

# YCAP NEWSLETTER

Quarterly newsletter for Yamhill Community Action Partnership.

■ January 2018



## 2018 YCAP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### YCAP BOARD OFFICERS:

Gwen Jernstedt, Chair  
Ryan Connor, Vice Chair  
John Larsen, Treasurer  
Arlene Worden, Secretary

David Case  
Gary Dawson  
Patrick Johnson  
Bernt "AL" Hansen  
Lisa Leno  
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## BEGINNING THE NEW YEAR WITH GRATITUDE

We have been deeply honored this past year to have so many friends in our community supporting our mission by making generous donations, volunteering and hosting successful food drives. For our team, this is a time of reflection as we begin the new year looking forward full of hope and positive energy. This newsletter

is our first opportunity to share our gratitude with you our treasured friends. Thanks to you we have fed the hungry, brought warmth to homes, housed the homeless and connected with at-risk youth. We hope you enjoy these heartfelt stories of gratefulness.

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WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS



## NEW REFRIGERATED FOOD TRUCK



Thanks to generous grantees from the Hedco Foundation, the Oregon Food Bank and First Federal, we are thrilled to complete the purchase of a new refrigerated food truck. Due to the increased demand and food collected we needed to add to our fleet in order to maintain our services throughout Yamhill County.

This new truck creates additional capacity to pick up and distribute food to our partner pantries and meal sites. Thank you to our amazing donors and grantees that made this possible! We will begin 2018 working to secure funding for one more refrigerated truck.

# A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**“This edition will attempt to highlight a snapshot of the inspiring people who help YCAP give hope to so many”**

Dear Friend,

To work at a social service agency with the breadth and complexity of services that YCAP provides requires focus, organization, planning and strategic thinking. On all of the personality and preference tests I've taken my profile has leaned toward “analytical,” “practical,” “intuitive,” “rational,” etc. This is probably why I have until recently disregarded today's popular “mindfulness” practice as somewhat mystic.

But serving at YCAP requires more than just a business-like approach. My spiritual background encourages me to appreciate the power of gratitude. I am thankful for my family and friends, the community we live in and the work I am privileged to do. Lately my wife and I have also been exploring minimalism, which has led to being more “mindful” and efficient with how we spend our time. Ironically, this has included meditation, something I never thought I would do. A meditation method I've been most drawn to also happens to be based on gratitude.

As I reflect on this past year at YCAP, some of the most satisfying moments of this work are when we receive heartfelt thank you notes or calls from clients. This theme of gratitude contributes to why in this newsletter we decided to begin our new year sharing our deepest appreciation for your generosity. We can never thank the individuals, community groups, businesses, grant sources, staff and volunteers enough for making the work we do possible. This edition will attempt to highlight a snapshot of the inspiring people who help YCAP give hope to so many.

The following quote more eloquently articulates the meaning to me:

“As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.” — John F. Kennedy

Thank you for everything you do to improve the lives of our neighbors.

With Gratitude,



*Mayor Scott Hill with Executive Director Jeff Sargent*

## AGENCY DIRECTORS

JEFF SARGENT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

KATE STOKES, ADULT AND YOUTH PROGRAMS DIRECTOR

KRAIG LUDWIG, ENERGY SERVICES AND FOOD BANK DIRECTOR

DEBRA HANSON, FINANCE DIRECTOR

ALAINA BERGAN, HUMAN RESOURCES AND OFFICE DIRECTOR

DORIS TOWERY, DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

## YCAP WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW STAFF MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED US SINCE AUGUST 2017

JOHANNA CUEVAS, RECEPTIONIST, DAVID JOHNSON, FOOD BANK SUPPORT SPECIALIST, AARON ORTA, CLIENT SERVICES CASE MANGER SSVF, GABRIEL SOLORZANO, ENERGY EDUCATOR AND WEATHERIZATION TECH, DORIS TOWERY, DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

# FOOD BANK

Our Food Bank has a few volunteers that dedicate their time to supporting our staff on a weekly basis. One such volunteer, Bruce Waltz, has been a donor to the food bank for 10 years and a volunteer for 8. He was kind enough to share his story, and how he feels about supporting YCAP.

“When I was close to retirement I started to focus on this town, and how it’s been really good for my family. I was raised with the mentality that when you receive – you give back more in other ways. I started to donate to different organizations whose mission spoke to me including YCAP.

“Then after retirement I began volunteering. I drive truck and do pick-ups of food. I enjoy getting to meet people like the staff here or the people that work in the back of the stores I pick up at. I’m making friends everywhere.”

Bruce is an invaluable asset to our mission here at the YCAP Food Bank, we are so grateful to have his dedication and friendship!



# ENERGY AND CLIENT SERVICES

**We offer a variety of services and resources to the community, as well as numerous services to assist those in housing crisis to obtain and maintain stable housing.**

The Hillside Foundation, of the Hillside Retirement Community in McMinnville, provides YCAP with funds to supplement our services for our elderly clients. We rely on these funds to help achieve important work in our Client Services Department as well as our Energy and Weatherization Department. With a mission to support the elderly in financial crisis, Hillside Foundation is truly a gift to have available when needs arise. We are deeply appreciative for the longtime commitment of the Foundation.

