



WINGS

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

May 2018

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Wings Women

We had an amazing celebration last week and can't wait to share our success. You may remember we transferred the men's program to the care of Wasco County, and their **Bridges to Care** program is really doing well! This allowed us to focus on our passion for young mothers in recovery. We purchased a four-bedroom house a year and a half ago in The Dalles and have filled it with amazing young women and adorable children, all working hard to turn their lives around. Last week we celebrated a number of milestones!

Moms in the House



Shelby reunited with Caydon!

Shelby - wow so proud of her. She was our super shy mom who was on the brink of losing custody of her three sons. Now, she is one of the leaders of the house. Her sparkle really helps the other moms. She is now close to getting full custody of her youngest son, Caydon - he is currently with her from Tuesday through Thursday. We celebrated her 27th birthday at the party - as well as her 12 months of sobriety. She is getting her teeth repaired this month, testing to finish her GED, and making plans to get her own place! So much success!

Krystal - so much progress and patience. Krystal was our other birthday girl and she turned 26. She is holding her adorable three-month old son, Oliver. Her busy schedule is filled with attending Family Dependency Court (FDC), mental health support, learning to eat healthier and walking everywhere! Her smile can light up a room and we are so proud!



Krystal with adorable Oliver!



Alyssa with darling Izaiah!

Alyssa - our little fireball. This amazing young woman leads with her heart and her enthusiasm is infectious. With 10 months of sobriety under her belt, she has the tools she needs to be a great mom to 11-month old son, Izaiah. Even though she has struggled with lifelong hearing issues and numerous surgeries, she does not let it hold her back - she just got her license, got her fines paid off, is getting a car and just got a job! We expect that she will soon be ready to be on her way - woo hoo!

Tiffany - our newest mom is blowing everyone away! She has turned away from the dependency on an old relationship, and instead of losing her kids to adoption is now able to visit one daughter twice a week and reconnecting with the other. She started attending FDC last month. She has been in the house six weeks and is celebrating four months of sobriety. Wow - amazing progress.



Hurray for Tiffany

In Our Apartment

Christina - think you are busy? You have no idea. This amazing woman has fought hard and won. Last Monday her two-year-old twins, Jakkub and Jozy, were returned to her full time and later she will be getting her three- and five-year-olds returned. She handles them all with amazing patience and a smile on her face! How crazy great is that? She is in Phase 2 of FDC and has six months of sobriety. She lives in a three-bedroom apartment rented by WINGS and this week got her driver's license. She is currently walking everywhere with her kids (11 miles this week) and is in need of a van or large car. If you are ever thinking of donating a car, she would be the perfect recipient!



The amazing Christina with her twins!



New hire Mitzi with Nick and Natalee!

New Hire

Mitzi - you probably remember Mitzi - she was in our house for a year and graduated to her own place in February with her long-term boy friend, Nick, and her darling baby daughter, Natalee. She also has shared custody of a busy 10-year-old son and 16-year-old daughter and recently reconnected with her 18-year-old son! So much success. When Brandi finally agreed that she could not be everywhere at once and could use some help, we offered Mitzi a part time job to become Brandi's assistant. She is already proving herself invaluable and she is a joy to have around! Life comes full circle!

Recent Grads

Last December, **Shannon** and **Ashlee** moved into our other three-bedroom apartment and both are doing fantastic! Shannon is a key employee at **St. Vinnies**, just celebrated two years sober, and is a wonderful mother to 11-year-old daughter Ava. We helped her get her license and a car, but she has really taken her God-filled spirit and soared.



Shannon, you rock!!



Congrats Ashlee on your new job and hugs to Kayson

We are very proud that Ashlee was just hired at the recovery program, **Bridges to Change**, full time!! More of life coming full circle!! Ashlee celebrated 18 months sober this week! She graduated from WINGS and FDC - so great! Her darling son Kayson is 20 months old and is so busy!! She has a bright new smile, car, insurance and full time job. How great is that?

Other Grads

Look for **Ashley O** when you are at **Riverside Restaurant**. She is a hostess there and loves her job. She and her darling Madi just moved into a great new apartment.



Ashley O and mini-me Madi!

Our firebrand **Lupita** was also hired full time at **Bridges to Change** and is doing great.



You go Rachel!!

Heather got married and works full time as security at **Google**.

Rachel and **Sophia** are doing so great, and you might see Rachel stocking bread for **Orowheat** at **Walmart**.

Wonder Woman

Brandi - When James and I decided to take our first month-long vacation ever, I realized I could leave without a worry because our program was in Brandi's capable hands. She is the heart and soul of WINGS and she does an amazing job with all of these moms and so many kids. Her experience (five years sober) and joy and kindness and toughness make her the perfect person for the job and we are so lucky. She also celebrated success - she and her darling husband



Wonder Woman Brandi and husband Brandon!

Brandon just bought their first house and moved in last week!

Play Structure



Play structure being installed!

We have been blessed in so many ways, but one of my favorites has been our gorgeous play structure donated and installed by **Dave Jubitz's** company, **The Kids' Backyard Store** in Portland. This wonderful man offered this super cool play structure to WINGS when he heard we were buying the house and it has made such a difference. The kids play and babies swing on it every day. Thanks Dave - what a blessing!!



Our cool play structure!



Being enjoyed by our babies!!

Dinner Series

One of the fun ways you can help **WINGS** continue to have success is by attending one of the events in our **Dinner Series**. We had to reschedule the **Bird Watching Breakfast** as my new



Diner a la Campagne

grandbaby is expected the next day, but we still have one slot left.

We have a couple of places left for Mady's French Feast - **Dinner À la Campagne** on July 7th and a number of spots for the fascinating **Geology Tour**. Lead by local geologist Lloyd DeKay, this fun and informative tour will begin and end at the Discovery Center in The Dalles. Numerous stops will answer all of your questions, and scrumptious box lunches prepared by the WINGS women will be provided. Sign up today!



Geology of the Gorge Tour

Other Ways to Help

We are looking to add two new **board members** this year. We meet every other month, so if you have a heart for WINGS, please email me at Allyson@getwings.net!

We are also looking for cars for our moms, so if you are thinking of making a **car donation** we hope you will consider us. We can give you a tax donation based on the Kelly Blue Book value! A win for everyone!

Our moms could use a break once in a while, so if you miss **babysitting** your grandkids and could spare a couple of hours a month - email me!

Have a **passion for cooking** and care to teach some simple recipes? Or would be willing to teach our moms about budgeting, meditation, or other life skills? We would love to hear from you!

Of course we would also appreciate any **financial support** you can offer. It is amazing how expensive it is to support moms and babies who enter our program with almost nothing. For the last four years we have achieved 100% success, and are so grateful to be able give these young women WINGS with your amazing kindness and 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://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*

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