



January 2010

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Oh my gosh - it is January 25th! I was supposed to write this newsletter three weeks ago! So I apologize for the length - but there are so many folks to thank! We have been open 14 months and it is mostly because of the support we have received from all of you - we can't thank you enough!



I hope, this Valentine's Day, that you might consider becoming a **monthly donor**. We can acknowledge your donation as a gift to someone you love or even in memorial. Being a monthly donor makes such a difference in a non-profit's sustainability - it helps with budgets and demonstrates community support that helps us get grants. Your donation even comes with a Valentine's Card - [click here to learn more!](#)

Meet Rayne Zaughsome

Rayne is our new Crew Leader. He comes with years of outdoor experience and he already feels like family. Rayne works the mid-week shift - two days and three nights. He brings a love of gardening - so we are looking forward to a little Rayne magic on our farm! He just had his 29th birthday at a party with the guys!



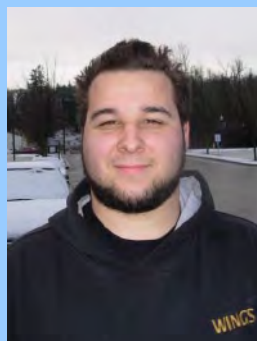
Thank Goodness for Lea

Lea Rachford joins WINGS as our Volunteer Coordinator and my assistant. She brings her calm wisdom and tenacity to the team. If you are interested in volunteering, please email her at lea.getwings@gmail.com.



New WING-man: Nick Graves

Nick is our first guy from Cascade Locks and he rounds out our team at four. He joined us at the end of November. He loves to fix bikes and work with his hands. He already has an internship at **Del Carpine Automotive** on Fridays, as their shop assistant!





Newest Board Member - Deirdre Kasberger

Wow - what a treasure! **Deirdre** is the new Juvenile Director for Hood River and brings years of experience through her work at **J Bar J Youth Services** in Bend where she was the director of Cascade Youth & Family Center. We are so grateful for her decision to join us on our quest to end homelessness for young men in the Gorge!

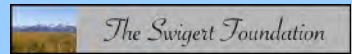
We Lost One of Our Angels

Even before we opened, we were blessed to receive a small envelope with a carefully written note, and a check - every month. I always wrote back to try to learn more about our mystery donor. . . but she never responded. Last month, **Jane Nichols** from Hood River BnB emailed to say **Helen Wilson**, her mom and our angel, had passed away just before Christmas - she will be so missed!



Grateful for Grants

We are so grateful for two more Foundations that chose to support our program. The **Swigert Foundation** and the **Lake Family Foundation** made very generous contributions, which will really help us get through these lean winter months.



Holiday Gifts

So many of you chose to make an end-of-year donation to WINGS - we can't thank you enough. Winter is a tough time for us, as work is lean, but please know your donations are used to provide clothing, food and shelter to our four formerly-homeless young men!



Our Toyota Prius

Did you know **David Weiss**? He was an amazing guy who passed away last year, but he had such an impact on so many on the WA side! His family offered us some of his treasures - and we got loads of camping and outdoor goodies! Then **Barbara**, his sister, offered his 2001 Prius! Woo Hoo - 38 miles to the gallon - and runs great! We are so grateful and think of David often.

Thanks, Ruthie - for the Trailer!

One of Hood River's favorite characters, **Ruth Blackburn**, called, offering some great stuff. While we were wandering around her yard, we came across a trailer she no longer used - another woo hoo! So great for hauling and making trips to the dump! Thanks, Ruthie!



Shortt Supply is Long on Kindness!



If you see **Karen** or **Brian** given them a hug! They opened their backroom and donated enough warm wear for our guys to get through the winter. They even found a pair of running shoes for Stephen - Karen & Brian ROCK!

Beta Sigma Phi

The local chapter of this sorority played Santa at the WINGS house before the holidays. Led by **Leslie Malby**, the women brought a yummy dinner, a poinsettia and money toward for a warm winter coat - thanks to all!!

Hood River Alliance Church

We are so grateful to be one of the recipients of the church's Advent Conspiracy. Money not spent on the usual holiday madness was pooled and donated. We were one of the local groups who were blessed to receive a donation! To **Steve Grace** and the



Congregation, we say, THANK YOU!!



Looking Good

Our thanks go to **Neal and Diana Price** and **Corey and Bernadette Williams** who donated new shirts to the guys at our annual Christmas Pot Luck. It was a great night, topped off by the

cookies the guys made and their version of playing Secret Santa.



Giving Back

You may see the guys every Friday at **Rosauers** and **Safeway** as they pick up the stores' donations for the **Fish Food Bank**. We think it is vital that the guys learn to give back to the community that has supported them. This holiday

season, they also worked with the amazing **Raelynn Recarte** packing Hero boxes for folks serving overseas, and they rang the **Salvation Army** bell for **Rotary** before Christmas. They did such a great job!



Work, Work, Work

Do you have a project you have been putting off - raking up last year's leaves, repainting, trimming, tearing something down (a favorite) or any terrible task? Please give us a call. I just

had the guys work at Lakecliff, and in four hours the place was transformed! Please call 541-380-3820 to discuss!

Gratitude

We are so grateful for our amazing first year - so many gifts and blessings. I wish we could say the fight is over, but really, we are just

getting started. In December, I received six phone calls from young men: homeless, with no place to go. We are working toward opening our second house later this year, so we can take more young men off the street and help them learn to be employable and sustainable. Please consider making a donation, volunteering, or even better, becoming a monthly donor! Thank you, as always for your support.

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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