



ROGUE RETREAT NEWS

The City Of Medford Needs Organizations Like Rogue Retreat To Meet The Full Potential Of Medford

By Kevin Stine, Medford City Council President

In 2015 I took office as a newly elected member of the Medford City Council. One of the first meetings I had as Councilor was to adopt our Council goals for the coming years. I looked through the 2014 City of Medford Strategic Plan, and there was absolutely nothing related to homelessness. Sixty-two pages, and not a word on the topic I heard the most about when I knocked on over 1,000 doors of people in my ward.

When I brought the topic up at a meeting, there was some pushback about how to incorporate the verbiage, in a way that I believe was to minimize what our role should be with people living within Medford. With some discussion there were some additions made.

I actually don't bring this up as a criticism of past actions, as the City of Medford has long had a General Fund Grant that has provided hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to nonprofits. This was started long before I was on the Council.

There was also the approval of many housing projects that bring much value to Medford residents. I bring it up to highlight how far we have come. I see the great work the Continuum of Care has done, the new Kelly Shelter with the partnership with ACCESS, and the Council approval of my idea to grant \$100,000 to nonprofits during the COVID-19 crisis. I see we have a strong foundation with our nonprofits that we did not have before.

Hope Village. I spoke with Rich Hansen from the steering committee and attended the first meeting they had with City staff. I was always enamored with the idea to at least try the successful model that Opportunity Village had in Eugene and I wrote a supportive guest opinion in the Mail Tribune. There were plenty of ups-and-downs in the process, but in November

2016 the idea was approved by the City Council.

While many supporters were involved, I give a great credit to Chad McComas, Heather Hassett and Rich Hansen on their ability to work through those issues to get it done.

The beauty of Hope Village is the ability to help provide the upward mobility that many people need, to help get them back on track. Those experiencing homelessness have many of the same issues as the housed population. The difference is that the pitfalls of those on the street are there for everyone to see. At times we all need assistance; Hope Village is there to help.

My support of Rogue Retreat, through Hope Village, the Clean Sweep Program, or the different housing programs, is based on the fact that the City of Medford needs these programs to exist.

I am more than happy to see what is in store for our city as we continue to make progress in this area.




**COLDWELL
BANKER
COMMERCIAL**

NW

Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

Thank You!

Before



After



New doors at Heathers Haven donated by:
Mountain View Window and Door
<https://mtviewwindowanddoor.com/>
541-772-2272




How Clean Sweep Benefits The Community

By Scott Henselman, CPM, Broker/Member, Henselman Realty & Management LLC

Rogue Retreat has a program for the employment of those without homes that want to move forward with their lives: Clean Sweep.

Our company, Henselman Realty & Management LLC, has been blessed by being able to hire Rogue Retreat to conduct weekly cleaning of the exterior for several of our Downtown Medford buildings.

We see this as a win-win enterprise. For us, it provides a regular cleaning of the sidewalks, landscaping, and alleys around a number of buildings in our Downtown. The cost is very reasonable, and it results in lower operating costs to our owners.

The program helps us to present our properties and the downtown area in a clean and neat condition. This enhances the overall experience of our businesses, employees, and the visitors to our Downtown.

Having the residents of Medford and guests from outside our town see our Downtown in a clean and well-kept condition will enhance the image and appeal of our Downtown. Having a clean Downtown affects the impressions of those visitors about our community as a whole.

However, the greatest benefit to this arrangement is the ability, in a small but important way, to be part of helping those in need with a hand up. Not a handout that may be squandered, but a real opportunity to feel a part of our community.

Pride of a job well done, serving the needs of others, and giving back to the community is a way to move forward in a person's life.

The rewards for the participants of this Clean Sweep Project of Rogue Retreat is so much more than financial for them. It brings values that are going a long way to help a person up and to move forward in their lives.

We are proud to be a part of a solution, one of many Rogue Retreat offers, to help those in hard times to give them dignity, establish self-worth from within and give hope when they may have lost hope. Thank you to Rogue Retreat and the Clean Sweep program for giving us the opportunity to help.



