



ROGUE RETREAT NEWS

Roseburg City Council Embarks in a New Direction

By Nikki Messenger, Roseburg City Manager

As part of its goal setting process, the Roseburg City Council identified six overarching goals for the 2020-2022 time-period. With each goal, Council and staff worked together to identify four to six actions items. The first five goals and related action items were identified and wordsmithed in the first two work-study sessions. The sixth goal, "Explore strategies to address issues related to unhoused individuals within the community" took significantly longer.

The Council adopted the goals and action items by resolution on January 13, 2020. Thus began the journey of tackling Goal 6's first action item, "Identify City's proactive role in the unhoused crisis". This was new territory for the City. As a smallish City, we have never provided any "social services" and have relied on community partners that do. The City has typically dealt with the results of homelessness, including enforcement and cleanup issues, not the prevention/delivery of services end.

The Council was eager to get to work on this action item, and the first work-study session was scheduled for early March, right around the time COVID hit and the Governor started implementing executive orders related to the pandemic. This brought the process to a screaming halt....temporarily.

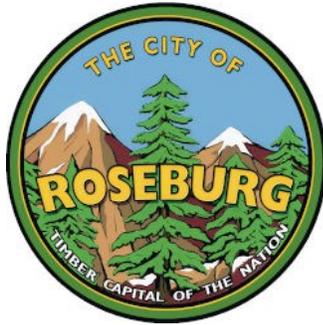
After mastering the Zoom meeting, Council began meeting virtually in mid-June to tackle this one action item. The Council has met five times in work-study sessions, with discussions at regular meetings in between. So far, the Council has concentrated on gathering information and

educating themselves. The Council held three meetings devoted to hearing from community groups and what services they provide to the unhoused. This has included the United Community Action Network, Adapt, Compass Behavioral Health, the Homeless Transitions Action Group, Local Public Safety Coordinating Council's Housing Subcommittee, the Roseburg VA Healthcare System, Roseburg Dream Center,

Peace at Home Advocacy Center, Roseburg Rescue Mission, Casa de Belen (homeless youth shelter), House Representative Gary Leif, *Rogue Retreat*, Parole & Probation, Circuit and Municipal Court judges, and the City Police Chief and City Prosecutor. Housing First Umpqua, The Salvation Army Roseburg Corps, the Roseburg Dream Center, Southern Oregon Goodwill, and HTAG provided written material.

The latest work-study session was held virtually and was dedicated to receiving public input, both via Zoom and via email. The next meeting will be an in-person meeting and will include taking additional public comment, receiving staff recommendations, and starting the process of Council deliberation.

Matt Vorderstasse and Chad McComas participated in the August 3 work-study session via Zoom. The information provided was so helpful, the Council was eager to view Rogue Retreat's programs and facilities in person. On August 26, several staff and Council members be traveled to Medford to tour Rogue



Nikki Messenger, Roseburg City Manager

Retreat's facilities, ask questions, and learn more about what a Roseburg program could look like.

We understand that Rogue Retreat did not happen overnight and look forward to learning as much as we can during our visit. Thank you to Matt and Chad for making this visit possible!

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/

Rogue Retreat Tours

Since Hope Village was built in 2017 Rogue Retreat has hosted many tours for various city, county and state leaders. We have had university presidents and business leaders and so many interested citizens along the way. Most all say at the end of tours: "This isn't what I expected." Hope Village, The Kelly Shelter and now the new Urban Campground are setting example of what can be done to serve the homeless in other areas. Hope University was created to provide valuable education to help others make a difference.

Feeding Those In Need

By Marchand Vorderstrasse, Kelly Shelter Meal Donor

Like clock work I wake up on the second Thursday of the month ready to get to work. Not only do I know what the day holds; both my daughters (19 & 22) come rolling in the front door hair up, sleeves back and ready to get to work.

It's Kelly Shelter Dinner night.

Being in the kitchen together is one of our most valued times spent together.

There was a time in my life where this was not an option for us. I myself was once homeless, hungry, afraid and just lost. My girls lived with their father and I was on my own.

Everyday I'd manage to collect up to a dollar in change and for a little over a year's time I survived only on cheap white French bread.

Looking back I realize there were no shelters for me at that time. No food kitchen I could go to. I was literally all alone.

Knowing now I can give to those who need it and know our gift of a warm meal can be a sign of hope that says "hold on- it gets better" means I'll continue to show up every second Thursday until I am physically unable to.

