

SnowCap News

OPEN HEARTS, OPEN HANDS

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SNOWCAP IS A PHILANTHROPIC ORGANIZATION CREATED TO PROVIDE FOOD, CLOTHES, ADVOCACY, AND OTHER SERVICES FOR THE POOR.

SnowCap client says agency helped her make ends meet, enjoy Christmas

Orion Lumiere has written and done fundraising for not-for-profits as well as worked for TriMet, as a bus operator. She also holds a master's degree in urban studies.

But she will be the first to tell you a graduate degree and even being employed doesn't mean you can always pay the bills, especially when you've got two young boys to feed. As the sole financial support for her youngsters, the divorced mother found herself in budgetary jams twice in 2016 and had to go to SnowCap for food.

"I could only get part-time work," the Outer Southeast Portland resident said. "I didn't qualify for Food Stamps because I make too much, and I couldn't pay for childcare, rent, bills and food at the same time, so something had to give."

Fortunately, SnowCap's food pantry was there to help her and her boys get through the hard times, she says, noting she was amazed at how thoughtful the agency was in terms of fulfilling her nutritional needs.



"I can't eat gluten, it gives me arthritis," she said. "It was amazing -- SnowCap had a whole rack of gluten-free bread, from Franz Bakery, which is the best!"

SnowCap was also able to help her out with Christmas presents for her boys, she says, noting her 5-year-old, Remy, and her 7-year-old, Paolo, were so happy to get more than one present this Christmas. Among their favorites -- a "Magic School Bus" book as well as the hamster storybook "School Days According to Humphrey." The boys also got a Hot Wheels race track courtesy of SnowCap donors, she said.

"They were so excited when they realized that the pieces can all snap together in different configurations, so now our living-room is a convoluted maze of racetrack tripping hazards," she says with a laugh.

A SnowCap volunteer called Lumiere as they remembered her especially challenging situation and yet very positive attitude. There had been a No Show at the toy program so there was an extra slot open.

"When I got that call from SnowCap, it was like someone heard my prayers," she said. "I couldn't imagine why SnowCap would call, but the lady said that she remembered me, and remembered that I had two little boys, and wondered if I might like to receive Christmas gifts for them? I thought, she remembered me? And me talking about my kids, who weren't even there? I was incredibly touched. This lady, this agency, went way out of their way to help me simply because I needed it."

She added that she appreciates SnowCap's volunteers, who made her feel welcome when she sought the agency's help.

"They treated me like I was their next door neighbor," she said. "They treated me with so much dignity and kindness and respect. I was really grateful. You got a great team there!"

By Rob Cullivan

A Recent Morning at SnowCap

began with the line of bundled figures waiting for us to open. Some waited in cars. Some huddled under the overhang by the front door. This morning everyone is friendly and just glad to get into the warmth of the waiting room.

Some flash their L2F cards and move ahead quickly. First timers or those who have neglected to bring their cards face more paperwork and a longer interview. Even though forms are translated into eight different languages communication is still a challenge. One of the big obstacles is that women in some countries aren't sent to school. They cannot read or write. So it doesn't matter which languages are printed when you can't read at all. Consequently, children sometimes translate for their parents. There are five interviews going on simultaneously so the room is a buzz of voices punctuated by the cries of young children.

As a family moves to the pantry to select their foods they can smell that earthy, vegetable aroma of the food in the warehouse. Even in the dead of winter there are plenty of potatoes, cabbages, onions and carrots. There is always some protein, but almost everyone wants meat as opposed to tuna, peanut butter and beans.

In celebration of our 50th anniversary, SnowCap is committed to providing a half dozen eggs for each family throughout 2017. Like everything else we do, this commitment is only possible with the support of our many caring and committed givers.

Our family pushes its cart of groceries to the car and returns in search of clothing. Smiles spread from face to face in the warm clothing room as children zero in on warm pajamas and their parents find jackets and coats. Today there are even a few stuffed animals sleeping on the free shelf, just waiting for a happy child's hands to end their homelessness.