Clean Sweep
by Rogue Retreat



Before

[Clean Sweep \(541\) 499-0880](https://www.cleansweep.org)

After

- Have a Problem Area that Needs Attention? [Clean Sweep](https://www.cleansweep.org) is happy to help Monday through Friday. [Give us a call!](https://www.cleansweep.org)
- Interested in Donating Gift Cards? [Clean Sweep](https://www.cleansweep.org) is always welcoming donations for our program. [Give us a call!](https://www.cleansweep.org)
- Does your Business need taken care of? [Clean Sweep](https://www.cleansweep.org) maintains multiple properties around town. [Give us a call!](https://www.cleansweep.org)
- Want to Donate Cans and Bottles? [Clean Sweep](https://www.cleansweep.org) will pick them up as needed or routinely. [Give us a call!](https://www.cleansweep.org)

All proceeds from Businesses, Community Members, or Generous Donors go towards improving our streets, the image of our community, and the lives of our volunteers by assisting them in gaining full-time employment. If you are interested in learning more about Clean Sweep, Supporting the program, or have questions or comments call [Chris at \(541\) 499-0880](https://www.cleansweep.org).

Newly Homeless

By Phil Johncock

When she was asked the most recent date she became homeless, the 27-year old young woman bowed her head and sighed, "Yesterday!" I couldn't believe my ears. My eyes began to fill with tears.

She was not alone. Dozens of people just like her said the exact same thing in the last few weeks as they waited patiently in line around the building (social distancing) to get into the Warming Center in Grants Pass, often turned away when we had reached capacity.

Two years ago, the average length of being homeless in my hometown of Ashland was 40 months. Chronic homelessness was and continues to be a challenge everywhere. Now, we can add "newly homeless" to the list



of challenges we face as state economies move through various phases of recovery. These newly unhoused neighbors need our help now in resolving their housing crisis quickly!

My hope is that we can gather better homeless data faster so that communities can do a better job of catching these folks "before" they become homeless in the first place. In addition, I hope we can do better at getting any newly unhoused back into housing as quickly as possible before the vicious cycle of homelessness grabs hold and pulls them under.

"I noticed her, too," said one of our chronic homeless who could see the concern on my face. "She will not do well on the streets," he added, reading my mind. "I'll keep my eye out for her and offer to help when I can." It warms my heart to see how many within the community of homeless watch out for each other.

Join us in looking out for all our unhoused neighbors and those close to becoming unhoused! Inquire about how many of your neighbors are becoming homeless or are on the brink of being forced out of their homes and onto the streets as our state opens more businesses that were closed down during this COVID-19 crisis!

I Love Helping Rogue Retreat Grow And Serve More People

By Charles Kirschenman, Owner of Rogue Tech Pros

In 2017 I was fortunate to be introduced to Rogue Retreat by a good friend of mine when they needed some extra IT work.

Back then I did not know much about Rogue Retreat except that they had a small office on West 8th and a few apartments for their rent subsidy program for people who are currently and chronically homeless.

Shortly after partnering with them, the growth of Rogue Retreat exploded. They soon acquired much larger office space and opened Hope Village. Last fall I helped get the offices up and running for Kelly Shelter, and now we are working on Foundry Village in Grants Pass.

In 2019 I formed Rogue Tech Pros, which allowed me to take a much larger, active role in helping facilitate the tech side of Rogue Retreat's growth. I am Rogue Retreat's first contact for all their technology needs. Whether it is a new computer, moving offices, a phone not dialing, a printer not printing, or a computer not running efficiently, they call Rogue Tech Pros to get it resolved.

In the last year we've also been able to take a more proactive role in their care and provide managed services, which is where I personally oversee the upkeep on devices' antivirus, Windows, and hardware without even having to make a visit.

Rogue Retreat never has to worry if

they are up to date or remember to ask me to check on their systems. More recently that has also led to supporting employees working from home and connecting them for video conferences. Our partnership has become one where they know I will provide the personal service they need at a fair price.

Much of my life I have volunteered behind the scenes at churches and camps, as well as having worked for many small businesses. So that is where my heart is, supporting non-profits, churches, small businesses, and residential clients with my skill set.

Now with my company, Rogue Tech Pros, we take care of technology needs as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible without sacrificing quality. We offer affordable on-site repairs, computer builds, network and phone support, ongoing support, and managed services. I am really excited about the managed services because we get to help clients stay ahead of repairs and take a proactive approach to their technology needs. We are able to tailor-make a plan to fit a client's needs. Whether it's a one-time fix, supplying you a managed anti-virus that you don't need to monitor, or having a retainer of hours that you can call us as needed, we have you covered. That way you pay for



ROGUE TECH PROS

ON-SITE TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONALS
Serving Homes & Businesses in the Rogue Valley

- On-site & Remote Services
- Laptop & Computer Repair
- Worry-free Antivirus
- Printer & Wi-Fi Setup
- Managed Security Suite

Sanitary and safe home visits at no extra cost!

MENTION THIS AD FOR
10% OFF
SERVICES & LABOR

☎ 541.299.2100
✉ HELLO@ROGUETECHPROS.COM

FREE CONSULTATION, CALL TODAY!

what you need and nothing extra that you don't.