Please join me in supporting The Kelly Shelter by becoming a meal donor. It is a once-a-month time commitment, but the experience is one that can not only change the shelter guests lives, but your own as well.



Marchand, Courtney, and Alysa



Special Thanks!

To Little Caesar's Pizza, Chick-fil-A, Peace, Love and Little Donuts and Costco for food donations to The Kelly Shelter and the new Urban Campground!

Do You Shop At:

Fred Meyer

You can link your rewards card to Rogue Retreat so Fred Meyer will give a donation from your shopping!

It's free!

Need help doing this? Call our office (541) 499-0880 and ask for the Development Department. They will help you link your card.

WHO WE ARE

The Kelly Shelter is a 54-bed facility provided by ACCESS and Rogue Retreat that offers a safe and warm place for the Rogue Valley's homeless population. The Kelly Shelter is the first low barrier (housing first) shelter in Southern Oregon. We provide breakfast and dinner to all our guests.



TAX DEDUCTIBLE

All food donations not only help support our community but they are also fully tax deductible.



COMMITMENT

We are asking donors to commit to providing one meal per month for a three, six or twelve month donation term.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

We are looking for restaurants to partner with us, and give back to the community, by providing one meal per month for the shelter. We are asking our donors to buy, prepare, and deliver one meal per month for the 54 guests who reside in the shelter.



PUBLICITY

The Rogue Retreat newsletter has a local circulation of over 1,400. We are happy to put the business names of our donors in our newsletter.



CONTACT

Shannon Holland
Kitchen Manager - Kelly Shelter
(541) 499-0880 Ex. 4000

Employee Spotlight: Dana Bogdanove

By Jamie Langdon, Human Resource Specialist

Dana Bogdanove was first introduced to Rogue Retreat when training to get her Peer Support Specialist Certificate through Rogue Retreat's Foundations for Recovery work.

While going through the class she was completely intrigued by Rogue Retreat and its work and wanted to take a tour of the shelter.

While she was at the shelter she became emotional and knew she just needed to work for Rogue Retreat to give back what was so freely given to her.

Dana was born in New Mexico and raised in Ashland. She was raised by both parents and had one sister. When she was 14 years old, her parents split up.

In High school she turned to drinking. After graduating she turned to drugs. She managed to "tame" her drug use until age 22 when drugs had taken over. She had been through treatment, moved multiple times and even tried to escape to New York to be able to stay clean. Nothing was working for her.



Dana Bogdanove

Dana ended up homeless in Portland. She slept in parks and by the freeway. She didn't care if she was dead or alive at this point in her life. She just couldn't deal with life on life's terms anymore and decided at that point she was going to try and get clean one more time. This is where her recovery began. Almost two years ago Dana decided to make the big life change. She was able to get into treatment. When she had graduated treatment she was lucky enough to have family to support her and let her stay with them until she was able to support herself and get back on her feet.

She works a strong program in recovery today. She has an amazing sponsor, works the 12-Steps, goes to meetings, and has a strong support system. She also sponsors others in recovery. She is working full time and going to school to be a Drug and Alcohol Counselor.

For Dana sobriety is learning to love and respect herself enough to not hurt herself and maintaining her integrity by not hurting others.

Alumni Spotlight— Gina

Thanks to Rogue Retreat I got a "New Home!"

A year ago, I was in a HOPELESS place; physically, mentally, and spiritually. I lived in what I called the "Devil's Den" a hotel in Klamath Falls. To say the least, it was an almost impossible place for someone who wanted recovery.

I had left a severe domestic violence relationship. My soul was crushed along with my self-worth and spiritual being.

After being on the list for 14 months, I was finally accepted into Hope Village, housed with 30 other individuals. Honestly, I was a wreck. Drug addicted, damaged from the trauma of my life, I soon realized I had to fight for the right reason and the right cause.

Since I was raised in Medford and ran there for 52 years, I was a "frequent flyer" but never landed anywhere for too long.

I attended Set Free for the first time in 10 years after I returned from Klamath. I heard Pastor Chad say: "You can't win the race if you're not IN the race." From that moment on I knew this was my chance and

probably my last.

Imagine someone upside down and backwards, coming at you 180 mph, then you can imagine me when I arrived! I was so messed up there were only a couple of people who would even get close to me. But after a few months, my support system began to explode. I was well on my way to being a "new creature in Christ."

Hope Village gave me the opportunity to forgive myself and start believing in this wonderful power of love I have always wanted but NEVER thought I was worth.

