



SharingLives

Fall 2021

■ Share Staff Keep People in Their Homes through Eviction Prevention Programs

More than 40,000 households in the state of Washington have 'no confidence' they could pay next month's rent, including thousands of households right here in Clark County. Some relief came with the state's housing moratorium 'bridge' through September 30 to ensure that federal Covid-19 relief funds intended for eviction prevention are able to be accessed.

At Share, our 11 eviction prevention staff members remain vigilantly focused on keeping local people in their homes. As of the end of August, 1,543 households have been helped. Here are two of those stories:

Like so many people in early 2020, **Trevor***, a single father of two young children, was laid off due to the pandemic. Despite collecting unemployment benefits, his financial stability began to dwindle, and Trevor ultimately faced the reality that he did not have enough money to cover the rent, buy adequate amounts of food and pay bills.

Trevor sought help through the Council for the Homeless and was added to the eviction prevention wait list in March of 2021. He finally secured a new job but carried the financial weight of \$10,000 on his shoulders due to nine months of unpaid rent.



"I began to feel as if the assistance would never come. I had no idea where I would go, probably couch surf, lose my children and perhaps camp out for a while. I had decided to leave my home and gave my landlord notice to cancel my lease. And that's the day I got a call from a Share Eviction Prevention Specialist."

Staff needed to act quickly to help Trevor and his children. They asked him to sign a release of information form allowing them to speak directly with the landlord on his behalf. To staff's delight, the landlord agreed, saying he would absolutely allow Trevor to stay and would gladly accept payment for the arrears he owed as well as a few months towards his future rent. The landlord shared that he acknowledges *"the financial burden the pandemic has had on our tenants"* and wants to do what he can to help.

(Continued on page 2).

■ 2021 Staff Awards!



This year's staff awards reflected our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. We chose *"The Rainbow Connection"* for our belief that every person counts, to celebrate our differences and foster an inclusive environment. The Muppets demonstrate that everyone is welcome at the table and together we make the world a better place.

Staff voted on two awards in each department and seven agency-wide awards. Each of the 11 departments+ voted for "Movin' Right Along," a person who gets it done, and "Bert & Ernie: a person who brings humor and warmth to the workplace and demonstrates our belief that every person counts.

Award recipient's received a rainbow and/or Muppet-themed canvas wall hanging at our virtual celebration on September 14.

A big *"Congratulations!"* to all this year's winners who are listed below and continued on page 2.

2021 Movin' Right Along

Jillian Provience
Lisa Nettles
Ashley Gaffney
Pam Hunt
Joshua James
Kris Curtis
Michael McClernon
Brianna Kinsey
Krystal VanBrunt
Jessica Lightheart
Jana Jones

■ Rental Assistance cont.

Charles* and Eva*, both immigrants and parents of their two children, were both employed full time and heavily invested in the gig economy (flexible jobs, such as handyman, rideshare driving, food delivery, etc.). At the onset of the pandemic, their work and source of income stopped almost overnight. While Charles has pre-existing health conditions, including severe asthma which prevented him from working in most service jobs, he found inconsistent work as a carpenter; this work helped to keep food on their table. Transportation issues compounded their inability to find full-time employment.

They continued to pay rent in small amounts, but ultimately were 12 months behind in payments. Then they learned about and applied for local emergency eviction prevention programs funded through Clark County Community Services, with dollars provided by the federal American Rescue Plan.

When Share staff called their home, they used an interpreter, Marie, who was able to communicate the family's dire situation. Eva was overcome with emotion, with a fear of homelessness in a country where they had no family or support network. *"She told me that she would do anything to keep her children from becoming homeless," shared Marie.*

Staff worked directly with their landlord, who noted that Charles and Eva were longtime tenants who had never missed a payment before the pandemic. *"They are hardworking, compassionate and full of integrity," she said.* The landlord accepted the back payment of \$15,000 in rent, allowing the family to stay in their home. Charles found consistent work and set up a payment plan with their landlord for future payments. *"We are incredibly grateful for this second chance," said Eva.*

*Names changed to preserve anonymity.



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For a list of management staff:

sharevancouver.org

facebook.com/ShareVancouver

2306 NE Andresen Road

Vancouver WA 98661

(360) 448-2121

■ Staff Awards cont.

