



Feb. 2014

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Where does the time go? Already the middle of February and so much great news! Thank you all for your amazing support at the end of the year, and we are so grateful for the donations that came in through our *No-Show Valentine's Event*. Not too late - you can still donate by **clicking here**:



Joyful Night

First, I want to send out a huge Thank You to **Perry Cole** and the *Mid-Columbia Community Choir!* Their *Joyful Hymns of Thanksgiving* concert was the perfect start of the season and we were so blessed to have received over \$800 in support! What a night!



Cookie Palooza



Cruz, Cody and Chance getting into it!

My favorite project with the WINGS guys is **Cookie Palooza**.

This year we baked over 20 batches of cookies. They were shared with our board and other supporters and were given as holiday gifts. Still finding flour and sticky fingerprints, but fun for all.

What a Gift!

Maybe the nicest thing someone has done for WINGS was a wonderful letter to the editor in the *Hood River News* written by one of our clients, **Kurt Osborne**. Kurt took the time to write a very thoughtful letter recommending our work - it was so kind of him, so unexpected and so appreciated! Thanks Kurt!



[Click here to read Kurt's letter.](#)

Amazing Holiday Support

A special thanks again to all of you who chose to share your year end support with WINGS. Winter is our toughest time of year and we are so grateful! We also added up all of the services and donated items - non-monetary, in-kind donations and WINGS was given over \$68,000 in support in 2013!

Ain't She a Beaut?

Our wonderful friends at **Employees Community Fund of Boeing Portland** have once again blessed us with support, and this year we were able purchase this beauty of a workhorse - our much-needed tractor!



Don't they look excited?

Special hugs to **Julie Buntrock** and **Brad Gibbs** for fighting for us!

Holiday Blessing



Steve Grace and Allyson

We are soo grateful for the support from all of our church partners! This winter we were blessed to receive a wonderful donation from the **Hood River Alliance Church**. They raise money through a holiday program called *The Advent Conspiracy*. The congregation donates money they would have over-spent to the Conspiracy and then the church selects a number of organizations to

donate to - WINGS was very grateful to have been selected again this year!

The Amazing Angela

We are very proud that we were able to twist the arm of **Angela Schock** to join our Board. She is married to **Mike Schock** and they can be seen whizzing by on bikes and skis and golf carts and everything else! She works from home for **Hewlett Packard** and we are so grateful to add her smarts to our team.



Graduations!



Last month we had a wonderful celebration of successes at **China Gorge** - big hug to **Grace Su** for adding the ice cream to the celebration.

Matthew Carroll has only been with us in Phase One for three months, but showed such promise and

leadership that we offered him a part time position as Assistant Crew leader to **Walt**. He really has put it all together and is such an asset! Yeah Matthew!



Matthew

AJ Vang, whom many of you heard speak at the Hoe-Down, graduated from Phase One



AJ

and left us to join **Job Corp** where he is taking an apprenticeship in mechanics and carpentry. He was so shy and leaves full of confidence! Way to go AJ!

Adrian Medel also spoke at the Hoe-Down and has graduated to Phase Two. He lives with Cruz and Chicoby and can be seen nightly at the new (and very yummy) **Lilo's Hawaiian Barbecue** in the old Quizno's location!

Chicoby is working two jobs - the new (and also yummy) **Pita Pit** and at **Hatt's Fuel**. Stop in and say hi to the guys!



Adrian



Chicoby

Work, Work, Work

As you can see by this cute photo the guys are ready to get to work helping you get your yard ready for spring - so call Allyson at **541-380-3820** for help with any ugly project!



What's With All the Snow?



Perfect job for young strong guys!

Funny story...got a call from a gal who called to thank us! The WINGS guys had rescued her and ten other folks who had gotten stuck at the bottom of the driveway of the **Community College**. You may have also seen them shoveling out our newest client, **Hood River Square**, or the library or

Cascade Commons. They rescued lots of folks, cleared lots of driveways, and only broke two shovels!!

Not All Work!

Yes, the guys work hard during the day, but we have been blessed with support to also have fun. We love **Camden Lindsay!** Once again he purchased **Meadows** Gift Cards for us, which allowed for some great times on the mountain and only a few bruises!



Skiing at the Meadows



Chance and Shawn out for a ride!

Shawn, our Weekend Leader, gets the guys out on his horses - such a great experience!

And just last week Program Assistant **Petrina's** mom, **Danna**, and pal **Julie** came in to teach the guys to knit and crochet! She also teaches a weekly journaling class. **Petrina** - you rock!



Thanks, Danna and Julie!

Happy Birthday, Connor



Happy 23rd Birthday, Connor!

Connor joined WINGS just in time to celebrate his 23rd birthday. Said he could not remember when he last had a birthday cake! The crew (and his cute girl friend) were on hand to celebrate and embarrass him with bad singing and a big sombrero at **Crazy Pepper!**

Spoil Someone You Love and Help WINGS!

Our pal **Lorena Lowell** is baking up a storm and offering monthly cookie deliveries locally or through the mail. Check out her flyer, send a wonderful monthly gift and WINGS makes a portion of the profits! [Click here for the flyer.](#)

WINGS Wish List

You have all spoiled us so much - I almost hate to ask - but there are a number of items we could really use. Let us know if you have any ideas! **541-380-3820**

ROTARY MOWER DECK - need a 4' or 5' PTO driven mower deck for our new (used) tractor! This would really help our field clearing business!!

CARPENTRY TOOLS - Really need a compressor, nail gun, bench grinder and skills saws to rebuild our falling down barn this summer!

STORAGE - we lost our wonderful storage space, so if anyone has a clean, dry space, close to town for storing furniture and treasures, we would love to hear about it!
Treasure Sale returns in June - save your stuff!

POWER WASHER - would be so great to have for our shopping center clean ups!

WATER DISPENSER & SMALL FRIDGE - we have a great little office at the Mill across the river, but the guys could really use these items to keep them hydrated and lunches fresh!

SERVICE SHELL - for our Ford Long Bed Crew Cab - of course Walt would like lift up side doors . . . never hurts to ask!

SPORTS EQUIPMENT - We could use whatever you no longer use, but our testosterone-filled guys would love anything for archery, skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, backpacking, camping, rock climbing or mountain biking! Thanks!!

Know how crazy grateful we are. Each of you has made such a difference and we would not be here without you! Thank you again for the 60 rescued young men and five amazing years of changing the world, one young man at a time!

Become a Fan on our Facebook Page!



When you just can't wait for the next WINGS Newsletter, 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*

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