This buzz of good works goes on daily thanks to the support of compassionate supporters like you. You are making a positive difference for many people you will never meet. Children feel loved; warm, fed and looked-after. Parents who have little status in their working lives, have the dignity of providing for their families. Seniors whose health is preserved with good nutrition and simple human contact. Your support is making a positive difference in so many ways.



What Your Nose Tells You

A well-seasoned saute of cabbage, onion and peas is being demonstrated in the lobby. OSU Extension workers are offering tastes while discussing the benefits of the nutritious combo. Questions from the people waiting in the lobby include, "Why is some cabbage inexpensive and some, the curly kind so much more expensive? Is there a difference in food value or taste?" The nutritionist explains that the difference is mostly in appearance as both savoy cabbage and regular cabbage can be used in this dish without effecting taste or nutritional value.

Every Thursday this hands on education is available to everyone waiting in the lobby. It is the perfectly teachable moment. People with time on their hands, looking around to see what is happening. They are curious and the Extension people have answers. One woman says in surprise, "Is that how you make soup?" What is learned here can effect the health of a family for years to come.

There are also more traditional classes, workshops in gardening and food preservation. But the first step, the gateway, is through the tasting and conversation in the lobby. Many Thanks to the OSU Extension Service!!!

Holiday Dinners

These meals do not feed nearly as many people as the pantry does. Only 671 people benefitted from these meals, a Thanksgiving Dinner and a Christmas Dinner. However, it is important to consider more than numbers. For people who are alone, without family and friends during these holidays, it is vital to know that they have a place to go. A place to meet others, a place where they will be asked after, missed if they aren't there. Celebrating holidays together makes you part of a community. While it is almost trite to say, "No man is an island." We don't always recognize that being part of a community is essential to our well-being.



Reserve at www.snowcap.org - click on Auction

Gifts to Celebrate Anniversaries:

Ted & Nina Cook: Carol & Ralph Merwin
The Dixons: Monette Proffitt

Gifts to Celebrate Birthdays:

Alyson Huntting: Mara Stine & Troy Ballew
Bob Olds: Gary Olds
Carson Harden: Jerome & Lucile Harden
Regina Blake: Vanessa Blake

Gifts in Honor of:

Alyson Huntting: Carol Lynne Huntting, Bill & Becky Huntting
Ann Mullin: Ashley Theobald
Art & Joan Fossum: Walter & Florence Lersch
Barbara Coates: Barrett Codieck
Bill & Margaret Walsh: Bob & Sue Walsh
Bob & Sarah Collmer: Kenneth & Lynda Collmer
Carol Potter: Eastmont Church Women United
Carolyn Croker: Galen & Nancy Harper
Charlie Ross: Thomas Germann
Del Johnson: Elsie Johnson
Dick & Barbara Close: Elizabeth Morse
Dottie Butterfield: Treephoria
Doug & Kathy Henderson: Jason & Tammy Willet
Elizabeth Webber: Galen & Nancy Harper
Frances Kralj: Mark & Kathy Kralj
Ian Malkasian: William & Angela Kennedy
James Tschudy: Bill Kerper
Jane Hickey: Donald Carlson
Janet Tracy: Ann Tracy
Jeffrey Kleen & Myong Oh: Jeanie Kleen
Jerry Lemieux: Thomas & Arlene Lemieux
JoAnn Wright: V Lael Hays
Ken & AlmaLou Tischler: V Lael Hays
Lael Hays: Jenell Harry
Lesley & Vincent: Anne Duston
Louise Kersey: Chuck & Sandra Schwartz
Margaret Buenemann: Jenny Porter
Margaret Ford: Galen & Nancy Harper

Marian McBride: Craig McBride, Mark McBride
Marie Squires: Teresa Osborne
Marty Porter: Jenny Porter
Mary Jane Everist: Mary Lu Spencer
Mike & Claudia Andrews: Elizabeth Morse
Mokie Moore: Steven & Candace Moore
Nancy Hassebroek: Tom & Patricia Rich, Sharon Rich
Nathan Eagan: Sylvia Eagan
Pastor Suellen & Bill Bahleda: Ken & Marilee Hansen
Patricia Berger: Elaine Sinclair
Regina Blake: Kammy Breyer
Rosalie Newman: Irene Standley, Richard & Joan Blizzard
Sherman the Schnauzer: Ann Otte
Shirley Carpenter: Richard & Tammy Black
Todd Harris: Sylvia Eagan
Tom & Pat Rich: Sharon Rich
Vickie Proctor: Emily Porter
Ward & Julie Moyer: Roseann Libonati