We offer free consultations and estimates. Rogue Tech Pros' priority is to take care of you, our customer, and earn your trust. The best ways to reach us are by phone at (541) 299-2100, or email hello@roguetechpros.com. You can also follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/roguetechpros, where we post occasional tech tips.

Rogue Retreat Is An Amazing Organization

By Donnie Harper, Rogue Retreat Employee

June 12th, 2019 was the day I surrendered. I finally had enough of the life I had been living. I was broken, lost, ashamed, lonely, and afraid I was not going to be able to come back. My mind was slowly deteriorating, and I was extremely malnourished. I honestly wanted to die.

I was living under a bridge on the bike path, had nowhere to go and burned every bridge between myself and anyone who cared about me. I was a slave to my addiction. I had tried many times in the past to quit, obviously with very little success; you see when you become so dependent on something, it's nearly impossible to stop whatever it is on your own, whether it be drugs, alcohol, sex or relationships. These things become your life and nothing else matters.

At the final moment I knew I was trapped in a life of chaos and I wanted out. I reached to two of my closet friends, Sarah Kolb and Carrie Clark. They saved me and

made it the best day of my life!

When I chose to quit, I also chose to LIVE. Five days later I was in treatment. I dove into the program and became teachable. I gave up my old way of thinking and no longer needed to be in control of everything.

Step work, meetings, and fellowship became my life.

After successfully completing the ARC, I moved into Harold's Haven. Through Rogue Retreat I got a job at Harry and David. I applied for a position at the Kelly shelter, and was denied. But you know what? I kept doing what I was supposed to do, and a few weeks later I got a call and here I am today at the Shelter, working for the best organization in Jackson County, in my opinion anyway!

After about 8 months, I moved into my own place. This might not seem like a big deal to some, but for me, it is awesome. You see, because of poor choices in the

past or depending on other people, I had never had my own place, where I did not have others living with me. It is my very own place, and what an amazing feeling! I had finally found my independence, I am doing it on my own for the first time ever, and I love it!

With that I have found a sense of freedom- freedom from active addiction, freedom from chaos, and freedom from the insanity. I sit here writing this with such joy and gratitude for life! I have finally put in the work, but I could not have done it alone. I owe a lot of people a lot of thanks for never giving up on me and loving me till I could love my self. Family, friends, and definitely Rogue Retreat- you are all amazing!



Donnie Harper

Why I'm A Supporter Of Rogue Retreat

By Joyce Marks, 180 Club Member

My name is Joyce Marks and I am a supporter of the 180 club because in a few words, "You will know a tree by its fruit." I believe in and take very seriously being a worthy steward of the gifts God has given me. I try to be very thoughtful and intentional in how I give back to do His will in the world.

I was a police officer in San Diego for 15 years and saw firsthand how addiction and lack of resources for mental illness affected homelessness, crime, and broken homes. It still does. I work full time in a church now in Central Point and I don't have time to help and change the problems that weigh on my heart in our own neighborhoods in a "hands on" way.

The solution for now? I found Rogue Retreat.

Rogue Retreat is restoring lives through its affiliated programs, so it was easy to get behind any one of them because they were all bearing good fruit. The question was, which one do I sink my teeth into? It is through programs like the 180 Club I discovered I can make a change in someone's life and bring their life dignity and value through a worthy and sustainable program.



Joyce Marks

I remember when I heard about Hope village in its early planning stages and I was so excited about that! It was not a band aid or a quick fix. It was about transforming lives for the long haul! They helped address root issues that caused some of the problems that resulted in bad choices so that successful choices could be made and happy lives could be had.

Well, later, I discovered it is part of the

180 Club and I was able to support it. Count me in!

Foundations for Recovery, well, I began supporting them as soon as I discovered them. I found they were part of the 180 club as well. They have been a bedrock of this community. They change the world one person at a time, I get that. I help grow Christians one at a time. They are there when it is ugly and no one else is picking up the pieces. It is a commitment and it is hard. I have great respect for people in recovery. I see how addiction destroys and recovery heals. It begins with the self, then the family, the community, and then the society.

The question is how can we not support these programs, if not with our gifts, then with our talents or time?

There is a place, somewhere, with someone, who needs something only someone like you can give.

This "tree's" got my number...credit card number that is!



Members of the 180 Club are helping Rogue Retreat participants do a 180 in their lives by giving as little as \$25 a month.

If you'd like to become a member contact our development department at 541-499-0880. Members can either give \$25 a month or a sum over \$300 for the year.

