

SharingLives

Summer 2023

Building relationships, advocating for equitable access to housing ... every day!

"We know that the solution to homelessness is in housing, and that the lack of a permanent home is not the only challenge facing most unhoused people, but it is one difficulty they all have in common." This reality was shared by Kevin Leffler, Director of Lincoln Place, in a video compilation of Share's housing and shelter program directors, which premiered at our Annual Meeting in May.

In addition to Kevin, the video features: Jason Dolgoff, Community Wellness Program Director; Nicky Ferguson, Family Pathways Program Director; Jenny Walker, Collaborative Housing Program Director; and Amy Reynolds, Deputy Director speaking on the Affordable Stability & Housing Program.



(L to R): A client making breakfast and Engagement Specialists, both at Women's Housing and Transition program.

Two stories of success are shared below, but we also invite you to watch the full video on Share's website:

sharevancouver.org/programs/share-housing-programs

And as Amy Reynolds notes near the end of the video: Our whole goal is to make our community home.

"We had a client who learned how to catch the bus on her own. This was important, as she was going to and from Clark College to learn English. On her second day of classes, she came back around three o'clock in the afternoon and was ecstatic—over the moon happy! It was because she had learned how to get around Clark County so she could provide what her family needs."—Nicky Ferguson

(Continued on page 2)

Honoring Holley Walhood: 15 Years of Service



After 15 years, Holley Walhood, our Food Service Coordinator, is retiring. We asked her to reflect on her time and share her favorite recipe (see page 2!)

When I first started working here, every day as I was driving to work, and Share House would come into my view, I would say to myself, "I'm home." There have been so many changes through the years; it's been one long, flowing river of change. And it has taught me SO VERY MUCH about myself and others.

My life philosophy is: "Be kind, shine light on others and feed people good food." I genuinely care for our people. I love them and our volunteers. I love my co-workers as well.

Through the years we've made a lot of different meals, but if I had to pick the most popular, according to our people, it would be meatloaf and mashed potatoes. One of my favorite volunteers (out of many, many favorites), Muggs, used to come once a month and make this dish. Our people knew when it was meatloaf day, and they would show up in droves!

(Continued)

Housing programs cont.

"There can be a common misperception that Housing First means housing only. We strive to provide a robust array of services and to provide them in a way that invites participation, is strengths-based, is individualized, and rooted in residents' interests, values, and goals. A resident recently shared feeling so safe at Lincoln Place.

"The joy of having her own apartment to come home to every night, a safe place for her belongings, including needed medications, and the importance of this in addressing basic needs and improving her health. But she also spoke of her apartment at Lincoln Place as a place she can invite friends to, having been able to adopt a puppy, and having a renewed sense of community. It's been restorative for her."—Kevin Leffler



Scan this QR code to watch the video now!





Share Board Directors

President: Matthew Lennick VP-Internal: Pat Nuzzo **VP**–External: Jasmine Ames **Treasurer: Ronny Plushnick** Secretary: Heidi Schultz **Executive Director: Diane McWithey** Joanne Antonelli Jim David Elizabeth Fitzgearld **Gary Foster Paul Harris** Penny Harris Paula Martin Dawniel Miller Jacob Neary Dawn Redmond Erik Selden

For a list of management staff: sharevancouver.org

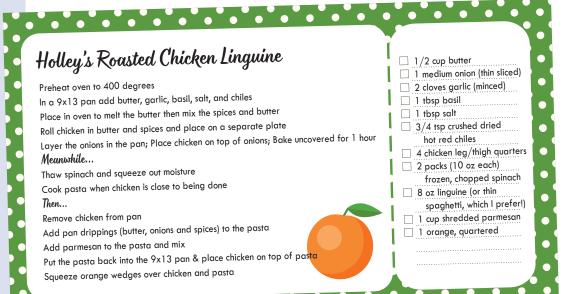
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MAANGES

Holley cont.

The most people I ever served in one meal was when Little Caesar's mobile kitchen came and gave us free pizza for dinner. We served 222 people that day. They were all on their phones calling their friends and telling them to come to Share House for pizza! It was amazing!

I could say so much more about my time here, but this is how I will sum it up: It has been a privilege and my honor to work for Share and to serve our people. I love you all!







1,329 volunteers donated their time & talent, totalling 18,846 hours Our Talkin' Trash team removed 267 tons of trash from 60 local sites

Total **INCOME**: \$26,394,516 Total **EXPENSES**: \$26,119,770

* Note: Share's complete audited financial statement will be available at sharevancouver.org.

Share 2022 in Review



Access to nutritious food helped households manage tight budgets and free meals sustained our neighbors living on the streets:

Backpack & Summer Meals Programs:

- 252,000+ lbs. of non-perishable food to 85 schools 160,000+ lbs. of fresh produce, dairy, eggs &
- bread at 18 schools
- 972 kid-friendly food boxes to 27 local schools
- 12,550+ free summer meals to kids 18 & under

Hot Meals Program & Outreach Food Kits:

- 84,150+ free meals to the public
- 5,500+ food kits distributed by our Outreach Team

Local individuals and families continued to secure & maintain permanant housing:

Share's Outreach Team helped 76 individuals secure housing

At Share's two family shelters + Women's Housing and Transition programs, 55% of all clients who exited shelter did so to permanent housing (194 individuals)

Retention Rate at Lincoln Place was 88%

Through the Eviction Prevention program, 951 Clark County households were able to stay in their homes



Share believes every person counts. Together we pursue a stronger community by building relationships, advocating for equitable access to housing and food stability while empowering every individual to grow and thrive.





groove at the Share gala!

