

bethlehem Inn

shelter • help • hope

Newsletter October 2013

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THE INN'S CURRENT NEEDS

Feel like helping out today?
Our immediate needs include: Lunch meat, plastic spoons, knives and forks, paper bowls and 33 gallon trash bags

With the cold weather fast approaching we could also use warm socks, warm hats, gloves, jackets, sweaters and scarves.

For a list of more items visit bethleheminn.org

We are also seeking volunteers to provide breakfast on the weekends!

Please contact
Lynn@bethleheminn.org or
call 541-322-8768 Ext .11
for more information

The seasons have turned and for many it's a time of reflection and change. Now imagine you and your family are unable to make ends meet and, it seems, there is nowhere to turn. Sadly this is true for many in our community. But thanks to amazing community support, the Bethlehem Inn can be that place to turn to for Shelter, Help and Hope during difficult times.

Twenty percent of residents who stay at the Bethlehem Inn are families with children and their lives do not stop because of their situation. Children at the Bethlehem Inn still attend school and dream of the coming holidays. They remain kids regardless of the circumstances. Happily, usually within 30 days. Most families move on to better lives.

As you prepare for the holidays, consider how extending a hand to someone in crisis might bring you closer to your community. Consider for a moment making a gift to a child or family at the Bethlehem Inn. The promise of a safe night's sleep is priceless yet the easy sigh of a sleeping child is within your grasp. You can help. Visit Bethleheminn.org

May the spirit of the holidays keep you warm.

Regards,



Gwenn Wysling
Executive Director



RESIDENT STORY

Ivy Paustian, Former Resident

Ivy Paustian smiles these days. A lot. So does her sweet five year old daughter Lilly. They have good reasons to smile. She and Lilly are closer than ever. Ivy smiles too, when she talks about the role the staff at Bethlehem Inn played in helping her get where she is today as she says "They were really supportive and encouraging to me."

So what happened to this smart, soft spoken twenty seven year old native of Bend? She is remarkably candid about it: She started running with kids who loved excitement... and trouble. Ivy says "I dropped out of high school and it just escalated from there." In time, the trouble led to jail and the last time she was there, Ivy resolved, "Where I get out, I'm going to make a change." She did. She started by calling Bethlehem Inn.

Once at the Inn, there was help in putting together a resume. She was guided through the process of getting housing. She and Lilly felt safe at the Inn. And, says Ivy, "...right away we were comfortable.. we had our own private bedroom..." Lilly had fun playing with other kids. Ivy says her relationship with her daughter has changed a lot, and for the better. Ivy says she is now full of hope and adds, " I know, because of the chance I've been given from the Bethlehem Inn and that they believed in me, that I will make it."



YOU'RE INVITED

The Perfect Pair October 18th 5-8pm

The Deschutes Brewery is proud to announce its 9th annual Bethlehem Inn benefit event, **The Perfect Pair**, scheduled for Friday October 18th from 5-8pm at the Brewery's Tap room located at 1044 new Bond Street in Bend. **The Perfect Pair** celebrates the pairing of Deschutes Brewery's handcrafted beers and culinary delights created by local chefs. Tickets are only \$45/person. Visit Bethleheminn.org/news-events to purchase tickets. Space is limited, so get yours today! For more information call 541-322-8768 Ext. 21. All proceeds from the evening will support the Inn's programs serving Central Oregon's adults and children experiencing homelessness.



"CRANKSGIVING"

Scavenger Bicycle Ride November 3rd 11:00am

Bend cyclists of all ages are invited to take part in a family ride in support of the Bethlehem Inn. Registration is at 10am; the event will begin at 11am at GoodLife Brewing Company located at 70 SW Century Drive. Riders pay no entry fee, but should bring \$20 to cover the cost of items to be purchased and donated to the Inn. At the time of registration, each cyclist will be provided a map of neighborhood stores and a list of items the Bethlehem Inn requires to stock their pantry and shelves. Cyclists will finish back at GoodLife by 12:30pm with their donated items for the Inn. A closing awards ceremony will celebrate the fastest man, fastest woman and fastest family and a drawing for door prizes. For more information please contact Jim Elliott at jelliott24@gmail.com or by phone at 541-639-7484.



SAFeway FOOD DRIVE

November 22-24

Bethlehem Inn's Annual Safeway Food Drive will be held November 22-24, 2013. Safeway is once again kindly supporting the Inn by inviting us to set up food collection stations at their East and West side stores. We are looking for over 100 volunteers to work in 2-hour shifts handing out shopping lists to those entering stores, encouraging them to donate something off the list and thanking them on their way out. It's fun, family-friendly and heartwarming to see the generosity of our community in action.

If you are interested in being one of the many volunteers needed, please contact Lynnn Edwards at lynn@bethleheminn.org or call 541-322-8768 ext. 11 for more information.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

You could be the first face a homeless person sees when coming in from the cold. With a smile and a kind word our Front Desk volunteers are an important interface between the community and the Bethlehem Inn. This important job is critical and we are always looking for volunteers especially for weekend shifts. If you like meeting people and being at the heart of the action, come make a difference. You'll be glad you did!

Now with the holiday season approaching faster than we like to admit, we're looking for a family or a group to provide Christmas dinner. As always, whatever ingredients we have on-hand are available to defray costs. The Inn will not require volunteer servers for the holiday dinner, unless you are providing the meal.

Holiday meals book up quickly, but please remember your heart and generosity is equally valid 365 days of the year. So please consider another day, perhaps a weekend breakfast. Making a meal is a wonderful way to share time with those you care are about, while putting smiles on the faces of our residents. You can be a part of bringing joy to those whose lives have been affected by difficult times.

Please contact lynn@bethleheminn.org if you would like to make a meal. The following dates are available:

October: 10, 15, 23, 31 (31, Halloween)

November: 4, 5, 6, 14, 15, 22, 27

December: 2, 3, 4, 5, 12, 13, 18, 20, 25, 26, 30, 31 (24-Christmas) (31- New Year's Eve)

If you would like to bring in a meal once a month, we do have some reoccurring monthly dates available, such as the 2nd or 3rd Friday. Please feel free to check with Lynn and we can discuss availability.

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

This year's **4th Annual Yogi's Unite** was a huge success. Thanks to the organizers, yoga studio instructors and attendees for helping to Transform Lives with Shelter, Help and Hope.



Thanks to the amazing generosity and volunteer support of **Jane and Bill Raleigh and Bill Lincoln**, the Inn can now proudly display the names of our major and sustaining donors. Next time you are here for a tour or to make a donation, we invite you to stop by our front office and take a look.



Bethlehem Inn | 3705 N Hwy 97 | Bend, OR