Do You Shop At...



You can link your rewards card to Rogue Retreat so Fred Meyer will give a donation from your shopping! Need help doing this?

Call our office (541) 499-0880 and ask for the Development Department.

They will help you link your card. It's free!



The Importance And Benefits Of Giving Back

By Rowena Reeley

I give to Rogue Retreat because Rogue Retreat has given so much to me. I am passionate about the work done here because I have firsthand experience of the life changing impact

Giving to support a cause you are passionate about is something you will never regret. It will enrich your life and connect you to people and ideas that will positively impact your perspective for the rest of your life. Giving back to your community is an opportunity for you to grow as a person, to better understand how you fit into the world around you.

You gain a unique sense of purpose by serving those around you, one which often manifests in other areas of your life.

Of course, it's also important for Rogue Retreat!

Without the support of Alumni like me, many of the services and opportunities I have enjoyed and benefited from might not be so readily available for others.

Giving back to the place you call home helps to insure its success and availability to other's.

I would like to challenge anyone who has benefitted from this program to join the Alumni Club at just \$5 a month.

After all, if the people who come through Rogue Retreat don't believe it a worthy investment, how can we ask our community partners to support it?



To join the Rogue Retreat Alumni Club contact our office at 541-499-0880 and ask to talk with Rowena. Giving back helps someone get the chance they need to change their life!

The Homeless Man Who Captured My Heart

By Beth Eicher

I walk a lot, with my dog. Reba loved to roam the neighborhoods. It gave us an opportunity to meet our neighbors, people in our community, and other dogs.

There were quite a few homeless where I lived outside of Portland. We didn't pay them any attention. They were a nuisance.

A homeless man started walking near where I lived. He was wild looking with uncombed long hair and dirty clothing. And, he not only talked to himself, he yelled at an imaginary person! Frankly, I was afraid of him and crossed to the other side of the street whenever I saw him coming. He started hanging out in the common area in town, and Reba and I walked by him several times.

I do not recall who made the first move,

the man (who will remain anonymous) or Reba. I do remember that dog of mine was interested in meeting this man. They say dogs have a sixth sense, meaning they can discern the true nature of a person or situation. It was not long and those two became best friends. I am not kidding; Reba went looking for him on our walks!

Feeling left out, I started talking to the man. I found out his story. I got to know him. He was a kind man. Through him, I understood homelessness a little bit more. I met more of the homeless community and found out there was an entire camp in the woods. Each person had their own story and struggles. They were human beings with likes and dislikes, men and women, living in their car or tent or an entryway.

I felt moved to do something meaningful for these people. I wanted to be light to them. I talked to them, prayed for them, and helped where I could. I started an underwear, t-shirt, and sock mission. Sometimes, their eyes would light up when I handed them a new pair of socks. It blessed me! Fast forward, I find myself in Medford, my hometown. It has changed so much here, and I see more and more people taking to the streets. My heart goes out to them.

Rogue Retreat has an awesome program that strives to change the life and direction of those who want help. And I want to be a part of that. I want to see positive change here in my hometown.



Refill Reduce Reuse is committed to reducing single-use plastic waste by refilling your reusable containers with eco friendly and organic products for you, your home, and your lifestyle.

Bath, body, personal care, home cleaning, and accessories.

625 E Jackson St
Medford, Oregon
Call (541) 500-1600

Refill. Reduce. Reuse.
BATH BODY HOME CLEAN



Beth Eicher with Reba

2020
Warming Center
for the Homeless
in Grants Pass

230+ homeless spent at least 1 night (78 nights offered)

83+ homeless turned away after reaching capacity (40/night)

9 Essential Services Provided

1. Mailing Address
2. Health Insurance
3. SNAP Food Stamps
4. Job Readiness
5. Identification Docs (i.e., birth certificate, social security card, ID, etc.)
6. Resume
7. Phone
8. Housing Readiness
9. Stimulus Check

\$35,000+ of (value)
1,400+ hours donated by local volunteers

69% of homeless surveyed did not get their stimulus check or know how to get theirs

12.5% of homeless surveyed were working!

Over 50% of the balance want to work!

Housing options
include Josephine County Continuum of Care, Foundry Village, Kelly Shelter and more!

COVID-19 guidelines
from CDC and OHA followed including social distancing, temperature testing, hand washing, PPE, masks, etc.

Savings of \$10,000+
in laundry costs with innovative blanket numbering system



Wade's Story

My name is Wade. I came to Rogue Retreat with some clean time and zero life skills. I had come from an Oxford House here in Medford with my oldest daughter. I had never paid a power bill and had zero rental history.

