



January 2020

# Rogue Retreat News



## 200 People A Night Is Not Enough!

As Rogue Retreat enters 2020 we are fortunate to have over 200 people under one of our roofs every night. These 200 don't have to worry about where they are going to sleep, where they will find a restroom to use, where their next meal or glass of water will come from, where they can get warm clothing or a dry sleeping bag. No, for these 200 they can take a sigh of relief and begin to work on what needs to happen next in order to leave homelessness behind for good.

Yeah for the 200. Yeah to you for helping us serve them.



But, serving 200 homeless individuals in a county with hundreds more on the streets or at risk of being on the streets in 2020 is not enough.

The board, staff and generous donors of Rogue Retreat want more. More ways to give the homeless hope their circumstances can change. More hands-up case management services. More housing options for the homeless at all levels.

As we begin this new year we expect to see more amazing opportunities open up for Rogue Retreat to serve the homeless in Jackson & Josephine Counties in Oregon. We expect to be able to come

along side other wonderful groups of visionaries serving in other counties as consultants, mentors and cheerleaders. We expect to inspire communities to take a risk to begin a dedicated push to serve their homeless.

We know you agree more needs to be done. We are truly thankful for what we are able to do, but believing more can be done. Every single homeless person matters.

# WE WANT MORE!

## Participant Spotlight: Robert Hansen

Robert lived at Oxford House for twelve years where he was also a Southern Oregon Chairman. When his State level obligation ended he moved out of the Oxford House. Two weeks after getting his own place Robert relapsed on alcohol and ended up admitting himself into a detox program for ten days. From there he went into the ARC and graduated from their program. When asked what drove him to relapse Robert said, "Not going to meetings."

What brought Robert to Rogue Retreat was the need for additional accountability and recovery stabilization. While living at the ARC Robert filled out the Rogue Retreat Housing application and kept coming back twice a week for six months till he was accepted.

When asked what barriers Rogue Retreat has helped Robert overcome he mentioned that he got the confidence to stand up for himself, stop procrastinating and that Consumer Credit Counseling

helped him to clean up his credit and past debt. While going to Rogue Retreat's Life Skills classes Robert learned about an Expungement Clinic and he is now felony free after 20 years. Because of the Expungement Clinic

Robert got his job back at Lithia Motors that he lost because of a dirty urinalysis for marijuana back in 2006.

Robert said his long term goals are to stay clean and sober, create new

incentives to move forward in life and build up his savings. One lesson that Robert has learned through this process is to stay connected and continue attending supportive meetings. Robert would like to move out by next summer.



*Robert Hansen has been doing great since coming into the Rogue Retreat program giving him a second chance at life.*

When asked what message he would give to others that may be struggling and thinking about reaching out for help he said, "Just listen and pay attention to those who have come before you, staying connected is worth it."

*staying connected is worth it."*

Message from the Executive Director

# It Always Hurts To “Fail”

We are often asked about our “success rate.” What people want to know is how productive is the Rogue Retreat program. Even though we have a good response by sharing around 60% of those coming into Hope Village are able to move on to better living conditions; 75% of those in our Haven Houses (recovery houses) move forward and leave addiction behind; another 75% of those in our apartments are able to find more permanent living in apartments or houses outside our program and over 70% of those in The Kelly Shelter are doing well.

BUT, what about those we can’t help? What about those who are not ready to let go of their addiction or are not willing to deal with their mental health issues? Each one has a name, a story to tell and a future to live. Each one matters.

It hurts we can’t help everyone more forward in a positive way. It hurts to see some people make choices to continue to live as they have and have to go back to the streets. It hurts.

But we don’t give up. We don’t stop working hard for those who are ready and willing to take the “hand-up” offered and work through Rogue Retreat’s five-level case management program.

We celebrate the amazing successes these forward moving participants accomplish. I can’t tell you how rewarding it is to see people move on and out of Rogue Retreat totally capable of being self-sufficient! I thank you for helping us help them!



Chad McComas  
Executive Director

## Rogue Retreat Partners With City Livability Team

The City of Medford created a “Livability Team” as part of the Medford City Police Department. This team has the task of cleaning up the Greenway in Medford while finding good options for moving the homeless to better outcomes. It is a huge task.

As Rogue Retreat opened The Kelly Shelter, a new partnership was created. The “team” helps Kelly Shelter staff identify and deal with those who end up coming off the Greenway. They are anxious and willing to be of support as we work together to address the various needs of the common people we serve.

Providence Hospital recently funded a \$50,000 proposal for a five-bedroom house for the Livability Team

to use in housing some of those they have worked with to get off the Greenway. The house will be provided by OnTrack and Rogue Retreat will provide their “secret sauce” case management service work. It truly takes a community to overcome the homeless challenge.



The Medford Livability Team helped sponsor someone off the Greenway into a tiny house at Hope Village recently.



Rogue Retreat’s 180 Club now has over 90 people giving at least \$25 a month to support Rogue Retreat. Will you help us reach our goal of 180 in this club in 2020? Use the enclosed envelope or give at: [Rogueretreat.org](http://Rogueretreat.org)

*When people come to Rogue Retreat they do a 180 in life*

## A Tale Of Two Villages

### FOUNDRY VILLAGE

The City Council in Grants Pass is deliberating on allowing

Foundry Village to operate under the Oregon State Statute allowing municipalities to have “campgrounds” for the homeless. We expect a positive answer in January or February. The Foundry Village Steering Committee is hard at work raising awareness and funds to potentially break ground in late Spring. Most of the 17 individual houses have

been personally sponsored at \$10,000 each! For more information visit our Foundry Village Facebook page or [www.foundryvillagegrantspass.com](http://www.foundryvillagegrantspass.com)

### HOPE VILLAGE

The Medford City Council is considering adding four (4) more tiny houses to Hope Village to bring the number up to 34. Additional houses allow us to take 4+ people off the streets!

We will be doing a Phase 3 fundraising effort to cover the cost of the additional houses at \$10,000 each and also provide the funds needed to have a permanent hook up for the RV of our camp host. If you or your organization want to sponsor one of the new houses call Matt at our office 541-499-0880.



VOLUNTEER

*all that's missing is U!*

**We constantly need volunteers at our Thrift Shop and to bring and serve meals at The Kelly Shelter. Want to help? Call Jamie at 541-499-0880**