This past year our Energy Department served 28 households, fixing water leaks in roofs, stabilizing unsafe outdoor stairs in the homes of disabled seniors, repairing

decking, ensuring seniors had safe and reliable transportation and providing utility bill assistance. All of these actions allow for our senior clients to live in their homes safely and securely. Client Services served 31 persons through the Elderly Assistance Fund, with one third of requests preventing utility shut-offs and another third assisting seniors in maintaining safe and reliable transportation to remain mobile and active in the community.

We are so grateful to be able to provide these services to seniors in our communities because of the Hillside Foundation.



**“What inspires me to continue to volunteer at YCAP is within me, it was a big part of my life to give. I think this organization is an invaluable asset that does amazing things. I think places like this are underappreciated. When people ask me how they can help, I tell them to donate. Help feed families and children.”**

**- Bruce Waltz**



# LOOKING BACK: LIGHT THE FIRE

## SPONSORS



### THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

First Federal

Markusen & Schwing  
Certified Public Accountants

Newberg Ace Hardware

Pulp & Circumstance

Ticor Title

Light The Fire 2017 in October was a spectacular and fun event with fire themed elements throughout the evening. Our third annual event featured dynamic performances by the unipiper and fire dancers. Our event team came together with a vision—dedicated to helping raise funds for our Youth Outreach and our Food Bank services in Newberg and Dundee. With a generous grant from the City of Newberg we promoted to distant communities attracting tourists to Yamhill County. Thank you to Kyle Lattimer, Ashley Lippard, Paul Losch, Jen Sitter, Andrew Turner and everyone who participated!

## OUR FRIEND IN ENERGY

### LORA



Lora shares quite a bit of her time and enthusiasm in our Energy Department. A focused and dedicated volunteer, she doesn't have much down time between tasks. Her focus on support tasks frees up staff to process client applications. This makes a huge difference in our community.

"I remember talking to my financial planner 7 years ago who said 'You know, there's no mention of retirement in the Bible.' It's absolutely true!

Retirement is a time to give back. There are so many things to do, so many places needing volunteers. My goal was to help the poor and YCAP offered a way to do that. I didn't want to work on the front lines; I'm a 'behind the scenes' kind of person. This opportunity keeps me from being bored at home, keeps me active, and helps keep my brain from turning to mush. It's so rewarding!"

## ADOPT-A-FAMILY: GIFTS FOR FAMILIES

Client Services and Housing would like to thank the wonderful community donors that make the Adopt-A-Family program possible.

Each year, households in YCAP's three shelters and five different housing programs are adopted by individuals and businesses throughout Yamhill County, receiving gifts for each member of their household from their wish lists. Not only does this brighten the holiday season for many YCAP clients, it also establishes greater community support and engagement around those experiencing housing crisis.

**This year, through the generosity of 38 community donors, 52 households were adopted for Christmas, including 73 children.**

***Many thanks from YCAP staff to these donors for continuing to make the Adopt-A-Family program a highlight of the year.***



# WELCOME NEW YCAP BOARD MEMBERS

We are honored to welcome three new members to the YCAP Board of Directors. In this edition we feature two of those members who bring an incredible amount of talent and passion to serve our community.



**PATRICK JOHNSON**  
NEWBERG CITY COUNCILOR

Patrick Johnson grew up in Newberg and was appointed to the Newberg City Council in 2015. He is an advocate for low-income housing and improving transit in Yamhill County. "The reason I am excited to be on the YCAP board is to bring my experiences, knowledge and talents to help the organization continue to provide resources for people in need," he said. "In the short time I have been on the board I have been moved by the stories I have heard, and impressed by the depth and breadth of services the organization provides."

When he isn't working on public service, Johnson works in the public affairs department for the Oregon Lottery. He has been married for 22 years to his wife Cindy, and they have two girls, Violet and Lilly.

## EDGAR PIZANO

VIRGINIA GARCIA MEMORIAL HEALTH CENTER

Edgar is the Clinical Team Lead at Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center. He has worked in healthcare for the last five years, always looking for opportunities to improve the way teams provide healthcare throughout Yamhill County. He is passionate about how our healthcare delivery systems can connect with social services to create a healthier community. As a resident of Yamhill County he has seen the tremendous impact YCAP has improving the lives of our neighbors. Growing up in a low income family he knows firsthand the value of the resources YCAP provides. When given the opportunity to join the YCAP Board, he knew this was his moment to give back to his community and be a part of helping grow an organization who provides critical services to our neighbors.

Edgar lives in McMinnville with his husband Edgar, where they enjoy hiking, painting sessions and binge watching netflix.



## YAMHILL COUNTY MELTDOWN: GRILLED CHEESE CHALLENGE

Do you like a tasty ooey gooey grilled cheese sandwich? Silly question, we know; doesn't everyone? The second annual Melt Down will be one to tempt your taste buds. We are recruiting 20 marvelous restaurants to participate for the WHOLE MONTH of February. This means you have more than enough time to try each creation and support our YCAP Regional Food Bank.

