Siuslaw Outreach Services. Thank you all!

2024 STATISTICS

TOTAL NUMBER OF CLIENTS SERVED IN 20242,079

Males—935 Females—1,131 Other Genders—13 Seniors—408 Disabled—712 Children—381 Veterans—81

Clients Receiving Domestic Violence Advocacy Services.....346	Sheltered Nights For DV/SA Survivors.....1,054
Clients Receiving Sexual Assault Advocacy Services.....30	DV/SA Survivors Participating In Support Group.....110
Clients Receiving Human Trafficking Advocacy.....4	Households Receiving Emergency Rent Assistance.....103
Clients Receiving Energy Assistance (LIHEAP).....288	Participants in Parenting Education Classes.....1
Response To After Hours Calls From Police/Hospital.....12	Participants in Self-Sufficiency Classes & Workshops.....29
Total Number Of Trained Volunteers.....25	Total contacts.....15,060

SIUSLAW OUTREACH SERVICES BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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President



Jane Vecny
Vice-President



Andrea Sanchez
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Montee Kennedy
Treasurer



Maree Beers
Director



Jane Hanawalt
Director



DeAnn Hawkins
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Arlena Morrow
Director

**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).

SOS has a need for volunteers to help clients check in, offer clients a snack or beverage, sort or hang clothing donations or cover our Crisis Line. Volunteers are a vital part of our organization. If you are interested in volunteering with **SOS**, give Melissa, our volunteer coordinator a call today at **541-204-1523**. We appreciate you!



~ 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 541-205-9011

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

**SOS is looking for committed volunteers to staff our Focus 4 Crisis Line.
Please contact us for more information by calling (541) 204-1523**



SIUSLAW OUTREACH SERVICES
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