



# WINGS

Work, housing, education and support for homeless young women and their children from the Gorge.

July 2017

### Quick Links

- [WINGS Website](#)
- [Newsletter Archive](#)
- [WINGS Facebook Page](#)

### In This Issue

- [Brandi & Our Moms](#)
- [Our Apartment](#)
- [Men's Program](#)
- [WINGS Property for Sale!](#)
- [Starry Nights](#)
- [Dinner Series](#)
- [Wish List](#)

**How You Can Help**

**Join Our Mailing List**

**Funny things happen** when you have a plan. Instead of the summer of vacation rentals and visiting our kids, I fell and broke my leg! On April 15, while attempting to gracefully (*riiight*) jump over something and land on the bottom step of a bleacher at an agility dog show (*ironic*) I found myself on the ground. Three operations later, I hope to graduate from walker and wheelchair to crutches in two weeks. Sigh! My wonderful hubby, daughter **Kate**, and friends have been amazing and I have learned so many lessons about letting go and living life in baby steps of success.



*On the mend with help from daughter Kate and best pal Karon! You guys rock!!*

### Brandi & Our Moms

I have also learned that I am dispensable! The amazing **Brandi** has done such a great job of managing the women's program AND wrangling seven moms and nine children AND taking over my role of baking every other Monday. She really is amazing. I have to say our mom program is thriving!!



*Rachel baking with Brandi and the team last year!*

### Rachel

**Rachel** was our second mom to enter the women's program with her then 3-month-old baby, **Sophia**. They moved out this spring to their own place with Rachel working, having her license, a car, being clean and sober for 18 months and being only one more test away from getting

her GED. So proud of her!!

### Lupita

We are proud of how far **Lupita** has come, and that she is ready to move out and get her own place. She has worked hard on her recovery and has been a wonderful part of our baking business and mom house. She leaves with her license, insurance and a car!! We love you Lupita and wish you every success!!



*Lupita with her kids: Mixy, Gideon & Tucker!*

### Ashlee

The amazing **Ashlee** just celebrated seven months of sobriety. When she entered the program in October, DHS was not sure what the status of her newborn son, **Kayson**, would be. With actively working her recovery steps and Family Court process, she is now having weekend visits with Kayson and the plan is for him to return home full time in September! We can't wait for this buzz bomb to be here full time! We are also proud that Ashlee is working almost full time and just got her drivers license!



*Ashlee & bruiser, Kayson*

### **Shannon**

**Shannon** is our mom glue; her faith and joyful approach to life has made all the difference in our mom house. She moved in when we opened our house in October and her darling (mini-Shannon) 10-year old daughter, **Ava**, is a joy to have in the house. Shannon recently celebrated 14 months sober, is VERY active in the recovery community, and got her license and bought the Prius generously donated by **Steve & Donna Deacon**.



*Mitzi & darling Natalee!*

**Mitzi**  
Wow is **Mitzi** busy! She gave birth to our darling **Natalee** in January and has retaken custody of her son, **Thomas**, now 9, and daughter, **Hannah**, who is 15. Fortunately the house has one really



*Shannon & her mini-me Ava!*

big bedroom, so her tribe fits beautifully. Mitzi is doing an amazing job of balancing kids and continues work on her sobriety of seven months. She just looks so healthy and happy! Hurray!

### **Our Apartment**

With Rachel moving out, we are able to add two new moms to our program. **Annie** is moving in with her daughter, and **Amanda** will have weekend custody for her two kids. We are very proud to be able to provide housing and support for these young mothers who truly want to live safe clean and sober lives. Both of these moms seem committed to their sobriety and eager to get their lives back on track.



*Newest additions Annie & Amanda*

Please know none of this would be possible without your generous support!!

### **Men's Program**

As you know by now, **Wasco County** received a DOJ grant last year and they hired **Bridges for Change** to open a men's program in May. I spoke with **Michael Olson**, Recovery Mentor, and he emphasizes their



program is also about "Recovery First". Although they are not able to have their men work in the community like WINGS did, all of the men are working hard on their recovery as well as holding down full time employment. It was so great to hear that men in our community are getting great service and support.