Pacific Lifestyle

Share's Disco Fever was epic! We are truly grateful to the 500+ guests who joined us to celebrate the stories of success as Share's staff continue to provide access to nutritious food and meals and help secure housing for local families and people. Every dollar raised helps to support our vital programs and services.

Our Dynamic Duos definitely stole the spotlight! We'd like to once again give a huge CONGRATULATIONS to our Dynamic Duo winners, Trina Latshaw and Tony Oberio who not only skated on the stage in their killer performance, but raised more than \$51,000!! Astounding!

And an enormous THANKS to our other duos: Denise and Mike Filbin, Jessica Chan and Ben Surratt, Ken Cole and Carlos Rodriguez-Vega, and Kathy Thomas and Phil Czajka. All of the performances were inspiring and helped to raise money to support Share's programs!

We also honored Diane McWithey, Share's Executive Director, who has announced her retirement after 34 years of service.

A tribute video premiered and we invite you to scan this QR code to learn, through the voices of past Share board presidents, how Diane's compassion, dedication and steady leadership have positively impacted Share and our community.

> Scan this QR code to watch the video now!





Kathy Thomas and Phil Czajka.

Our emcees: Ali Novinger and Jennifer Rhoads.



Trina Latshaw and Tony Oberio.



Diane and Jerry McWithey with Kim Hash.



Ken Cole and Carlos Rodriguez-Vega with Grocery Outlet staff members.*

Denise and Mike Filbin.

Jessica Chan and Ben Surratt.

* The Native American clothing was worn by Ken Cole who is of Native American heritage. The clothing was handmade and is considered a precious family heirloom. Read a full statement on Share's Facebook page.

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Special Thanks to our 2023 Soup's On Presenting Sponsor:



Volunteer Spotlight: Rosemarie Farabee

I've been volunteering with Share since 2003, when I first met Schuyler Hoss who was trying to start a food program for kids. He had heard from local teachers that kids were going hungry over the weekend and felt that Share could create a Backpack program. I let him know that I was very interested in helping.

At the start, there were just three of us: me, Andy Costello and Nick Lore. We filled actual backpacks for three elementary schools: Hough, Ogden and Fruit Valley. We worked out of a closet at the Share Homestead shelter. And I have been with the program ever since.

I continue to support Share's Backpack program because it fills a real need in our community. I feel that, in a very small way, I can help a child not go hungry. We started out small and have grown quite a bit since the beginning.

While I am happy to see so many children served, it also saddens me.



As our numbers grow and grow, it means there are just that many children who need assistance. With continued support from Share and the community, hopefully we can serve every child that is in need.

I have encouraged many people to volunteer at Backpacks. I always tell people that for very little of your time on a Thursday morning, you can make a big impact on a child's life. One of my best friends is someone I met through the Backpack program. I have enjoyed working with so many people over the years. Some have passed away and some moved on, but I fondly remember everyone. We are all united in a common goal and I think that is what makes this program so special. It's all about the kids!!

Calling All Cars!

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Join us for one or both of these upcoming Care for Share events:

• Vancouver Mall's 1st annual CouveAutoShow Saturday, July 29, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Live music, food, and raffles, plus classic and custom cars, trucks and motorcycles. Financial donations and food drive benefit Share!

• Van Mall Retirement "Cruise for a Cause" Car Show Thursday, August 24, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

IT'S BACK!! Van Mall Retirement Community is bringing back its annual car show with live music, a DJ, food, fun and raffle prizes! All proceeds benefit Share. Car registration is \$20. Call (360) 896-9140 to register your vehicle.

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Want to host a fundraiser for Share? Contact Lisa Ring at Iring@sharevancouver.org





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Share

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SURANCE Who will

take home

This year's theme is Soup-er Heroes! Superheroes, like the clients served by Share, are diverse and encompass various genders, races, and backgrounds. We encourage you to come dressed as your favorite, whomever she or he or they may be.

You can also come as you are, because everyone can be a hero by helping us to raise vital funds to support children, teens, women, men and senior citizens in our community.

Thank you to our **"JUSTICE LEAGUE"** Presenting Sponsor:



Batman (aka Bryce Davidson) and Thor (aka Eric Sawyer) say: "Don't miss it, it's gonna be Soup-er!" (Pun intended!)



Here is our current line-up of competitors, including for the first time: a Mystery Chef!

Want to compete? Contact Kim Hash at khash@sharevancouver.org.

Must be a restaurant open to the public.

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Tickets on sale August 1: sharevancouver.org

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Donations small & large make a difference!



FREE Summer Meals: June 26 to August 11 For all kids & teens ages 18 & under—Must be consumed on site!

We are incredibly excited as this year marks the 20th anniversary of Share's Summer Meals program, which has provided hundreds of thousands of free meals to local children. As it has been since the beginning, our goal is very straight forward: Get healthy meals into the hands and bellies of local kids!

We could not operate our Summer Meals program without the generosity of volunteers. And groups are welcome, which is a great way for family members or team members from a local business or organization to give back to our community together.

• Help prepare 600-1,200 fresh and nutritious meals.

• Assist Share's Summer Meals Assistant in packing meals into coolers, greeting our volunteer drivers and loading coolers into vehicles.

• Meet our delivery drivers as they return with left-over meals, wipe down coolers and ensure the kitchen is clean and ready for the next day.

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Sign up online at sharevancouver.org/volunteer.

For more information Para más información Больше информации

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All site locations, addresses, dates and times are posted at sharevancouver.org/summer-meals-program. You can also text FOOD or COMIDA to 304-304. No paperwork needed and no personal information is collected.

To learn more, contact Molly Evjen at (360) 605-9752 or mevjen@sharevancouver.org.

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