



It's not just what we do, it's how we do it together!

Summer 2016 Newsletter

Wish List

We sure could use your help!

We are in urgent need of the following items:

- lunch meat
- fresh fruit
- sleeping bags
- bottled water

Family Needs:

- gift cards
- Legos (big and small)
- diapers (sizes 5 and 6)
- boys shoes
- children DVD's
- boys pants/shorts (sizes 6-9)

For a list of our other wish list items please visit bethleheminn.org.

\$10,000 Challenge Grant!

The Collins Foundation is offering to match donations from eligible donors up to \$10,000 through August 15, 2016! Our goal is to encourage new donors to donate their first gift to the Inn and current donors to donate a larger amount than their last gift to the Inn.

Who qualifies for the match:

- All gifts from NEW donors
- Increased gifts from current donors i.e. if your last gift was for \$25, please give a gift for a larger amount, even if it's just a few dollars

To help us achieve this goal, please visit bethleheminn.org.

Dear Friends,

Please take a minute to read about Yoninah and how **your** giving helped to change her life!

Yoninah's Story

For Yoninah, returning to Oregon was to be a joyous homecoming. Her job in New Mexico was coming to an end. She'd lined up work and a place to live. She'd bought her plane ticket to Redmond, was excited for her next chapter. And then a double serving of bad luck landed on her plate. Both the job and the place to live evaporated. But there was no turning back. About all she had was that one-way ticket to Redmond and a dream of a better future.



Now jobless and homeless, she asked a friend in Bend to put her up for a few days. He'd once been a resident at Bethlehem Inn and suggested Yoninah head there. She did, but she was just "a little scared". At first, the staff's direct and sometimes hard questions were daunting. But it didn't take long for Yoninah to see that the "tough love" was really all about getting her the help and direction she needed. As Yoninah now says, "Fiery fear became fiery confidence." Staff recognized her work ethic, encouraged her to "see your potential as a human." Yoninah's mantra became, "Things are coming together." And they were. She got a job...two jobs in fact. She found a place to live. Having seen firsthand the broad support the Inn receives, Yoninah marvels at "the abundance of generosity in this community...a reflection of where the heart of Central Oregon lies." We could not agree more.

Your support means so much to people just like Yoninah.

Please consider donating today by visiting bethleheminn.org/donate/monetary-donations.



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Call for Volunteers

Interested in volunteering?

Dinner dates are available in July, August and September. The Inn is also looking for front desk volunteers to work 2-hour shifts. Please call or visit bethleheminn.org/volunteer for more information on both of these opportunities.

Who you've helped

I'm grateful for Bethlehem Inn and its staff. I was given a foundation to 'better my life' that I so desperately needed. I now have sobriety, a job, housing and I'm now living my life - not just existing. So full of gratitude."

- Former resident, Jean H.

"This place is amazing and the staff are as well. I don't know where I would be without their help. Thank you for everything."

- Former resident, Jasmine B.

Save the Date

Duck Race



27th Annual Duck Race - September 11, 2016

The Inn has been selected as one of the charities to benefit from the Great Drake Park Duck Race 2016! Please purchase your tickets today at bethleheminn.org/news-events. Tickets purchased online will be mailed. If you would rather pay by check or cash please stop by the Inn Monday - Friday between 9am - 4pm at 3705 N Hwy 97 in Bend.



The Perfect Pair - October 14, 2016

This unique evening celebrates the pairing of handcrafted beers and the culinary delights created by local chefs. All proceeds will support the Inn. Tickets are only \$45/person and are limited. Donors may purchase advance tickets today. Contact stephanie@bethleheminn.org

Volunteers that make a difference!

We'd like to introduce:

John McCauley and La Donna Sullivan

John and La Donna have been long-time volunteers at the Inn. La Donna enjoys volunteering because she likes to see people make positive changes in their lives. When asked why they continue to support us through volunteerism, John and La Donna's response was "The staff is so friendly and the residents are very appreciative and respectful", especially when they bring in their monthly dinners to serve over 75 people.



The couple reminisced on their favorite and most creative meal they prepared from the ingredients found in our pantry - open-faced turkey sandwiches with gravy, stuffing and mashed potatoes. Yum! This dinner was a big hit with our residents!

These generous people also tend to our garden, along with helping with other on site projects such as; building our bike rack, making air conditioner covers, replacing fencing, fixing the Inn's van, and providing new benches for our play area. John and La Donna, we thank you for your ongoing dedication and don't know what we'd do without you!

I'm often asked whether the improved economy has resulted in decreased demand for our services. Unfortunately, the answer is "no". For a significant part of the homeless population in Central Oregon, the problem is not because of deficiency on their part, but because many jobs and public support does not offer a living wage. Couple that with a tight affordable housing market and we have a perfect storm of poverty and despair. A healthy, low-income adult or family will allocate 35-50% of their income just for housing! Consider the situation of an elderly woman living on disability and unable to work through no fault of her own. Because her margin for error is so very thin, the cost of one medical episode can be catastrophic. This real profile is just one example of who we currently serve.



Today, Bethlehem Inn is a safe place for an average of 75 people each night. Many are battling issues involving health, age and disabilities that make their challenges even harder. Inn case managers play a critical role in mitigating the long-term harm that accrues when individuals and families experience the kinds of continuing stress that comes with the uncertainty of homelessness and housing instability.

Your generosity provides some moments of quiet in the storm of life. Because of you there is a little less uncertainty, a little less stress in a too stressful world.

Please continue your support and donate today by visiting bethleheminn.org/donate/monetary-donations.

Warm Wishes,

Gwenn Wysling
Executive Director