2021 Bert & Ernie

Joe Sullivan

Dean Cardiff (Tie)

Thomas Pitsch (Tie)

Carol Jack

Kandis Lemmon

Jessica Sellman

Molly Hamstreet

Nicole Hanna

Peter Thorpe

Adam Johnson

Heather Walker

Eileen Jones



2021 Muppets Most Wanted

Sara Johson, Outstanding New Staff Member

2021 Lime in the Coconut

Katie Louis, Fostering a Healthy Workplace

2021 Can You Picture That? (Tie)

Jillian Provience, Collaborating to Achieve Common Goals

2021 Can you picture that? (Tie)

Heather Young, Collaborating to Achieve Common Goals

2021 Kermit the Frog

Katie Louis, Manager Nominated Award

2021 Gonzo the Great

Shelia Andrews, The Director & Manager Nominated Award

2021 Steppin' Out With a Star

Eddie Gallagher, Executive Director & Deputy Director Nominated Award



*Departments include: Affordable Housing & Stability, Family Pathways, Community Wellness, Collaborative Housing, Talkin' Trash, On Call/WHO, Meals & Nutrition, Housing Achievement & Enrichment, Eviction Prevention, Administration/Development/Volunteer, Finance

■ Sun, Smiles & 12,555 Summer Meals!

Our 2021 Summer Meals program served 12,555 meals at 18 locations throughout Clark County, including new sites in Washougal and Ridgefield.

"It was a wonderful year that provided nutritious meals to children ages 18 and under with the help of 263 volunteers providing 2,000+ hours of service," said Becci Read-Ryan, Hunger & Nutrition Programs Manager. "We are incredibly thankful to St. Joseph Catholic Church, who for the second year was a dedicated partner, providing space in Marion Hall's commercial kitchen for all the meals to be prepared and packaged."

Shout out to our community partners who hosted the sites and provided staff or volunteers to serve lunches: Vancouver Parks & Rec, Clark County Family YMCA, Police Activities League of SW Washington, Salmon Creek United Methodist, Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries, Church at the Grove, Olympic Park Apts, and REACH CDC at Covington Commons.



■ Donor Spotlight: When the Shoe Fits



Our feet are very important. Many of us take them for granted, but those little work horses at the bottom of our legs carry us tirelessly and uncomplaining throughout our day.

Alan and Amy O'Hara, on the other hand, spend every day thinking about feet – specifically your feet and how they can help keep them comfortable, stylish and healthy.

"If our feet don't serve us, we can't function properly as people," said Alan.

With Alan's experiences as a footwear buyer and as a certified

podiatrist, combined with Amy's history in the footwear industry and as a sales manager, they opened their flagship When the Shoe Fits store on 164th Avenue in 2004. Their goal was to go beyond style and quality to help alleviate discomfort people may have and solve their unique foot problems.

"As our community began to appreciate our products and services, we were able to grow. We got involved with the local business community and were invited to fundraisers, one of which was for Share."

Since 2006, When the Shoe Fits has donated 3,000+ pairs of shoes to Share. The most recent donation came in August.

"During the pandemic, people weren't buying shoes. We were fortunate to be profitable enough to give away styles that are a bit out of fashion or slightly damaged, but still have a life in them. The work done at Share is amazing and we are grateful to be able to donate shoes to their clients who can't afford them."

New shoes are a high-need item for clients in Share's shelter and housing programs.

"We have growing kids who need new tennis shoes for school and adults who need appropriate footwear for new jobs, such as dress shoes for the office or work boots for a construction site," said Molly Evjen, Director of Volunteers & Community Resources. "And for the unhoused population served through Share Outreach, properly fitted shoes provide not only much needed protection from the environment, but comfort and dignity as well. So, we are incredibly grateful for the continued support of Alan and Amy and When the Shoes Fits."



■ Help Spread Holiday Cheer Throughout the Year!

New gift items make the holidays more merry! Many of the gifts donated by community members and local businesses are distributed during the holiday season of December.

But we also hope to fill our warehouse shelves with needed items throughout the year—to provide a growing teen with a new pair of shoes or a parent with a crock pot to make nutritious family meals in their new home, and so much more. *And we welcome donations of new gift items into January, February and beyond!*

We know that many of you like to start planning and shopping early for the holidays. So here are ways you can help:



Purchase Wish List Items

Each year we compile a list of high-need items. *All gifts should be new and unwrapped* and can be dropped off during our **Warehouse Open Hours** at the Share Fromhold Service Center, 2306 NE Andresen Road:

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon
Thursdays, 1 to 3 p.m.