Having stable housing and feeling safe opened up new doors for me. I graduated from Hope Village into a beautiful place of my own.

Gina



I volunteer at Rogue

Retreat's Thrift Shop and enjoy working with Dustin. Todd from Clean Sweep is also a joy to work with. I seek Rogue Retreat's aftercare program in maintaining my new life. Jessica in the front office and Susan at Foundations for Recovery are and have been essential to my newfound life.

For the first time in my life, I am not



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She absolutely loves her life today and wouldn't trade it for anything in the world. She is a healed individual with room for growth.

Dana loves to write, hike, and run. She especially enjoys the company of her friends and family and is grateful for the support she has.

"Finding Rogue Retreat was a god shot and has been one of the best experiences of my life. It is truly an inspiring organization with incredible people. Not only the staff but the people we serve."



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.



By Rogue Retreat

Please wear masks and practice social distancing



SOCIAL DISTANCING

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

afraid of dying; but for the first time in my life, I am not afraid of LIVING! I have goals, hope, and most of all, I love myself today.

Thank you, Rogue Retreat, for allowing me the opportunity and privilege of being part of an organization that changes lives!

Creating Life Skills 2.0 For Rogue Retreat Participants

By Susan Szczesniak, Recovery Services Coordinator and Trainer

She sat in the chair in my office across from me (socially distanced, of course) and we talked about many things. Then suddenly she said, "I really miss Life Skills."

In case you do not know what Life Skills is, let me explain. For many years, all of Rogue Retreat's residents would gather at the Methodist Church downtown every Monday night at 6:00 pm.

For one hour, they had the opportunity to share their triumphs and their struggles with the group. Maybe someone got their kids back and shared it with the group. Or someone was struggling to find a job and asked for prayers on their behalf. Whatever it was, people could share their lives with one another, building bonds and creating a family atmosphere where everyone was safe and valued.

Then there would be a guest speaker who would talk about budgeting, or nutrition, or how to quit smoking. The goal of this weekly event was to EDUCATE, EMPOWER, and ENCOURAGE. Then COVID hit, and we were forced to stop meeting.

During the next three months we kept trying to figure out how to re-start this integral part of life in the Rogue Retreat community. Finally, we decided to stop waiting for things to open up and start doing Life Skills on video.

I was tasked with making it happen, but they gave me a gift! It was Chris Janisch and his trusty video camera! I thought I was going to have to record everything on my phone... NOT good quality, I might add.

We started making plans. We created a format, which we modified a time or two. We wanted something both the same every week, but also different. The same because people like a certain amount of predictability. Different because, let's face it, we humans also like to change it up a bit

from time to time.

Our first video was a welcome back video, short and sweet, about 15 minutes long. Some of the feedback we received was it was too short, but otherwise people were glad to see Life Skills coming back.

The second week we talked about "Isolation" as our topic. Hearing from staff and even a participant gave us ideas on how to thrive during this trying time of isolation and social distancing.



Susan Szczesniak



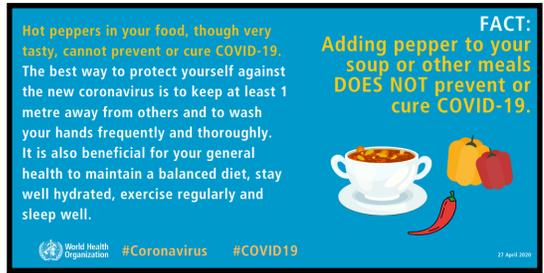
For week three we had a guest speaker. Christine from WinterSpring talked about grief and loss. Week four was Kristin from Jackson County Mental Health addressing mental health struggles we commonly face,

along with some strategies for coping with distressing thoughts, including suicidal thoughts.

We want to thank our community partners for their willingness to come and sit in front of a video camera (an intimidating feat for some!) and share their expertise with us!

We are going to be featuring personal stories from some of our participants in these half hour videos as well as some program updates from time to time. We love this "new" way of connecting and creating "Life Skills 2.0!"

If you want to see these weekly Life Skill videos and more videos about Rogue Retreat you can tune to Youtube. Go to YouTube and search for Rogue Retreat.



Helping The Community With Recovery Services

Rogue Retreat's Foundations For Recovery connects people in recovery from all types of addiction with a personal recovery coach to be there to encourage, educate and empower them.

"This isn't just for Rogue Retreat participants," says Executive Director Chad McComas, "but this service is for people in the community who need this type of support."

Located at 711 E Main #14 in Medford, Foundations For Recovery has a long history of helping people find new life coming out of addiction.

