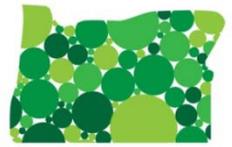


Your Donations At Work: Success Stories



**OREGON
EMPLOYEES
CHARITABLE
FUND DRIVE**



Work for Art

Funding the arts goes a long way. **Work for Art** funds more than 80 arts & culture organizations. These organizations are the fabric of our arts & culture community. Many partner with health and social service agencies, these groups have profound effects on our society. Funded by Work for Art, the **Children's Healing Art Project (CHAP)** brings the healing power of art to children in crisis and their families with a mobile team of teaching artists working in Oregon hospitals. Working with over 10,000 children a year, CHAP creates art classes designed to meet the special needs of the children they

serve. They bring light, beauty and creativity to the lives of children facing life's most challenging obstacles.

Habitat for Humanity of Oregon

James and Carla King and their daughters Haley and Nicole, ages 8 and 6, invited everyone inside for a look at their new residence. Carla told those gathered that she's been praying for six years for a good place to live, and it finally happened.

A number of things are special about the King home. First, it allows the family to leave behind a drafty, leaky manufactured structure that was no fun to live in. In sharp contrast, the family's new home is comfortable, attractive, and Gold-rated Energy Star/Earth Advantage, which means low utility bills and no more damp, breezy nights. In addition, the home is the third to be completed in the Newberry Woods subdivision, which will eventually become a neighborhood of 11 Habitat homes. This subdivision, located on a cul-de-sac (so no speeding traffic), will help foster a spirit of community and togetherness for adults and children alike.



More on next page...



Community Health Charities of Oregon

Samantha (Sammy) was just entering kindergarten when she was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia.

The **Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's** funding over the years have contributed to major advances that helped get her into remission, and LLS' educational & support services help Sammy and her family get through treatment and look forward to a cancer-free life!

Black United Fund of Oregon

If you were a fifth grade boy, there's probably nothing you'd fear more than having to do something (anything) with a girl.

The coach in one of **Chess for Success'** Portland clubs assigned one of their top players, a boy in fifth grade, to compete with a girl in third grade. And not just any third grader -- a girl who has cerebral palsy and uses a wheelchair. When he protested, he was told he wouldn't be able to play at all; so he grudgingly accepted. He returned 15 minutes later with his eyes wide and his mouth wider. The girl who looked and acted so differently from him had beaten him at chess -- very, very soundly.



This is just one example of how chess can help all students no matter who they are. Each student gains something from their experience, but across the board chess improves critical thinking and problem-solving skills and it can dramatically change kids' perceptions of the world and those around them. Thanks to the investment of the Black United Fund and of individual donors, Chess for Success is able to help students make the right moves to be successful in school and in life.

United Way of Umatilla & Morrow Counties

Lynda* and her four children found help and were reunited through a United Way of Umatilla & Morrow Counties supported Alcohol and Drug program.

Lynda started her GED process while still in treatment for alcohol and drug addiction. After completing treatment, she continued on and earned her GED. She is now attending Blue Mountain Community College full time with a 3.25 grade point average.

After losing her children to the state because of her drug use, she has completely turned her life around and has all her children back with her. In addition, she has been hired by the treatment center as a Parent Mentor to work with other addicted parents who've lost their children to the state. She brings them hope and supports them through the process of becoming great parents in recovery.

Her DHS child welfare worker, said, "The Lynda that I know today is not the person I knew four years ago. She is now a wonderful parent, a successful college student, and very professional in her job. Hard work paid off for her. She truly changed her life and in turn made a better life for her children. Lynda's strength and faith are rock solid."

More on next page...

McKenzie River Gathering (MRG) Foundation

Voz Hispana Causa Chavista's PCUNCitos program trains young people in the day-to-day work of organizing, including meeting with elected officials, door-knocking and registering new voters.

At the recent May Day march in Salem, where 4,000 people marched for immigrant rights, the PCUNCitos led the way.



United Way of Mid-Willamette Valley

A young mother walked into St. Vincent DePaul with two small girls in tow and asked to apply for assistance. The family, which included the girls' father, had been evicted from their apartment and was living in a fifth-wheel trailer at a friends' home. Several days prior to asking for assistance, the young mother had returned from a visit to the park with her daughters to find her husband gone—with the fifth wheel and all their belongings.