I benefitted tremendously from my weekly meetings with my case manager Harold as I felt I had a mentor and friend to help me figure this "Life" stuff out. I slowly but surely started on working on things like driver's license and we talked frequently about barriers I was facing in life.

Rogue Retreat helped guide me and teach me how to do everyday things like pay bills and follow through with appointments. Also how to keep a clean house and build a rental history.

The Life Skills Meetings really helped me feel a part of a community. I used to feel so alone in my addiction and Rogue Retreat helped me feel accepted and gave me hope to a brighter future.



Wade with his daughter receiving an outstanding participant award from Program Director Liz Adams and Executive Director Chad McComas

Rogue Retreat Greenway Outreach Event

By George Jarvis

Wednesday May 27 at 9am, four Rogue Retreat employees, including myself, met four members of the Medford Police Livability Team at Railroad Park on Berrydale Avenue. We were there to visit camps along the Greenway to fill out applications for Rogue Retreat programs and do risk assessments for the Jackson County Coordinated Entry by Name Lists.

The temperature soon rose above 90



George Jarvis (on right) with other members of the outreach team

degrees, making walking the trails to camps known by the police officers somewhat uncomfortable to me, but I noticed it did not seem to bother the officers even though they were wearing their uniforms and all of the typical gear they wear.

We split into two teams with two officers



Member of the outreach team worked closely with the Livability Team from Medford Police

and two employees on each team. It was obvious as we drove, that members of the Livability Team had been out to the camps several times in the past as they had names and locations in their phones.

The first thing I noticed was that the trails to the camps were well worn, and that

most of the tents and shelters were erected in places well thought out allowing for as much comfort as possible.

Somewhat surprisingly, although there were piles of trash located throughout the area, which was mostly on private land from what the officers told us, most of the actual campsites were not "garbage pits."

Part of this I was told by some of those we talked to, who said it was easier to keep camps clean because of the trash cans and porta potties that have been put out.

I was also told that the porta potties were also a VERY welcome addition because going to the restroom had much more privacy than having to go in the woods or a nearby creek.

The police officers always led, approaching tents and shelters first to inform people in the

camps of the reason for the visit, and assuring them this was NOT for making arrests or having them move out at this time, but to gather information. They shared they wanted to make sure everybody was informed that

sometime during the month of June there would be a central camping/ tent city designated that would have services available by various providers from Jackson County. At that time all camps along the Greenway would be expected to move.

It was surprising to at least one of our team members how many people were comfortable living outside. Some folks liked the freedom that comes with that type of living and seemed to have little desire to move into housing. Even

though there were several people with that feeling, they were actually in the minority.

Most had issues that they wanted very much to be able to overcome; they wanted to integrate back into stable

housing, but currently did not have the resources to be able to do that.

There was a willingness to fill out the applications and provide information by most of those I met, though I was told by the other team that there were a few who either ran or refused to participate.

In the almost four hours that we were there we received information from 19 people. All these answered questions for the Coordinated Entry by Name Lists (Veteran and Non-Veteran), but only 16 filled out



George Jarvis (on left) with co-worker Justin Hon

applications for the Kelly Shelter.

There were two things from this experience that really stood out to me.

First, the professionalism of the officers, and their knowledge of all the camps and who lived in them.

The second was when the assessment asked what they do for enjoyment other than just survive, activities that make them happy and fulfilled. While some do have something to say, but many do not. To me personally, it was the saddest part of the whole experience.

Sales Professional- Michael 'Mav' Vierra
Michaelvierra@lithia.com
 Cell 541-324-8795
 541-776-6419
 4540 Grumman Dr, Medford, OR 97504
 I work with first time buyers, fresh starts, and credit challenges.

Our Innovative Housing Model

By Phil Johncock, Grants Pass Warming Center Manager

When the Warming Center in Grants Pass closed its doors at the end of May 2020, 260 homeless individuals had spent at least one night in the Center. Where do all these people go now? What shelter or housing options are available to them?

In Grants Pass, as in Medford and Ashland, there is a severe and chronic shortage of affordable housing. In fact, a Realtor.com 2019 report ranked Grants Pass at #3 among the top 10 most unaffordable cities for housing in the country... behind only Miami and Santa Cruz. According to the authors, "the report weighed median list prices for homes, median monthly housing cost, median household income,

and share of income going toward housing." (source: KDVR.com).