For help or assistance call Rogue Retreat's office at 541-499-0880 and ask for Foundations For Recovery or just drop in during the week.



FOUNDATIONS for RECOVERY
by Rogue Retreat



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Urban Campground 101 Course Coming

By Phil Johncock, Consultant

On July 22, 2020, U.S. Magistrate Judge Mark D. Clarke of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit struck down ordinances in neighboring Grants Pass, Oregon that ban camping in parks and bar people caught sleeping there from coming back.

Impacting all Western States, the 2020 Blake vs. Grants Pass ruling along with the 2018 Martin vs. Boise judgment set a precedent confirmed by the 2019 Supreme Court ruling stating that *“the Eighth Amendment preclude[s] the enforcement of a statute prohibiting sleeping outside against homeless individuals with no access to alternative shelter.”*

Clarke wrote that he *“encouraged the city to begin ‘thinking outside the box’ and find ways to reduce homelessness in Grants Pass, which has some of the least affordable housing in the Pacific Northwest.”* (source: Daily Courier)

With the successes of the new Urban Campground, Livability Team, Hope Village, Kelly Shelter and Clean Sweep programs the community of Medford (Southern Oregon) is definitely thinking outside the box with creative solutions to its

homeless challenges.

In a unique and timely effort to explore the impact of the recent judgments vs.

Grants Pass and Boise on Western States as well as share the emerging urban campground solutions for homelessness, Rogue Retreat’s Hope University will be offering a 3-week teleconference course with eight guest speakers on **September 10, 17, 24 at 11 am** in a course entitled Urban Campground 101.

In Urban Campground 101, you will learn about these two legal rulings and explore economic and other reasons why “statutes prohibiting sleeping outside” do not really work.

Walter Fonseca, Staff Attorney with the Oregon Law Center, will start us off with a better understanding of the two rulings in Boise and Grants Pass. Then, we’ll transition into talking about economic and other reasons why “statutes prohibiting sleeping outside” do not really work, even

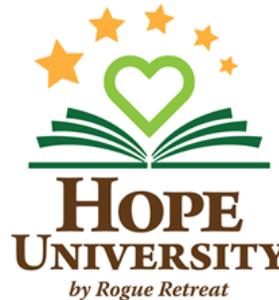
if they are legal, as well as the specific factors in Southern Oregon that led to the creation of its Urban Campground that opened July 27, 2020, in less than 30 days from approval to opening.

We’ll conclude the 3-part series of eight guest speakers with nuts-and-bolts of creating and operating an Urban Campground with tips for expansion in the Rogue Valley and for other communities interested in trying something like this in their areas.

The eight guest speakers include Walter Fonseca (Staff

Attorney with the Oregon Law Center), Kevin Stine (Medford City Council President), Bryan Sjothun (Medford’s City Manager), Officer Geoffrey Kirkpatrick (Medford Livability Team), Chad McComas (Rogue Retreat), Liz Adams (Rogue Retreat), Chris Hyde (Rogue Retreat), and Matt Vorderstrasse (Rogue Retreat).

You can register for this ground-breaking course at RogueRetreat.com/Hope-University.



Help Make Foundry Village a Reality

By Doug Walker, Foundry Village Steering Committee

Help!
We need you.

We invite you to volunteer with the Foundry Village project, a soon to be built facility of tiny homes in Grants Pass, mimicking Hope Village in Medford.

Without the help of past volunteers, community members, and various organizations this project would never have gotten off the ground let alone to the point it is now. We are ready to apply for building permits and once the permits are issued we will start the construction phase.

Assistance (volunteering) is always needed in its various forms to help move ideas, tasks or projects along. It’s impossible to know how one might fit into a project like this, sometimes you might be the one dragging others forward and sometimes you might be holding on to someone else’s tail as they drag others forward. Both are good and needed.

So how can you help?

Foundry Village currently has the need for administrative type of volunteers. We are gearing up for a fund-raising auction to

run from September 11-20. We will need help with the promotion of this event via social media. We also need persons willing to staff an information booth at the Grants Pass Grower’s market. A minimum knowledge (*we can fill your brain with that*) of the project is needed; information is provided,

but the most effective tool is a friendly demeanor.

Once the construction phase of the project starts then we will need all types of help, that means anyone, with any type of skill set and with any level of physical abilities. For those people out there with construction experience, you have a good idea of how you can help.