Participating restaurants take grilled cheese to a whole new level—we are very excited to see what mouthwatering combinations they come up with this year.

Visit participating restaurants February 1st-28th. Order their special grilled cheese sandwich and a portion of the proceeds will go to the YCAP Food Bank.

Share photos of your sandwich on Facebook and Instagram for prizes #YCmeltdown

Pick up a punch card with your first sandwich, then visit 9 more restaurants to be entered to win a gift card.

# CHERISHED VOLUNTEERS: EMILY AND TIM DUERFELDT

Two extraordinary volunteers, Emily and Tim, serve our YCAP Food Bank each week – with a goal of helping the hungry. They both were generous enough to share why they find it so important to volunteer to support their community through YCAP.

**Emily:** “It was always my goal when I retired to volunteer for the Food Bank, because living in this part of the country – it just breaks my heart that people are going hungry. At first I would go out with trucks

to get food... that wasn't a good fit. Now they have me come here and do different things like help with Friday Family Food which was when Tim got involved as well.”

**Tim:** “I have experience with lifting, I have lots of time working on farms so that was a way for me to help. I really got connected to YCAP through Emily's passion. My most favorite part so far is following the Book Mobile and connecting not only with kids but their parents – being able to be there and speak with them. Then we see each other out in the community and they recognize us and we just have these connections. It's really phenomenal”.

**Emily:** “YCAP is a great organization, I wish people would donate more. There is such a need not only for the food bank, but for all the services of YCAP that serve our community. This isn't our only volunteer organization, but it's the one that is our top priority. Food is absolutely essential. I love this organization, if I didn't I certainly wouldn't have been here this long!”



# FEED HOPE HOLIDAY CAMPAIGN

**Yamhill County raised over 76,000 pounds of food and more than \$94,000 dollars!!! That is 375,000 meals for Yamhill County neighbors.**

*A special shout out to the extraordinary efforts of McMinnville High School students, led by advisor Susanne Sayles.*

*These amazing students raised a record setting \$10,371.51 and 6,903 lbs of food!*



## A SNAPSHOT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Mission: To advocate for and assist persons toward self-sufficiency.**



**1 Shelter**

78 persons received shelter services for a total of 5,880 nights of shelter and 538 sessions of case management.



**2 Youth Outreach**

78 youth runaways prevented through our Safe Shelter Program



**3 Food Bank**

2.2 million pounds of food distributed  
Fiscal year 2016-2017



# YOUTH SERVICES: POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

**We believe that a community's youth is one of its most valuable resources. We believe communities benefit by ensuring all of its young people are provided with the basic opportunities or essential services that can support them in developing a sense of competence, usefulness, belonging, and empowerment.**

Positive Youth Development (PYD) is a framework that guides communities in the way they organize services, opportunities, and supports so that young people can develop to their full potential. PYD is not just another program at Youth Outreach. It's an approach in which we emphasize the following:

--We focus on strengths and positive outcomes. Rather than taking a deficit-based approach, we develop effective strategies, intentionally helping young

people build on their strengths and develop the competencies, values, and connections they need for life and work.

--We encourage youth voice and engagement. Youth are valued partners here at Youth Outreach with meaningful, decision-making roles in their own goals and services.

--We promote community involvement and collaboration. We understand that youth themselves can play an important role in making the community a great place to live.

At Youth Outreach, we've made a long-term commitment to our young people

that helps them develop the competencies, confidence, character, and connections they need to do well and make healthy life choices. We call this being "#YOStrong."

We so appreciate all our donors and volunteers -- individuals, businesses, and organizations -- who make the good work of Youth Outreach possible. Thanks to those who also participated in our National Runaway Prevention Month and You Matter Sign Rally campaigns. It clearly demonstrated a commitment to the well-being of at-risk youth population of our county and we are grateful.



**4 LIHEAP**  
(Low-Income Home Energy Assistance)

Serving senior and/or disabled households

**459 approved applications** for payment processing.

## 2017 COMMUNITY CANTATA

Volunteers from Yamhill County and beyond have for 31 years joyfully shared their gifts of music through the Community Cantata Choir. Since 2004 they have collected a free will offering to help feed our neighbors in need. This holiday season a record \$20,000 was raised for the YCAP Food Bank! Thanks to directors Lee and Linda Schrepel, and all who shared their talents and donations in the spirit of Christmas.



## OUR HISTORY...

YCAP was founded in 1980 as part of a nationwide network of social service agencies designed to help improve the lives of low-income people and strengthen communities. We assist the residents of Yamhill County, diligently focusing on four primary service categories: Client Services and Housing, Energy Services, the regional Food Bank, and Youth Services. We are inspired every day by the stories of those who want to have a better life for themselves and their families. We are honored to support our neighbors.

[www.yamhillcap.org](http://www.yamhillcap.org)

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram!



***Our monthly giving program is the easiest way to provide support for the ongoing work of YCAP. Your monthly online gift is the backbone that sustains our work all year long. Start today at [www.yamhillcap.org/donate](http://www.yamhillcap.org/donate).***



## THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

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