In addition, 60% of the renters in Grants Pass are "rent-burdened" (paying more than 30



percent of their gross income towards rent) and 30% (three out of 10 renters) are "severely rent-burdened" (paying more than 50 percent of their gross income for housing). (source:

KOBI5.com)
If that weren't enough, our unhoused neighbors often face additional "barriers" to getting the very housing that could take them off our streets, such as:

- 1.Challenges in obtaining required identification documents
- 2.Complex and chronic healthcare needs
- 3.Substance abuse issues
- 4.High barrier entrance requirements
- 5.Criminal records
- 6.Poor or no credit history
- 7.Poor rental history
- 8.Mental health issues
- 9.Foreclosures
- 10.Past evictions
- 11.Exclusion of pets
- 12.Lack of help in navigating housing opportunities that are



available

13.Deep poverty with fixed/low or no income

14.Lack of family and friend support systems

15.Multiple and long waiting lists and delays

Challenges in receiving communications (i.e., no phone, no mailing address, etc.)

Well, all is not lost. As the result of a unique, cross-county collaboration between nonprofits United Community Action Agency (UCAN) (Josephine County) and Rogue Retreat (Jackson County), there is indeed hope, as well as the beginnings of an innovative housing model.

The model provides the homeless with available housing options in not just one but two counties (Josephine and Jackson).

During the last few weeks of the warming center, volunteers and staff helped homeless fill out housing applications and educated them around housing options and how to overcome barriers to entry. Here are some of the results:

Josephine County

26 completed applications for the new (tiny house) Foundry Village that broke ground on June 10

15 completed applications with UCAN Housing

6 were admitted into the new, local Harmony House

Jackson County

8 were admitted into the year-round, 24-7 Kelly Shelter that includes case management

13 are awaiting an opening at the Kelly Shelter

2 entered substance abuse treatment programs

This is a great start to creating an innovative housing model that crosses two counties and coordinates entry into housing. Future plans can develop this model further by bringing together two unique Continuum of Care (CoC) systems with coordinated entry in each county and starting a conversation around common data sharing and housing placement using the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) that both county CoC's use.

OFFICE TECH

Home of
"Knock Your Socks Off"
Customer Service...

Proudly Supports
Rogue Retreat
and the Services
They Provide to
Our Community!

KYOCERA

TOSHIBA
Leading Innovation >>>

1912 United Way, Medford, OR 97504
www.officetechinc.com | 541.773.2015

Rural Oregon Expungement Helps Change Lives

By Sarah Kolb

Last year on this day (Juneteenth) I was anxious and excited, I was on the road up to Portland to take part in a free expungement clinic hosted by, Metropolitan Public Defenders office at a Juneteenth fest. I was nervous and reflecting on my life and how I first entered the criminal justice system.

I got my first criminal charge as an adult at 20 years old. I had gotten used to having a criminal record and dealing with the consequences. I never thought I could afford to do a criminal expungement through a lawyer and I had no idea how to navigate doing it on my own.

I met Michael Zhang at the festival in the park and we did my documentation, fingerprints and had a short conversation. I wanted to know how the clinic was free, who funded it, and how we could get expungement services here in Southern Oregon. I was so full of questions and wanted to bring this service to Southern Oregon.



Sarah Kolb

Michael and I stayed connected. He ended up resigning from his employment with MPD and he started QQ Law, and collectively we created Rural Oregon Expungement. We have served more than 1200 individuals in Southern Oregon with expungement analysis and discounted/free expungement services.

I have found my passion and my calling in life. I love helping people get a second chance, and I am now on the verge of starting a notary, filing, fingerprinting program called Signs of Hope.

I never thought that when I walked away from my old lifestyle that I would end up doing what I am doing today. Today I have over 9 years clean and sober and this has expanded my ability to help people change their lives in a meaningful way. I am grateful for this opportunity to be of service and I hope to bring more services to my community and offer them at an affordable rate.

Foundations For Recovery Peer Support Specialist Training is Back

Peer support refers to support from a person who has knowledge from their own experiences with a condition. Within the context of addiction management, peer support is support that typically comes from a person with lived experience with addiction or a person affected by addiction (e.g. immediate family member or caregiver). Foundations for Recovery's State Certified Peer Support Specialist Training Program focuses on the disease of addiction.

Rogue Retreat was recently able to conduct our first Peer Support Specialist training since the COVID-19 Pandemic hit. We were able to train seven new Peer Support Specialists that will receive their credentials from the State of Oregon. These 7 individuals will not be able to take their lived experience and training into the workforce to help those still struggling with addiction.

We feel blessed to be in this position to continue helping our community and helping those struggling, overcome their barriers on their journey to better health and self sufficiency.