For those people out there who think they have no valuable skills to offer, remember just having someone who can

run errands is tremendously helpful. We will need persons willing to make phone calls, people willing to solicit donations, people willing to provide lunch, drinks (lemonade), cookies, a funny joke, encouragement-you get the idea.

Unfortunately, we can’t start to create any type of schedule for the construction phase, until we receive permits. So, at this point we are trying to capture names, contact information and ways in which you might want to help.

If you are interested in being on our list of possible volunteers please send us your name, email, phone #, and maybe how you want to help.

Send info to: info@foundryvillagegrantspass.org



Doug Walker



Rogue Retreat Website Gets a Makeover

By Phil Johncock, Consultant

The new Marketing Committee for Rogue Retreat first met on June 17. Giving the website a makeover became our #1 priority!

This makes sense now because of Rogue Retreat's rapid, phenomenal growth. For example, since 2017, with your help Rogue Retreat has served over 1,400 clients with more than 350 gainfully employed and over 350 in permanent housing! In addition, we've seen hundreds of success stories.

The life-changing work currently being done, many untold stories, plans in the works, all of these and more can be more widely and promptly shared with you, prospective clients and donors, and the public on our soon-to-be-revamped website.

In addition, various programs -- like the Kelly Shelter, Foundations for Recovery, Clean Sweep, temporary Urban Campground, actually all of our programs -- are changing dramatically and rapidly, almost daily.

Descriptions, photos, wish lists and testimonials need to be constantly

updated. Moreover, the expansion of programs could benefit from a "template" for consistency across programs.

Traffic to the website is rapidly

increasing, too. To take advantage of this increased website traffic, we want clear messaging and "calls to action" for visitors, such as getting help, getting involved, signing up to volunteer, ways to give,

joining us on social media like Facebook and YouTube, helping spread the word, subscribing for updates, and contacting us.

To help us with clear messaging, Marketing committee members -- and you, too -- are invited to read "Building a StoryBrand" by Donald Miller. We are even using Miller's model to create BrandScripts for new videos that promote social enterprises like the Thrift Shop by Rogue Retreat and other programs and services.

The goals for our website makeover are four-fold:

1) Consistency

- 2) Clear and easy navigation (i.e., so visitors can find what they're looking for quickly and easily)
- 3) Substantial, up-to-date content on programs and services
- 4) Specific calls-to-action.

Many thanks to staff who are taking time out of their busy work schedules to help us update program-specific content and refine calls-to-action.

Watch for website improvements to be rolled out very soon! Visit RogueRetreat.com! Let us know what you think!

What's next?

First, while we are updating

program-specific content on the website, we are simultaneously taking this opportunity to update program brochures. Second, we are tinkering with our social media

channels -- like Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube -- and search engine platforms like Google My Business to visually tell success stories and reach even

wider audiences. Third, internally, we are building our "marketing" infrastructure. Many thanks to Matt Vorderstrasse for creating a Marketing folder "in the cloud" in gSuite for fast and

easy access and sharing of marketing collateral that is being added to almost daily.

For example, Chris Janisch recently took and uploaded a series of new photos of Rogue Retreat offices which were immediately uploaded to Google My Business resulting in over 1,000 views in less than 48 hours! Thank you, Chris!

If you have marketing experience or background and want volunteer to join our marketing team call our Development Department at 541-499-0880 or email: matt@rogueretreat.com

ROGUE RETREAT: A safe place for homeless in the Rogue Valley and beyond to rest, recover and restore their lives

NEED HELP?

DRAFT

Rogue Retreat Highlights
SINCE 2017...

1,400+	350+	350+	\$3 Million+
PEOPLE SERVED	GAINED EMPLOYMENT	GAINED PERMANENT HOUSING	FUNDING

Who We Are | What We Do | Get Involved | Need Help? | Ways to Give | Donate Now!

Be The Difference

We feel called to make a difference! With your help, we're getting 281+ homeless off our streets every night! But, there are many more to serve in the Rogue Valley.

Get Involved

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Oregon Business
100 Best NONPROFITS
to work for in Oregon
2020

Rogue Retreat has been identified as being one of the 100 Best Nonprofit organizations to work for in Oregon in 2020. Rogue Retreat's rank will be revealed in the October issue of Oregon Business.

The 100 Best list is comprised of the top 34 Large and top 33 Medium and Small nonprofits that participated in a survey about workplace satisfaction such as benefits, management, trust, work environment and career development.

As of today Rogue Retreat is a growing organization that has over 60 staff and a budget that will exceed \$3 million.

