FALL 2026 NEWSLETTER

Share

because every person counts.

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS, ADVOCATING FOR EQUITABLE ACCESS TO HOUSING AND FOOD STABILITY, EMPOWERING EVERY INDIVIDUAL TO GROW AND THRIVE



# borrowed hope: darren's story

*As shared by Adrianna Kofoed, Program Director for Family Shelters.*

When Darren arrived in our respite program, he was carrying far more than a suitcase.

He was carrying years of medical challenges, isolation and hopelessness. His health was deteriorating and the weight of everything he had endured had left him exhausted.

The day after Darren arrived, as he wheeled himself down the hallway toward his room, I stopped to introduce myself.

What began as a simple conversation quickly revealed the depth of his struggle. He spoke openly about his declining health, the challenges he was facing and the hopelessness that had settled over his life.

And he also shared something heartbreaking: he no longer wanted to be alive.

As we talked, I thought about another client, Max; he was around Darren's age and had faced many of his own medical challenges.

There was something about the two men that made me feel they might understand each other in a way few others could. So I asked Darren if he would come with me to the community room because there was someone I wanted him to meet.

"*We're like a family here,*" I told him as we made our way down the hallway. "*And I have a feeling you and Max are going to hit it off.*"

I introduced the two men and stayed for a few minutes of conversation before stepping away to give them space to get to know one another.

A short while later, I heard something that had been absent when I first met Darren.

**Laughter.**

Glancing into the room, I saw him smiling and joking with Max. Sitting beside someone who understood many of his struggles, there was a lightness that hadn't been there before.

**Hope.**

Later, as he wheeled passed the office, he looked at me and said "Thank you!" with a huge smile on his face. What began as a simple introduction soon grew into a friendship that would carry both men through the months ahead.

*Scan to read more of Darren's story.*

# we want to hear from you!

Share is honored to be a part of this community, one filled with compassion, generosity and a deep commitment to helping others. Which is why we would love to hear from you in two key areas—***scan this QR code to get started!***



## new face at the front desk: dean cardiff

There is a new face at the front desk of the Share Fromhold Service Center: Dean Cardiff.

Dean has worked at Share for seven years, starting as an Engagement Specialist at Share House and in our family shelters and most recently as a member of the Outreach Team.

His role will focus specifically on Outreach: engage with clients, help identify their needs and direct them to the appropriate programs

*"I like to encourage people; we meet so many people with trauma. I'm looking forward to this new opportunity to provide another point of connection for clients and community members coming through our doors."*

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October is our annual Seats & Feets drive! Help our clients by donating:

- 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 (newborn to size 6, plus pull-ups) & wipes
- New socks (all sizes, for men, women & teens)

Drop items off during our Open Warehouse House hours on Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and Thursdays, 2 to 4 p.m.

Want to host a drive? Contact Nikki at (360) 952-8312 or nhanna@sharevancouver.org.

collaborate.






# give with cheer for the holidays

November and December are a time filled with generosity for others in our community. We are grateful to community members and local businesses eager to help us fill our warehouse shelves with new, high-need items to be distributed to our clients through our Move-In Kit and Request for Items program in the coming year!

You could 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 know that many of you like to start planning and shopping early, so here are ways you can help:

- Purchase New, High-Need Items:

  We maintain a list of high-need items at sharevancouver.org. Select and purchase a new item (or 2 or 3!) and drop it off during our Warehouse Open Hours at the Share Fromhold Service Center, 2306 NE Andresen Road: Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon Thursdays, 2 to 4 p.m. You can also purchase items online and have them shipped directly to us at 2306 NE Andresen Road, Vancouver WA 98661.

- Host a 'Wish Tag' Donation Drive:

  We can provide you with physical or digital slips (like the tag examples on this page) or links to our Dream List. Donation drive organizers can share the items list or tags with co-workers and group members.




- Fill a Food Box or Host a Food Drive:

  Provide a meal for a family of 4-10, a pantry box for a high school or a food pack for students in transition. Or consider hosting a food drive to fill multiple boxes.

  Donations will benefit families and people in our Affordable Housing & Stability program, family shelters, Share House, Women's Housing and Transition (WHAT), Lincoln Place and Share Outreach.

Learn more: contact Nikki at (360) 952-8312 (call/text) or nhanna@sharevancouver.org.

GIVE WITH
cheer
TO LAST THE YEAR!

Share
Making our community *home*.

2306 NE Andresen Road
Vancouver WA 98661
(360) 448-2121
**sharevancouver.org | facebook.com/ShareVancouver**

Non-Profit Org.
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PAID
Vancouver, WA
Permit No. 557

Donations small & large
*make a difference!*






# a message from our new ceo: Hai Nguyen

As I settle into my new role at Share, I find myself feeling incredibly grateful.

Over the past several weeks, I've had the opportunity to meet many of the people who make this organization and community so special, including staff, volunteers, donors, partners and supporters. I've spent time listening, learning and simply getting to know the people behind the work. What I've discovered is something truly remarkable: a community filled with compassion, generosity and a deep commitment to helping others.

I've been especially inspired by our staff. Every day, they show up for people facing some of life's greatest challenges. They build relationships, offer support, create opportunities and remind people that they are not alone. Their dedication to our mission is both humbling and inspiring. I've also been fortunate to meet many of our community partners, donors, and advocates. One message I hear again and again is that Share has earned a tremendous amount of trust and respect over the years. That legacy belongs to all of you.

As we move forward together, I am excited about what lies ahead. While our community continues to face challenges, I believe deeply in the power of people coming together around a shared purpose. When we work collaboratively, support one another, and keep the people we serve at the center of everything we do, there is no limit to the impact we can make.

Thank you for welcoming me so warmly into the Share family. I am honored to be part of this work, and I look forward to building the next chapter of Share together with all of you. **Because every person counts.**

**create belonging.**