A list of needed items is available online at sharevancouver.org (click on 'Donations' then 'Holiday Cheer Program').

You can also purchase items online and have them shipped directly to the Share Fromhold Service Center, 2306 NE Andresen Road, Vancouver WA 98661.

Host a Wish Tag Site

Wish Tags are a convenient way for community members to purchase and donate a high-need item for a child or teen, woman or man. We can provide you with digital slips in spreadsheet form or links to our Amazon Charities Sharing Season Wish List. Donation drive organizers can share the items list with co-workers and group members digitally!

Fill a Food Box

Provide a holiday meal for a family of 4-10. In addition to non-perishable food items, gift cards in amounts of \$10 to \$25 allow families to choose their protein option to fill their holiday table.

Or considering hosting a food drive to fill multiple boxes. Either way, we can provide you with a list of needed food items.

Adopt-a-Family

This program helps low-income families in our Affordable Housing & Stability Programs, clients in our HEN program (disabled adults with zero income) and unaccompanied youth through partnerships with local schools.

We encourage the donation of gift cards and new gift items to fill a Holiday Cheer Basket for each family. Gift cards provide "the gift of choice" to families and allow them the ability to purchase their most needed items.

Cost per family member is typically \$75 to \$100. You are welcome to partner with others to support a family.

*For more information on our Holiday Cheer program,
please contact the following staff members:*

Wish List & Wish Tags: Sara Johnson at (564) 888-0821 or sjohnson@sharevancouver.org

Adopt-a-Family: Amy Hammerstrom at 360-952-8231 or ahammerstrom@sharevancouver.org

Food Boxes: Molly Evjen at (360) 952-8228 or mevjen@sharevancouver.org



DAVIDSON
& ASSOCIATES
INSURANCE

presents:

10th
Anniversary
of **Share**
Chef Battle
& Golden Ladle!



supported by:



PACIFIC PREMIER BANK

Fred Meyer



Soup's On! is back to mark the 10th anniversary of our 'Chef Battle!'
featuring our Golden Ladle and multi-year award winning chefs
to prepare the soup recipe that brought them fame.

NOW ON SALE! Soup Sampler for Two for \$100, which includes 6 ounce serving
of all 6 soups, 2 soup bowls, mini bread loaf, reheating directions, printed program,
link to cast your vote for chef champion & link to Spill the Soup on October 21 at 6 p.m.
—*Soup pick up on October 6, 4 to 5:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic School*—

TOWEL DRIVE: 2 chances to donate! Bring a donation of new bath towels when you pick up your soup
or drop off your towel donation at the Share Fromhold Service Center Warehouse, 2306 NE Andresen
Road, on October 14, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.—for each bath towel you donate, you will be entered in the
drawing at our virtual 'Spill the Soup' to **win a \$250 Dutch Bros gift card.** Tune in to see who wins!

'SPILL THE SOUP' on OCT. 21: Our virtual awards event to
announce the Battle of the Champs winner, plus our Volunteer
of the Year & Community Partner awards presented by sponsors:

Mystery Raffle Boxes, Silent Auction, Raffle Tickets (2 tickets
on Alaska Airlines!) + Vote for the 2021 Soup Champion!

'Spill the Soup' Sponsors:



Mystery Raffle Boxes Sponsors:



Who will take home the
Soup Champion
Copper Stockpot?



Mike Culver



Bonnie Brasure



Marian
Adams-Manuel



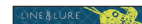
Troy Lucio



Tim Conklin



Bobby
Rasaphangthong



To purchase a Soup Sampler, buy raffle tickets, bid on silent auction items
& get all the event details, visit **sharevancouver.org.**

■ Outreach Staff Expands to Meet Need

Share's Outreach staff has expanded dramatically, growing from two to 13 since the beginning of the year. The expansion is directly tied to the growing needs of women and men who are unhoused throughout our local communities. Funding for the new staff, in the amount of \$900,000 for three years, came through Clark County via the American Relief Plan.