In 2018 Rogue Retreat had less than 20 staff and a budget of less than \$1 million.

This growth is a testament to the life-restoring work of Rogue Retreat and the great partnerships that we have developed with the community.

Thank You Lowe's Home Improvement!

By Krystal Perkins, Marketing and Procurement Coordinator

As with most of Rogue Retreat's projects, the conversation and planning can go on for months, even YEARS. But when it's time to put those plans into action we often find ourselves on a time crunch!

Rogue Retreat has envisioned the temporary Urban Campground for many years. We didn't have the permission to go ahead and didn't have a location.

Medford City Council voted to permit a temporary urban campground in early July and asked Rogue Retreat to oversee it. A piece of property was identified and the timeline was short...a month. We were coming into fire season and it was critical we build an alternate home for those camping along the Greenway.

I am the Marketing and Procurement Coordinator here at Rogue Retreat and I was given the task of trying to find a few donation items necessary to get this campground up and running. I was reluctant to go to Lowe's Home Improvement store because I knew they were a very large chain and I thought I would most definitely have to climb a ladder of personnel to get to an

administrator who could authorize such donations.

I took a leap with a little faith and put a call out to the store anyway. I'm so happy that I did!

I was immediately put in touch with Ryan Bosworth (a manager at Lowe's.) Ryan didn't hesitate to jump on the bandwagon to make this project happen.

"Generous" doesn't come close to describing the dollar amount of supplies he provided to us to build the campground.

Ryan helped us work through the whole process, strategically thinking and planning with us on how to set up the tents, make them sturdy, stabilize our posts and so forth. He was quick to give us tips and advice, taking time out of his work schedule to make this the best possible outcome it could be.

Ryan Bosworth, along with the other employees at Lowe's, were so

quick to assist us in our many trips to their store. Rogue Retreat can't say thank you enough to Ryan and Lowe's Home

improvement of Medford. When I asked Ryan "why" he was so eager to assist us in our project, this was his response: "Lowe's enjoys being a part of our community and donates and/or volunteers when we can. When I spoke with you on the phone and heard the need to help with this project, I felt it was for an

amazing cause and we wanted to be a part of it however we could. I hope the project was a success and you were able to provide hope and opportunity for homeless in our valley. Thanks for allowing Lowe's to be a part of this!"

Thank you Ryan Bosworth and thank you Lowe's Home Improvement Store of Medford!



Lowe's banner hanging on fence at new campground

The Kelly Shelter And Campground Need The Community's Support

By Matthew Vorderstrasse, Development Director

Our community is proving to be light-years ahead of many other communities when it comes to the shelter and housing programs being created. The Kelly Shelter and the Temporary Urban Campground are perfect examples of this. Rather than just hoping the homeless crisis will go away and taking a bury our head in the sand approach, Southern Oregon is coming together to find real solutions to the lack of housing and shelter opportunities that are plaguing the entire country.

As a result of this collaborative approach, we now have two amazing programs tied together and feeding each other. These programs are The Kelly Shelter and the Temporary Urban Campground.

Since November 2019 The Kelly Shelter has served over 300 individuals and has

helped over 80 people transition out of homelessness and into more permanent forms of housing and shelter.

The Temporary Urban Campground has been in operation for just over one month and has already served over 70 unique individuals and helped 20 transition into The Kelly Shelter, other shelter programs in Southern Oregon or other more permanent forms of housing. These programs are essential to our community because they are helping some of our most vulnerable citizens find their way out of the well of homelessness and onto a path of self-sufficiency.

The key ingredient to the success of this work is case management services and 24/7 staff which we have learned is essential.

This comes with a price tag. The 54 bed Kelly Shelter costs \$65,000 per month

to operate and the 25 space Temporary Urban Campground costs just over \$30,000 each month.

These costs are affordable when one considers the cost of not housing the homeless in the community.

"There are so many hidden costs people don't realize when we don't address homelessness. There are all types of emergency costs like police, fire, emergency transport and hospital costs," says Chad McComas, Executive Director. "Housing the homeless is by far the most economic solution."

Please join others today by making a donation to The Kelly Shelter and Temporary Urban Campground. Together we are providing a hand-up in fighting back against the housing crisis.

Mail Donations to:

Rogue Retreat
711 E. Main St. #25
Medford, OR 97504

Make an Online Donation:

<https://www.rogueretreat.org/donate>



Homeless: The Way Down

By Anette Young

I was fired. No paycheck, no unemployment. I was exhausted. I could not reason, no one would hire me.

