

Give
Them
Wings, Inc.



Transitional Housing, Work Skills,
Education and Wrap-Around Support

WINGS

Fall 2008

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Dear Friends of WINGS:

Welcome to the second WINGS newsletter. So much has happened, I hardly know where to start! I hope you will take a minute and meet some of the folks who have added so much to our progress! We are planning on opening this November with our first four young men. The house still needs a lot of work, but that will be for our volunteers to do as they teach our young men the basics of construction. We have our houseparent hired - you will love her - and our Americorp member will arrive from North Carolina next week. We are holding a fundraising event October 25 and hope you will join us! Thank you for your support - with your time, money and energy!

From Allyson Pate, Executive Director, and the Board of WINGS

Hoe-Down to Benefit WINGS



Please join us for the first WINGS fundraising event on Saturday, October 25, from 6:30 to 10 p.m. at the Mosier Highland Ranch. We hope to raise enough money to be able to get the last repairs done, and to buy all of the furnishings we need to open

our doors to four young men who seek help in turning their lives around!

[Click here for more information.](#)

Being Good Neighbors . . .Continued

We have let the people who live near the WINGS house on Rockford Road know of our plan to open in November, and will be hosting a holiday meeting at the house soon thereafter. This will give them an opportunity to meet our WINGS Crew and staff (and vice versa!). We are sure that once they have had a chance to meet everyone, their concerns will be put to rest. We will thereafter meet quarterly to review how things are going.

Our Newest Board Members



We are very proud to have added three new board members this summer: **Judy Schock**, **Beri Davidson** and **Alice Knowles**. Judy works for Oregon Department of Human Services, helping foster children to be adopted. Her kindness and calm demeanor have added so much to our meetings. Beri works with the Hood River District Attorney's office; we appreciate her wisdom and

steadying support. Alice works for Embarq, and her passion and belief in what we are doing has energized us all. Thanks so much, you three ... and to all of our wonderful board members: **Bernadette Williams**, **Rodger Schock**, **Maija Yasui**, **Patti Pearce**, **David Skagel**, **Bill Marick** and **Anne Cathey**!



Pictured, clockwise from top: Judy Schock, Beri Davidson and Alice Knowles

Meet the Staff

Shawn Sanders - Houseparent

What a blessing to have found Shawn. We know you will get a chance to meet her and instantly be taken by her passion and energy! Shawn has worked with young men in a number of capacities - as a founder of Camp Wayfinders in Oregon, as a wilderness instructor and as a volunteer at Hillcrest Treatment Facility. She is well versed on team-building, problem-solving, mentoring and teaching. We hope she does not need it, but she has also been an EMT and a firefighter! She has even worked at Home Depot and she comes with her own canoe. This dynamo was exactly whom we were looking for to work with the Crew on a daily basis, to model and teach life skills and how to become independent, self-reliant individuals.

Adam Dickson - Americorp Member/Volunteer Coordinator

Americorp matches nonprofits with amazing people who agree to work for very little money in exchange for learning a lot, earning a college stipend and changing the world. Adam is driving from North Carolina and will arrive on October 18. He has a depth and passion that we could not pass up. Don't be surprised when he calls you for help - Adam's job is to recruit volunteers to work alongside our Crew, teaching them everything from installing a ceiling fan to how to make a budget. He will also look for volunteers to take the Crew on recreational adventures - hiking, biking, skiing, golf - you name it! We are so lucky he chose WINGS!

Grant Support



The board and I extend our most sincere gratitude to **Harold and Arlene Schnitzer**, the **Harold and Arlene Schnitzer Care Foundation**, **Jordan Schnitzer** and **Harsch Investments** for their continued belief in our program. Last year, we were thrilled to have been awarded \$25,000 by the Care Foundation. This year's recent award of an additional \$5,000 from the Care Foundation and \$5,000

from Harsch Investments will be spent on repairs and operations. We cannot thank you all enough!

Insitu has generously awarded WINGS \$500 for our education fund. The money will go to pay a teacher to work with our kids two nights a week to help them continue their education.

Board member **Patti Pearce** was recently awarded \$250 to give to the agency of her choice by her employer, Embarq, for all of her amazing volunteer efforts. Patti chose WINGS to be the recipient of her award. Patti - you ROCK!



Thank You, Community Partners!

Leith Gaines - I Do Events



Leith asked me earlier this summer if we would need linens for our Crew. Little did I know what a bounty this would bring! Leith, one of the premier event-planners in the area, organized a big bachelor-weekend party and the outcome for WINGS was \$885 worth of sheets, pillows, blankets and towels! Thanks so much for thinking of us, Leith!



John Koehn - Department of Human Services

John rocks as a caseworker from DHS - he supervises kids who are in the foster care system. But John goes above and beyond for his kids, and fights to be sure they are getting everything they need to be successful! As if he does not already do enough, he recently dropped off a bounty at the WINGS house - guitars, camping gear, even a rubber raft! Thanks John; now you will have to come back

and teach them how to use it all!

Mark Bailey - KIHR

Our thanks to Mark for inviting me to speak on KIHR about WINGS. How lucky we are to have a community radio station that is involved, and supportive of community projects! Thanks also to Mark for the public service announcements for our event!

How You Can Help:

WINGS needs your help to get up and running this year. Please check out the Donation/Volunteer page on our website - www.getwings.net/donation. If you can help with a one-time donation or better yet, a monthly pledge, your money will be directly spent to provide services to former foster kids.

We understand that not everyone can make a monetary donation - but WINGS could use your help in so many other ways! If you have a skill or a passion or a favorite sport, and could spare an afternoon, please let us know. If you have excess furniture or equipment, please check out our Needs List and make a donation. If you have work for the Crew for a day or longer, please let us know. When the young men are ready, together we will give them "WINGS."

Thanks to all of you who have helped WINGS get this far; your help has made all the difference!

Give Them Wings, Inc is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation doing business as WINGS. WINGS is a two-phase program which is designed to provide housing, work, education and wrap-around services for at-risk 18- to 23-year-old young men in Hood River and Wasco Counties.

Sincerely,
Allyson Pate
WINGS

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