"Over the past year and a half, encampments are an increasingly common sight on sidewalks, along-side freeway exits and in wooded areas throughout the city," said Amy Reynolds, Deputy Director. "There are many factors contributing to this epidemic including lack of temporary shelters and supportive housing programs, lack of political

and social will to direct financial resources to help and, above all, a lack of affordable housing."

Those who are unhoused are a diverse and varied group in terms of age, ethnicity, gender identity, family circumstances, and mental and physical health problems.

"Our focus is to build a line of communication and trust with people, while treating them with dignity and compassion," added Reynolds.

Each of our Outreach Care Coordinators provide client-centered, trauma informed support and services to assist individuals in achieving their goals, which could include housing assistance, providing basic needs and supplies, and connections to



physical and mental health services, substance use disorder services, transportation assistance, benefit assistance and more. They also manage the syringe service program pop-up site locations at permanent supportive housing locations.



presents:



Saturday, April 23, 2022
—In-person Event!
at Hilton Hotel Vancouver

We have a new cast of Dynamic Duos to dazzle you with performances from the musical "Grease". Vote with your dollars for your favorite duo (or duos)!

Online silent auction, plus 10 special packages available only for our guests at the event, along with centerpieces, raffle and carnival games.

Dress in your best 50's vintage or break out your poodle skirt and leather biker jacket!

Sponsorship opportunities are available, please contact Kim at khash@sharevancouver.org.



Donate Items for Our Silent Auction!
Gift Cards, Food & Wine, Technology,
Family Getaways, Baskets of Local
Goodness ... and more—be creative!

Contact Heather at
hwalker@sharevancouver.org

■ Upcoming Care for Share Events



Shuffle for
Share **5K**

Join us for the 2nd Annual Shuffle for Share 5K Run/Walk, a FREE virtual, no-frills event with “leftovers” held November 20 to 28.

A minimum \$10 donation is requested with 100% of donations going directly to Share.

You can participate anywhere/anytime within the time period—a treadmill, a local path, or favorite running or walking route.

In an homage to leftover holiday food, and in order to keep the event FREE and the costs low, participants receive leftover race shirts, medals, and swag.

Register online today at:
shuffle4share.racerooster.com



October is almost here, which means it's time to plan for our annual Seats & Feets drive! We are asking for:

- New underwear (all sizes, for men, women & teens). Please keep in mind that a range of sizes is needed, from small to 3XL.
- New diapers (sizes 5 & 6, plus pull-ups) & wipes—both are high-need items!
- New socks (all sizes, for men, women & teens)

Donations can be dropped off during our Warehouse Open House on Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and Thursdays, 1 to 3 p.m.

Host a 'Seats & Feets' drive! Organize a socially distant drive at your office, church or in your neighborhood. We can provide you with a blue Share barrel in which to collect your donations. Contact Sara at (564) 888-0821 to get your drive started.



SHOP TO SUPPORT: Share

5% of your purchase will be donated back to Share Vancouver

ITEMS ARE MARKED WITH EMPLOYEE PRICING: UP TO 50% BELOW RETAIL PRICING

VALID DATES
11/05/2021 - 11/28/2021
VALID FOR YOU + 4 GUESTS

WHAT TO BRING

- THIS INVITATION
- PHOTO I.D.
- ORIGINAL EMAIL

COVID-19 RESPONSE
FACE COVERINGS REQUIRED
WHILE SHOPPING

LOCATION & HOURS
14100 NW SCIENCE PARK DR
PORTLAND, OR 97229
MON - FRI: 10A - 8P
SAT - SUN: 9A - 8P



Questions? Please email: portlandemployeestore@columbia.com

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Stay in touch with us for the
latest on volunteer opportunities,
needed items & more!

sharevancouver.org

BEACHES CASHBACK DAY | SEPT. 30

RESTAURANT BAR CATERING

Thursday, September 30, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Tell your server you are dining in support of Share and
50% of your bill will be donated to them!



beachesrestaurantandbar.com

(360) 699-1592

Please cut out & bring this graphic with you!



Volunteer to Feed Our Community!



We need volunteers to help prepare
& serve 9,500+ monthly to-go meals

Need for our Hot Meals program has increased
143% over the past year—you can help!


**hot meals
program**

Complete Our Volunteer Application Online:
sharevancouver.org/volunteer

Your generosity makes a difference!