In 60 days we went from happy family to eviction notice. When the eviction was final I packed the kids and their things and took them to relatives. I told them we'd be back together as soon as I "got it together." I packed into my car and drove away from the mess.

"Living in my car" involved moving every three hours. (No one living in their car owns a parking space, public restroom or a water fountain). The repo man found the car. I was just able to grab my sleeping bag, ID and food. I had nowhere to go. Maybe the public park, but there was no loitering and after one hour you get a \$1000 ticket and then have to go to court.

Businesses, restaurants and gas stations are required to close restrooms except for customers. I wait in line for a sandwich from a friendly church, then the doors close.

Electricity and sanitation became useless and uncomfortable.

I found The Greenway. No water, no toilets, no cleanliness. ID stolen. Trees and bushes became my shelter, latrine, and bed.

Fierceness to other humans became my defense. I was an animal.

I heard my kid was ill. Out here there are rumors and gossip and sometimes a message gets passed along like a Simon says recital,

so I heard my name and that someone wanted me to know my kid was ill. It took a while to register I needed to contact my step Dad. It took longer to actually make the call, and a while longer to say I was still alive and more time to say what is the problem and does he want to see me?



I found a place for a shower, clean clothes, shoes and bus token. I headed to see them. The troubles swirled in my mind. I started to come to my senses. I started to see there might be some kind of hope, find work, save money, find an apartment

and buy a car.

Then I remembered I had all that and I could not hang in there. I was hopeless. No

way to back out now, so I went to "The reunion" and it was good; my kids told me they had been worried and had troubles not knowing I was OK.

My son was on his way to recovery from an internal infection of the stomach, my stepdad had managed to get some financial aid through the hospital and he seemed genuinely interested in helping to reunite me

and the boys. There had been a lot of misunderstanding.

He gave me the number for Rogue Retreat and asked that I see what they might have for me. It was a shot in the dark. I'd heard good and bad about "agencies." I thought I'd give them a minute to tell me the waiting list is five years long.

Well, the waiting list was four years long for apartments, two years long for the "tiny houses" that would allow me to have a safe place to sleep so I could find work, and two weeks long for the shelter after I completed the "intake" and was evaluated and accepted. I was willing.

The long road up, a hand up, hard work and determination has paid off.

Three years later we are a happy family.

Working from Home

By Joan Williamson, Billing Specialist

Working from home didn't sound too appealing initially, but I couldn't afford to get COVID-19. The biggest challenge in the beginning was to concentrate on my work without being distracted by things to do at home.

So, I set aside regular hours to work in my office - they might be 8pm to midnight on some days or 3pm to 8pm - but all

other distractions are set aside. I've found that I am more productive because I don't have any interruptions - phone calls, co-workers stopping by to say hello and chat, etc. The same is true by working at the office on nights and weekends. No distractions. My work is very detail-oriented, which takes a great deal of concentration, which makes this situation perfect for me and I've been able to do



Joan Williamson

additional analysis that I didn't have time for at the office and still not exceed my twenty five hours a week.

I am very fortunate that my work allows me to work from home and to continue to do the job I love.

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Looking To The Future For Funding

Rogue Retreat leaders are looking to the future to find ways to fund the ever-growing work of Rogue Retreat.

What started in 1999 as one men's recovery house with five men has grown to over 280 people every night under a Rogue Retreat roof of some kind.

Current projects in process will grow that number to over 300 people each night in the next few months with more potential housing coming in 2021.

No doubt Rogue Retreat has received tremendous financial favor from local and regional foundations, CCO's, State funding opportunities and especially from private donors who have given a record amount in 2020.

But, as we look forward we know we need to find more funding streams to keep this work healthy and strong.



A Rogue Retreat endowment fund has begun. An endowment is: (according to the dictionary) *"an income or form of property given or bequeathed to someone."*

Usually we think of large universities or long-time religious organizations when it comes to an endowment. Someone or a group of people have given to this fund to create a perpetual income stream. Funds to build the endowment have come from donations (large and small) and/or bequests upon someone's

passing.

Endowment funds are not used for operating expenses, but saved to build a large amount with which the interest gained on those funds can be used for capital improvements or day-to-day operations.

As mentioned an endowment fund has



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been started. To date there are three current Rogue Retreat employees giving a monthly amount. They truly understand the need to build this fund and have the funds generated from this fund to help in future work.

Perhaps you'd like to give a monthly donation to our new Rogue Retreat endowment. Perhaps you want to include the endowment in your will or remember it when that "windfall" comes in.