### **WINGS Property for Sale!**

With the closing of the men's program, we have the opportunity to sell the WINGS property in Hood River and open a third mom house in The Dalles. If you know anyone interested in a beautiful and quiet 3-acre site off Barrett in Hood River, please call **Ruby Mason** at 541-980-9104 or check out our listing with the **Hood River Windermere** office!



## Starry Nights

We hope you will join us for this year's **Starry Nights** event, which will be held again at **Lakecliff** on **Saturday, Sept 23**. As always, we will have great food and dessert made by our moms, as well as wine and beer and great music. And again we will be kicking off our 2017-2018 Dinner Series.



Volunteers needed! Have a heart for homeless moms and willing to help with Starry Nights or host a WINGS Dinner? Please call **Allyson** at 541-380-3820.

Monies raised this year will allow us to supply the hundreds of dollars needed to get each family moved in and pay for all of their necessities. Did you know you can't buy diapers or rotisserie chicken with Food Stamps - but you can buy candy and chips - crazy!

## Dinner Series - soooo many people to thank!!



*Kathy showing us the ropes...*



*So much to learn...*

**Cinco de Mayo** - In spite of my broken leg, my darling husband, **James**, and daughter **Kate**, who came out to care for her mom, put on a wonderful evening! Margaritas flowed as **Kathy** and **Stu Watson** put our guests through their paces as we learned how to make tamales, fish tacos, guacamole, red sauce and more. SO, So Fun! Thanks Kathy & Stu!



*...And then hands-on fun!*



*Start with a beautiful table...*

**Tantalizing Tapas** - **Lisa** and **Mal Brown** hosted a wonderful evening with a delightful and amazing array of tapas. They prepared each truly tantalizing dish - check out the menu!

A beautiful table was set and a perfect evening was had by all - thanks to **Joe Stillman**, **80/20 Fine Foods** and **Viento Wines**! Special hug for Lisa for all she does for WINGS - helping with payroll, scheduling and keeping me on the planet! Lisa, you ROCK!



*...Add friends...*



*...And an amazing menu for a great evening!*

**Blake's Italian Feast** - Of course **Patt & Gary Blake** pulled out all of the stops for their wonderful evening. **Riverside's** fantastic chef, **Mark DeResta**, catered quite a spread: from short ribs over polenta



*Great food...*

to beet salad to amazing greens. Of course, Patt provided the appetizers and dessert. **The Pines** donated the wine and **Lonnie** entertained and really pulled out all the stops! Thank guys, for another wonderful dinner!



*...Great wine...*



*...A recipe for success!*

**Washington Wonders** - Once again, **Will & Annette Swope** were kind enough to share their beautiful home with the most amazing view with WINGS guests. The wonderful **Christiaan** of **Henni's** in White Salmon dazzled everyone by cooking everything over an open fire - African style. A yummy wine array was provided by **Crooked Acres** and **Corliss**. Something for everyone. It was a perfect night - thanks to all!



*Will holding court!*



*The amazing Christiaan!*



*Fun for all!*

### **Wish List**

Our moms move in with almost nothing and we try to help them with enough furniture to move out when they graduate so we need your help!!

We really need:

- **Dressers** - tall
- **Beds** - full size, in good shape
- **Baby Cribs** - bedding too
- **Cars** - four of our moms need cars - we can give you Kelly Blue Book donation value for any car you donate!!
- **Computers** - newish with Office Software.

If you can help with donations, or would be willing to host a dinner, or volunteer at **Starry Nights**, or would consider serving on our board, please email me at **Allyson@getwings.net** or call me at **541-380-3820**. As always we are so grateful for your continued support.

## Facebook



Please like WINGS if you have not done so already. We are trying to get the word out to folks and could use your help - [facebook/getwings](https://www.facebook.com/getwings).

*Give Them Wings, Inc is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation doing business as WINGS. WINGS offers formerly homeless young women and their children from the Columbia Gorge Region everything they need to learn to be employable and sustainable. We offer a home, work, training, continuing education, and all types of support to young people between the ages of 18 and 23.*

*Sincerely,  
Allyson Pate  
WINGS*

WINGS, 2149 W Cascade, #106A, PMB 48, Hood River, OR 97031

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