ANDERSEN MORSE & LINTHORST
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

**Seeking Justice
One Person at a Time**

We help seriously injured people recover for their losses, get their medical bills paid, and get their lives back on track.

Medford, Main Office (541) 773-7000
1730 E. McAndrews Rd. Suite A, Medford, Oregon 97504

changed my life path forever and in turn I get to help others change theirs.

Is your community struggling to address homelessness? Learn through Rogue Retreat's experience and discover how to create tiny house transitional communities, winter shelters, employment programs and more in your own community. The time is now to improve our housing and shelter opportunities.

Hope University Available Audio Courses:

Community Village 101
Discover "How to Launch Your Own Tiny House Transitional Village for the Homeless in Your Community."

Winter Shelter 101
Winter Shelters 101 covers the most important issues for your community to address and how to turn problems into opportunities for creative partnerships.

Clean Sweep 101
Discover How To Create Your Own Community Clean Sweep "Job Readiness" Program For Your Homeless to Clean Your Streets!

Let Hope University help coach your community to develop shelter and housing programs.



To learn more or to purchase a course please visit:
www.rogueretreat.com/hope-university/

Rural Oregon Expungement

NEW SERVICE OFFERED

Eviction cases, dismissed or not, devastate a person's ability to find housing. As of January 1, 2020, most records of **eviction** are eligible for expungement in

Register on our website for your free no obligation analysis.

www.qiu-qiulaw.com

Michael Zhang, Attorney
Sarah Kolb, Community Organizer
www.qiu-qiulaw.com
Phone: 541-778-4473
medfordexpungementclinic@gmail.com
You can also find us on Facebook!

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, DON'T HESITATE TO CALL!

Mary Loves To Give Back

By Jamie Langdon, Human Resources Specialist

Mary Randahl has been working with Rogue Retreat at the Kelly Shelter since February of this year. We are lucky to have her as a part of our Rogue Retreat family because she is such an amazing part of the team. Here is her story.

Mary was born and raised in Medford, Oregon. She grew up in a supportive and loving home with her four siblings. She graduated from North Medford High School in 1992 and shortly after is when she says her life took a turn downhill.

Mary was only 18 years old when she was first introduced to drugs. This led her into a lifestyle where she began to hurt the people who were closest to her. Her addiction progressed to the point where she began to steal from family, friends, and businesses. She lost herself completely and could not keep up with the lies she told and ended up getting in trouble with the law.

In the past Mary had been forced to participate in treatment either by an employer or due to legal requirements. Because she was not ready to change at those times, they did not result in



Mary Randahl

success. In 2017 when Mary's mom passed away, she surrendered and decided she needed to change. She checked herself into treatment. Because she became honest with herself as well as her counselors, she was successful. This was a life changing moment that she met with a mixture of fear and excitement. Mary was in in-patient treatment for a total of two months. Two weeks before graduating she was contemplating using when she was out of treatment, but once she graduated, she was accepted into an Oxford house. She attributes this to the grace of her higher power.



Today Mary has two and a half years clean and sober. She doesn't know where she would be without her higher power always by her side and the support of her family. She thoroughly enjoys life and works to stay positive about things. She absolutely loves her job and the opportunity to make people smile who are going through challenging times in their lives. It is not only a gift for the people she serves, but it's a gift to her to be able to give back.

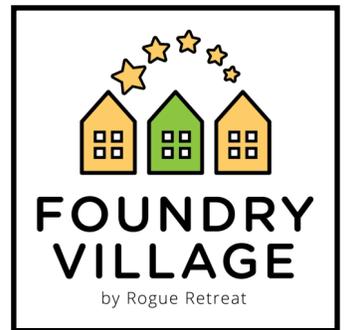
"My goals are to be the best I can be every day, to let myself grow and always be teachable."

Foundry Village Needs Help.

By Matthew Vorderstrasse, Development Director

On June 10th, 2020 we hosted an amazing Ground Breaking Ceremony for Foundry Village. There was a large turnout at the event from the Josephine County community. It was great to feel the energy and to see the excitement that had been curved due to fundraising impacts of COVID-19. The event itself helped raise over \$1500 and the media attention has helped re-spark community support and donations. The Foundry Village Steering Committee has nearly \$200k in hand from donation coming from individuals, businesses and foundations to date and has 10 of the village 17 tiny houses sponsored at \$10k each. We need your help to make this dream for Grants Pass become a reality. Official building will begin in mid-late July and will continue as long as funds are available. AllCare Community Foundation and the

Foundry Village Steering Committee are coordinating the capital build of Foundry Village. Once the village is created the operations will be turned over to Rogue Retreat.



