

Bethlehem Linn *Twenty Years of Hope*

RESTORING HOPE FOR TWENTY YEARS! Summer 2019 Newsletter

Dear Friends,

It's amazing to realize that Bethlehem Inn has been *Restoring Hope for 20 Years!*

As this reality sinks in, we realize it's because of your support and that of our generous community that we have all reached this milestone together. Your continuing compassion enables and inspires us to meet the increasing demand for emergency shelter for those who come to the Inn in search of hope and guidance.

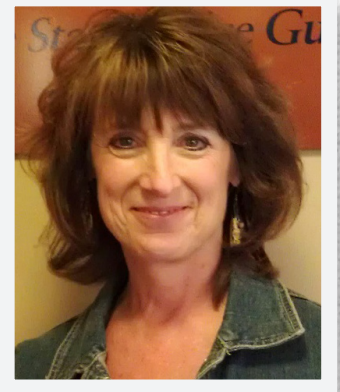
This past year has been one of significant and meaningful changes for the Inn and our community. In August 2018, 10 families transitioned into the new Family Residence and Service Hub, which now shelters up to 10 families each night. In May 2019, single adults moved into the new Next Steps building, sheltering 112 nightly. These significant accomplishments allow the Inn to create avenues to stable housing from a foundation of safe and supportive shelter.

Rachel's family, highlighted below, was one of the first served in our new Family Residence. She and her kids are now enjoying the comfort and stability of their own home, thanks to the support of so many generous donors like you. With your continued compassion we are prepared to serve over 1,500 different adults and children next year, each with their own unique challenges and life stories.

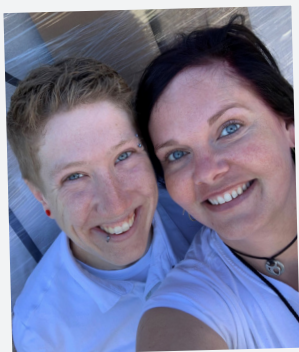
Your support means so much to those we serve. Please donate today by using the enclosed envelope or by visiting our secure website at bethleheminn.org/donate/monetary-donations/. We couldn't do what we do without people like you!

In Gratitude,

Kim Fischbach
Director of Philanthropy



Meet our Facilities Crew, **BETH & NICOLE!**



Beth joined the Inn in November 2018, after moving to Bend from her hometown of Roseburg, Oregon with her wife, McKenzie. Beth is a Jack-of-all-Trades, not only working in Facilities, but also in the kitchen and sorting donations. Prior to Bethlehem Inn, Beth worked at a homeless shelter for teens and families in Roseburg, as “house mom” with duties ranging from maintaining the 60+ year old building, to cooking dinner for 25, to organizing donations and assisting volunteers. Beth’s favorite part of her job is that she gets to learn something new every day, while being supported by a team of passionate people who truly love helping others. When she’s not working, she can be found baking or enjoying the outdoors with her wife and two dogs.

Nicole joined the Inn team in August 2018 as Facilities Assistant, taking care of a variety of maintenance issues. She also enjoys working with the dedicated community and resident volunteers. Prior to the Inn, she was a Program Director at residential homes for adults that experienced intellectual and developmental disabilities. Her favorite duty as Program Director was being a strong advocate for those who couldn’t advocate for themselves. After nine years of being a Program Director she was grateful when the opportunity for change presented itself at the Inn. When not at work, she can be found outside, chasing waterfalls, finding hot springs or hiking in a beautiful place.

These two co-workers work tirelessly to make sure our new buildings and the day-to-day operations of the facility are in good working order! Thanks Beth and Nicole for all you do to *Transform Lives with Shelter, Help and Hope!*

Another **SUCCESS STORY** made possible by **YOU!**

Rachel's Story...

“Unraveling.” That’s Rachel’s one-word description of her life not long ago. Escaping an abusive marriage with teen children meant leaving a three-bedroom home and turning to rented rooms, couch surfing and camping by the Deschutes River. Through it all, Rachel kept her job and the kids stayed in school. A compassionate employer helped her get a car and her license. He also suggested Bethlehem Inn. Rachel worried about the words, “homeless shelter.” She says, “I knew I’d made some poor choices and needed help,” but a homeless shelter? Then she and the kids arrived at Bethlehem Inn.