Together we can build for the future of Rogue Retreat remembering how literally hundreds of homeless individuals will be served and a majority of their lives will be changed forever.

For more information about giving to the endowment fund contact our Development Department at 541-499-0880 or just use the attached envelope to send your donation.

Clean Sweep Continues To Serve Medford

Since September 2018 Rogue Retreat's Clean Sweep program has been cleaning the streets of Medford.

What started as a "test" with a \$5,000 grant from the City of Medford has turned into an ongoing program using homeless

volunteers to sweep and clear the streets of garbage. Each day a crew of up to six individuals dons green vests and makes their way along a predetermined route to seek out and capture any garbage they find.

Today local businesses have signed up

with a monthly contract to help cover the work of the team as they clean up around their places of business. Local foundations have given us grants to help keep the program going especially interested in how the program inspires the homeless to restore their dignity and seek to find more permanent employment.

"Putting on the vest changes everything," says a homeless volunteer. "Before wearing the vest no one notices me or talks to me. When I put the vest on people are thanking me, honking their horns and waving."



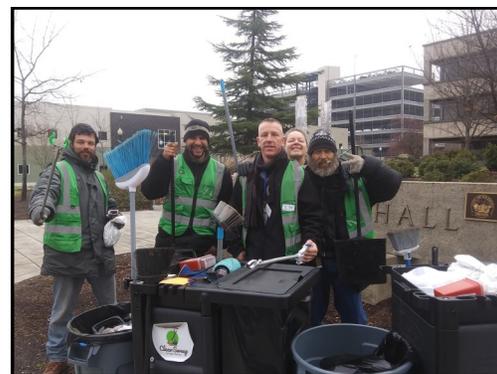
Before

Clean Sweep (541) 499-0880

After

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

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.



Clean Sweep Volunteers headed out for another day of cleaning this past winter.

Hope Village Updates: Thanking The Public

As Hope Village nears its third birthday we have been amazed at how the community has embraced it and the work it does for the homeless of Jackson County.

It took an army of volunteers and donors to make the dream of Hope Village a reality. With the addition of four more tiny houses a couple of months ago the village is now complete and finishing touches were completed this month.

We have a committed group of people who donate each month to cover the cost for one night for each house. If you'd like to become one of these donors contact our Development Department at 541-499-0880.

Here are some pictures of recent activity at Hope Village.



The Village at Medford Center management team joined Rogue Retreat on a tour of Hope Village.



The City of Roseburg City Council, Mayor and City Officials toured Hope Village to seek ideas to address their homeless challenges.

BiGsignFX

We are open Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 5:00pm!

If you need anything, don't hesitate to come in, email, or call. We're always here to help!

4880 Airway Drive, Central Point, OR 97502 — sales@bigsignfx.com — 541-499-0531



Plaque sharing Marcus Mullen's Eagle Scout Project at Hope Village



Plaques listing all the donors for the creation of Hope Village are mounted in the welcome center.



The Staff and Board of Rogue Retreat values your trust in the work we do. We understand the existence of Hope Village and the programs we have depends on your trust in us. We will take your trust and work hard at finding additional ways to serve the homeless by giving them the hand-up they need to pull themselves out of homelessness.

Urban Campground Pleases City Leadership



Campground manager, Chris Hyde (center) talks about the work of the Urban Campground to City officials. Starting left to right: Councilman Eric Stark; Mayor Gary Wheeler; Councilman Tim D'Alessandro; Councilman Kevin Stein; Deputy City Manager, Kelly Madding and Rogue Retreat Program Manager, Liz Adams.



Campground ready for opening day on July 27.

Help Fund Rogue Retreat Programs

Support the work of Rogue Retreat for the homeless
by donating your bottles and cans.
Call 541-499-0880 for a pickup or to have bags to
fill brought to your business.
Ask for Mary.



KC's Adult Foster Home donated their cans and bottles to Rogue Retreat



The gate at the campground closes at night to protect those inside and to maintain the peaceful atmosphere. The campground is like other Rogue Retreat projects. It is a "gated" community meaning there are no services for the community at this location. It is only for those who are accepted into the campground.



The City is working on getting final approval for expansion of the campground to add 15 more camping spots to serve the homeless. The east fence will be expanded to include the new spots. With the expansion the campground will need more tarps, canopy's, tents and other misc equipment and/or supplies. If you'd like to help with this expansion call our Rogue Retreat office and volunteer your services.



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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.