To make a donation please mail them to: Foundry Village C/O AllCare Community Foundation, P.O. Box 1972 Grants Pass, OR 97528 or visit www.foundryvillagegrantspass.org.



Ground breaking ceremony at Foundry Village on June 10. Over 100 came to support the village and the dream of helping the homeless of Grants Pass



Are you looking for another financial option?

Although many people can benefit from a Reverse Mortgage they are not for everyone.

With integrity and honesty, let me provide you the information that you need to determine if a Reverse Mortgage is right for you.



Reverse Mortgage Professionals
An Aegean Financial Company NMLS# 157935

John Martin
Mortgage Specialist
NMLS #906507



541-601-6044
conversionloan@gmail.com



Aegean Financial Co. dba Reverse Mortgage Professionals - NMLS ID# 157935, Oregon License # ML-5396. Medford Branch NMLS ID# 1438720, Medford Branch License # ML-5396-2.

Free Consultation/Free Quote

Rogue Retreat Is A Resource For Our Community

By Kris Allison, Chief Of Police City Of Central Point

2020 has continued to challenge our community with changes regarding health and safety. We will continue to grow and understand how to handle this change responsibly but can not lose sight of our mission for everyone to have a home. Rogue Retreat has become a pillar in our community, pioneering the way on their purpose to provide housing.

We are fortunate to have access to Rogue Retreat for resources such as Hope Village, the Kelly Center, and Restart Retreat. These resources include access to the staff and Chad, who is always available to problem solve for individuals who need assistance.

We need to stay focused on supporting Rogue Retreat on their commitment to individuals experiencing homelessness and

assisting them in reaching this goal of housing for everyone.



Chief Kris Allison is very involved with community activities

How do we do this? We share the story of Rogue Retreat and what they provide. We educate ourselves on what they are doing now.

Rogue Retreat has Hope University that is available online that gives information on how other communities can start a winter shelter. It also has online classes on how business and community members can implement a "Clean Sweep" program in their

Cities.

I have been fortunate over the past three years to get to work with Rogue Retreat and their staff. I feel lucky to have witnessed individuals succeeding, finding a job, and experiencing "Home." We can all strive to end homelessness.



Hope Village tours are back! If you are interested in scheduling a tour of Hope Village, please contact Rowena at 541-499-0880 ext. 1020 or by email at Rowena@rogueretreat.com.



WE HAVE MOVED!

Foundations for Recovery

has moved to

711 East Main St. Suite 14, Medford, OR 97504

(We are on the lower level two suites to the left of the elevator.)

Our phone number has stayed the same.

(541) 245-4673 or call (541) 499-0880

**NATIONAL HEATING
& AIR CONDITIONING, INC.**

SINCE 1978

TALENT, OR
541-535-4687
www.NationalHeatAndAir.com

Leavitt Group

Redwoods Leavitt Insurance Agency

Faces of The Kelly Shelter



OPEN FOR SHOPPING AND DONATIONS

We are officially reopened on Monday the 18th of May, 2020.

1116 N Riverside Ave, Medford, OR 97501
Monday through Friday 10 am to 6 pm.



Thank you for helping us combat the spread of COVID-19





711 E Main #25
Medford, Oregon 97504
www.rogueretreat.org

Non Profit Org
US Postage Paid
Medford OR
Permit #161

Or Current Resident



711 E Main #25
Medford, Oregon 97504

Mission:
*Creating Opportunities
For The Homeless To
Have Hope.*

Vision:
*Rogue Retreat envisions
a community where all
homeless have a place to
call home and are
empowered to
strengthen the quality of
their lives.*

Help Our Newsletter Grow With Paid Ads

Supportive businesses and individuals in the community are helping pay for this newsletter to reach out to our supporters by paying for display ads. If you'd like to provide an ad for our July issue contact our development department at 541-499-0880 for ad rates and sizes. Business ads in this newsletter are not sanctioned by Rogue Retreat and don't necessarily represent Rogue Retreat. Rogue Retreat's newsletter reaches nearly 1,500 people a month.



Finding Hope Podcasts

Stan Littrell was introduced to us through a local program which finds employment for those with disabilities. Stan is blind, but he has a great history of working with radio. The idea of creating a podcast for Rogue Retreat was developed with Stan taking the lead and making the 30 minute programs a reality.

Over 30 podcasts have been recorded and shared so far. Most are of Rogue Retreat employees who share their personal stories

of "Finding Their Hope." Some are of community partners sharing their stories of how hope changed their lives and their connection with Rogue Retreat. You can hear the "Finding Hope" podcast online at: Anchor Fm and other places podcasts are found.