There was warmth. And hope. There was safety and stability: stepping stones to a new life. There were rules, some strict for sure, but, in Rachel’s words, “...all focused on helping me make changes.” Staff helped her make connections with Deschutes County Behavioral Health. She was shown paths to find housing. There was unstinting staff support. The kids say over and over, “So many nice people...so many generous volunteers. They’re only there to help you.” Her son says, “As long as my family is with me, I will be okay.” He no longer worries about his family. Rachel and the kids are in safe, stable housing. Rachel is working. The children are in good schools. Three lives that had been unraveling are now knit together, stronger than ever as they move toward tomorrow.

Your support helps people just like Rachel get back on their feet. Please donate today by using the enclosed envelope or by visiting bethleheminn.org/donate/monetary-donations/.



20,000 THANKS to All of Our Volunteers who Donated Close to 20,000 Hours of their Time Last Year!

Karen and Connie Launch Inn Pop-up Salon!

Now best of friends, Karen and Connie met as volunteers at Bethlehem Inn. A few years ago Karen started by volunteering to prepare and serve meals, as well as helping with data entry and front desk support. Connie began her volunteer experience at the front desk and by helping with special projects. As they got more involved with the Inn, Connie and Karen decided they wanted to do something a little different. Karen enrolled at Phagans and graduated in February 2019, all to provide free haircuts to Inn residents. Now these two dedicated ladies are running a pop-up salon at the Inn twice a week! Karen cuts and styles hair and Connie offers relaxing manicures to residents with the intention of increasing self-esteem and helping residents maintain professional appearances for job-seeking and retention. When you see them in action you can tell how much they enjoy giving back, and we are lucky to have their support!



WHAT A TRANSITION!

We'd like to share before and after photographs of the Inn. Both buildings are completed and sheltering up to 140 adults and children each night. (Parking lot to be completed in August.)



BEFORE (2007)



AFTER (2019)

Transforming Lives Together Capital Campaign Update

We have exciting news! The Inn has almost reached our \$9 million *Transforming Lives Together* capital campaign goal. We still have a little ways to go, so if you would like to help, please donate by visiting bethleheminn.org/capital-campaign/ways-to-give/.

2018-2019 Highlights

Your support enabled us to provide the following last year:

- Over 105,000 meals were served (27% increase).
- 1,100 different people were provided shelter (28% increase).
- Over 2,800 volunteers donated close to 20,000 hours of their time to help those in need.

IT'S NOT JUST WHAT WE DO, IT'S HOW WE DO IT TOGETHER!

UPCOMING EVENTS:



**Benefit Concert
featuring
Precious Byrd
August 18, 2019**

Want to have fun while giving back to your community?! Our benefit concert is less than a month away! Get your tickets now at bethleheminn.org/news-events/. We are excited to celebrate with Oregon's #1 party band and you, our community of supporters, at the first live concert held at the Bend Parks Pavilion in Bend! *We'll see you there!*

The Great Drake Park Duck Race September 8, 2019



We are thrilled to announce that we have been selected as one of the charities to benefit from the Great Drake Park Duck Race! Please stop by the Inn to purchase your tickets or call Courtney at 541.322.8768 ext. 11.

GET INVOLVED

Our need for volunteers continues to grow.

An increase in the number of people requiring Inn services means we are seeking additional volunteers to help in the following areas:

- Meal preparers and servers. This is a great opportunity to rally your church, business, friends or family to join you in serving a nutritious meal once a month
- Volunteers to help with coverage of our front desk
- Volunteers to help in our commercial laundry
- Volunteers to help process donations

Please contact Courtney at 541.322.8768 ext. 11 or visit bethleheminn.org/volunteer/ for other volunteer opportunities and a list of available meal dates.



Please join Our BLUE BAG Program!

One fun way to help us fill our pantry is by participating in the Blue Bag Program. It's a fun and simple way to share food and help meet the demands of the Inn's Emergency Meal Program.

Our current immediate needs include sliced lunch meat, sliced cheese, ramen, cup o' noodles, fruit/applesauce cups, granola bars, backpacks and HE liquid laundry detergent.

HOW IT WORKS:

Share food: Ask for a reusable blue bag that will include a list of items needed by the Inn.

Invite others: Ask your neighbors and friends to get their own blue bag or when you drop off your filled bag, pick up some extra bags for your friends.

Drop off: Deliver your filled bag to the Inn Front Desk at your convenience.

For more information please contact Stephanie at stephanie@bethleheminn.org or 541.322.8768 ext. 16

DONATION HOURS

We accept donations **Monday - Friday from 9am - 4pm**. If you have donations that you'd like to drop off outside of these hours, please contact Courtney at volunteer@bethleheminn.org or 541.322.8768 ext.11 to schedule an appointment.