After three days, it was clear he had abandoned them and was not going to return. The family was left homeless with no money, shelter or food, and only the clothes on their backs. Normally, the St. Vincent DePaul does not help with housing deposits; however, given the circumstances, they felt compelled to make an exception. Staff worked together to find and fund a small apartment and also provided household items, clothing and food to get the family started.

EarthShare Oregon

Salmon rely, in part, on their sense of smell to negotiate waters – and some pesticides affect this sense, making it difficult or impossible to find their way home. They're not sure which direction to go. They can't avoid predators. That pesticides affect wildlife is hardly a secret. And yet, when it comes to endangered species, the effect of pesticides has largely been ignored in regulations. Until now.



The Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides has worked for the past decade to ensure endangered salmon are protected from harmful pesticides – by participating in lawsuits, working with government agencies and legislators and countering industry efforts to thwart protections. Last year, the hard work paid off, benefitting salmon, clean water and people: The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) prescribed salmon be protected from 15 pesticides of potential concern for the fish. It's a big step for salmon—

and for people. "The places that will be protected are not just salmon streams, they're also Oregon's drinking water sources," says Aimee Code, Environmental Health Associate with NCAP. "Because of these protections, 400,000 Oregonians will have cleaner water."

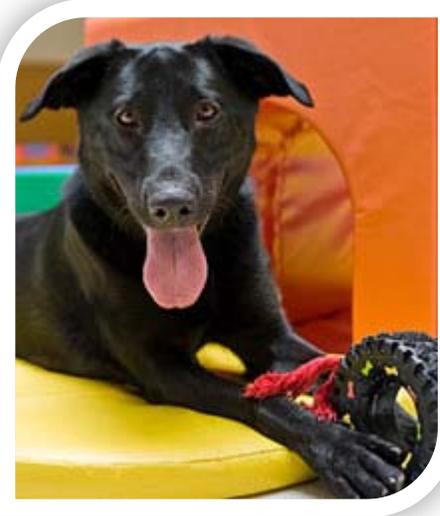
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Local Independent Charities

Sheba came to Oregon Humane Society in May, and did not find her new home until November. Sheba needed special human companions, as she did not like to be left alone and required a large, well-fenced yard to play in. After seven months of waiting, Sheba found her match. Her new owners wrote to us with this update:

Dear OHS,

Just wanted to follow up with you on Sheba. She is now the "Queen of the House." She loves her new yard. She goes out each morning and runs the entire perimeter of the back yard about 10 or more times. She then comes in, jumps on the sofa where Dennis (my husband) generally sits and she wags her tail as he approaches. We totally love her and she gives it right back. She is a quick learner. At Christmas, she got lots of stuffed squeaker toys and carries them everywhere. On occasion she actually goes around the house, picks them up and puts them in her toy box. Hmm... I had a hard time teaching my kids that one. It has only been 1½ months and already we have forgotten what life before her was. - Dennis and Cheri



Children's Trust Fund of Oregon

Salem police have seen a decline in child deaths. Fifty percent of homicides investigated in 2008 were cases that involved shaken babies.

"There has been tremendous progress made in educating parents about not shaking your child," Salem Police Lt. Steve Birr said. "Salem Hospital started mandating that all new parents watch a video on shaken-baby syndrome."

The video, "The Period of PURPLE Crying," is distributed to all new parents and is part of program that started in April 2009, said Salem Hospital registered nurse and health educator Cindy Crosby. Salem police reported no shaken-baby deaths in 2009 or 2010.

Equity Foundation

From a recent scholarship recipient:

"My name is Brady Humphrey and I received a scholarship at **Equity Foundation** last year. I am from Portland and I came out almost two years ago. I am proud of being a deaf and gay young man. But, I was rejected by my family because of their beliefs.

Presently, I have completed my freshman year at Gallaudet University where I have achieved a 3.2 GPA. Along with working hard in my classes, I also performed a major role in the spring play (a Greek Tragedy) where I received the award for most outstanding performance from my peers. As I start my second year at Gallaudet, I want to keep focused in order to graduate.

I was able to attend Gallaudet University only because of the scholarships I received at Equity Foundation. I could not be as successful as I am without wonderful support of organizations like Equity Foundation. Your support is really important for me and my future life."