

WINGS

Work, housing, education and support for homeless 18-to23-year-old young men from the Gorge.

December 2011

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So Much to Be Thankful For

WINGS is three years old this week - wow, time flies! Young men's faces flash before me and my heart is so full. Can't tell you what it means to be able to offer these young men the chance to turn their lives around. Thanks to all of you for your time, money and energy that makes it all possible!

Grateful for Grants



Arlene and Harold Schnitzer

This month we were so blessed to have two funders provide us with another round of support. Our heart-felt appreciation goes to Arlene Schnitzer. We lost Harold this year, and he will be deeply missed, but we so appreciate the continued support of the Harold and Arlene Schnitzer Care Foundation. A joyful surprise came again this year, another grant from the Lake Family Foundation - we are also very grateful to them!

Hoe-Down Recap

Once again the WINGS community of family and friends did it! The **Hoe-Down** was a huge success. Not only did we have loads of fun, great BBQ and dancing, but we

BBQ and dancing, but we raised over \$30,000 - how great is that?



Larkspur rocks!

We had over 140 guests and a number of donations from folks who could not make it -I can't thank you all enough. Your dazzlingly generous support allows us to survive the winter.

We had so many great auction

items and services provided by local companies. I am going to take a minute to list them.

Special thanks to Chef Geoff for the great food, Larkspur for terrific tunes, Mike Thompson for his amazing auctioneering, Jacquie Barone for her decorating magic, Amber at Blissful Brownies for ALL of the brownies, Rich at Viento, for great wine served by



The Amazing Jacquie & Pasquale

the keg, **Sherry** at *Sage's* provided the lemon bars, **Brad** at the *UPS Store*, and **Steve** at *Postal Annex* helped with the copies, **Luke Adams** entertained with 2-Step lessons and **Eric** at *Your Party Center* provided wine glasses.

Big hug to our local wineries that offered an array of great wine - thanks to *Jacob Williams*, *Pheasant Valley*, *Mt Hood*, *Wy East*, *The Pines*, *Cathedral Ridge*, *Marchesi*, and *Memaloose*. Not to mention our pals at *Full Sail* and *Hood River Distillers* - thanks so much!

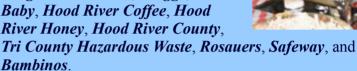


Wines at Silent Auction

Local artists tantalized with beautiful works of art - thanks to Mary Jane Heppe, calligraphy; Kathy Watne, enamel art; Terri Johanson, fused glass; Charlene Fort, blown glass; Amy Kozma, vintage pillow; Steve Kastner, Hawaiian photography, Sarah Burr Arnold, jewelry; and Mal Brown, musician.

Local businesses also stepped

up - please frequent these folks:
Columbia Cliff Villas, Butterfly
Essentials and Spiritual Healing,
Timberline, Mt Hood Meadows,
Hood River Jewelers, Positive
Negatives, Swaddlekeepers, Pistil,
Gorge White House, Twiggs, Outside
Baby, Hood River Coffee, Hood
River Honey, Hood River County,





Deirdre & Debbie hard at work!

Pals also helped out volunteering and providing
wonderful auction items hugs to more than a dozen
amazing supporters. But, I
would be lost without my
Board; Deirdre Kasberger,
Glenn Taylor, Patti Pearce,
Bill Marick, Paul Dezurick,
Karon Peterson, Rodger
Schock, Halla Graves,
Debbie Dennis, and
Charlene Fort.

My wonderful assistant, Ali Hodges, really pulled it all together and our accountant, Paula Maden, handled the financials - you two rock!



Amazing Ali with Gail from Pheasant Valley

More photos:



Luke & Vickie show us the moves!





WING-man John working



Jean at the Wish Wall

Finally Firewood!

Thanks to the generosity of *Hood River Rotary* we will be starting our firewood business! We gratefully accepted a check from **Stephen Ford**, President, and in turn, purchased two chain saws and chaps from **Ben Sheppard** at *Sheppard's*.



Allyson and Stephen Ford



Thanks, Stephen and Hood River Rotary members

Need firewood?

We are selling cords of dry fir delivered locally for \$185! For every 10 cords we sell - we will give one to a needy family. Call Ali, 541-490-1143.

And So Much More!

Hood River Sports Club really reminded us about the holiday spirit when we got the call that their members had brought



Thanks to Joe and all the Sports Club folks!

in donations of food and supplies for WINGS. We were shocked at our bounty. In the photo is **Joe Irby**, Yoga Instructor, and we are also grateful to **Clark** and **Carol** Emmerson, and **Coral Worth**, Manager, at the *Sports Club*. Thank you all so much!

Most of our young men have not been to the dentist in years. Our program would be lost without the very generous support of the *Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital Foundation*. They supply us with dental vouchers for our young men! But **Dr. Curtis Haynie** is our hero. Not only does his team make the boys comfortable, but he always goes the extra mile to help. We are so grateful!



Dr. Haynie



Hood River Valley Christian Church

Once again we were blessed with a donation from Linda Presley, Pastor, and the entire congregation at *Hood River Valley Christian Church*. We so appreciate their ongoing support!



Getting Wet with Wet Planet

One of the highlights every year for our WINGS-Crew is a white water rafting trip on the White Salmon with *Wet Planet*. They

very generously allow us to fill a raft with crew and guys! Most of our guys have never had this kind of opportunity and it is a life-changing experience. Thanks to **Jaco** and all of the gang at Wet Planet!

Waterproof Workers

We are looking for winter work and will work rain or shine - no project too ugly: gutter cleaning, snow shoveling, moving - so we hope you will call **Allyson** at **541-380-3820**. Also firewood - dry fir delivered locally - call **Ali** at **541-490-1143**.



Interested in Helping?



Our guys would really like training in car repair, kick boxing or martial arts, and yoga. Any skill you have, they would love to learn! We are also looking for volunteers for winter activities! Have a bunk bed around? One of ours broke! Keep us in mind for furniture - we need everything and are already collecting **Treasure Sale** donations!

Thank You Again

We have been open three years this week and we know that it would not be possible without the help and support of each and everyone of you. Please know how very thankful we are to be able to offer these young men . . . *WINGS*.

Become a Fan on our Facebook Page!

When you just can't wait for the next WINGS Newletter, head on over to our Facebook page. Just click on the "f" and you'll see lots of great photos and read about everything the WING-men and their supporters have been up to!

Give Them Wings, Inc is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation doing business as WINGS. WINGS is a two-phase program which provides housing, work, trade and life skill training, education and wrap-around services for 18- to 23-year-old young men in Hood River and Wasco Counties who were formerly in foster care or are currently homeless and in need of support.

Sincerely, Allyson Pate WINGS

Forward email