Gifts in Memory of:

Albert & Edna Wersch: Diane West
Alene Ensley: Rhonda Ensley
Alice Hopkins: Dean & Janice Anderson
Allen Weston, Jr: Gretchen Weston
Arliss Rolph: Betty Pogue
Beth Satchfield Lewis: June Satchfield
Bill & Elsie Cooley: Janet Cooley McChesney
Bob Hays: Jenell Harry
Caren Jackman: Gary & Pam Hooper
Colleen Morgan: Duane & Karen Pollard
Dan Dow: Gretchen Weston
Delores De Moss: Frederick & Connie Erickson
Diane Salt: Rhonda Ensley
Dick Cooley: Janet Cooley McChesney
Dolly Echols: Alyson Huntting
Earl & Lois Balzer: Dennis & Ronna Unger
Edith Golik: Dennis Golik
Florian "Pat" Peters: Kathleen Cervantes
Fred Strondbom: Sharon Nesbit
Fred Van Kirk: Mike & Carol Stout
George & Frances Dean: Gretchen Weston
Gloria Ross: Thomas Germann
Herb Frison: Gretchen Weston

Jack & Nadine Perry: Duane & Karen Pollard
John A Wiek: Susan Wiek
Kenneth Coats: Barrett Codieck
Lester & Grace Tracy: Janet Tracy
Lois Metzger: Carla Metzger Stewart
Lois Olsen-Stanchfield: Judy Olsen
Marian Caldwell: Allan & Jean Askew, Jenell Harry, Jo Ann Wright, Ken & AlmaLou Tischler, Robert & Betty Jane Wright: V Lael Hays
Matthew Cook: Carol & Ralph Merwin
Paul Satchfield: June Satchfield
Phyllis & Jeffrey Thomas Baltz: Ruthe & Wendell Ayers
Phyllis Baltz: Gail Nemo
Sage Herron: Annette Leoni-Idler, Louise Turner, Megan Gebhardt, Eaton General Construction LLC
Sam Wolsborn: Richard Ham & Sam Wolsborn Foundation
Terri Bothwell: Gregg Pellegrini
Walter Alley: Ann Davis, Jim & Diane Liefeld
Wesley Olsen: Judy Olsen

Gifts in Lieu of Christmas gifts:

Bill & Becky Huntting: Alyson Huntting
Lee & Cindy Vanderwerff: Laura Vanderwerff
Sharon Rich: Tom & Patricia Rich
Ann Tracy: Janet Tracy
Richard Tracy: Janet Tracy
Brother's family: Andrea Hills
Edward Tilbury: Allen Lee
Grevstad Family: Rosalie Grevstad
Janet Bondie: Glen & Kathleen O'Dell
Jim & Diane Liefeld: Ben & Kim Moore
Kokoro Lee: Allen Lee
Maria Grevsted & John Haglund: Rosalie Grevstad
Mary Jane Everist: Christy Strong
Maxine Kuhnau: Lisa Kuhnau
Parents: Tanya Paredes
Sally Hewitt: Marilyn Welter
Susan Hanson: Michael Rountree
Tyler Marshall: Starseed Foundation



FROM THE HEART OF OUR COMMUNITY
P.O. Box 160, Fairview, OR 97024

Return Service Requested

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Wish List

- Blankets & Sleeping Bags**
- Jackets & Coats**
- Oatmeal or other Breakfast Cereal**
- Tuna**
- Large Baskets for auction**

Gratitude List

- Vestas—Toys**
- Riverview Community Bank—Fill A Bag**
- Boeing Employees—**
- Blankets, Gift Cards, Toys**
- Organically Grown—Fresh Produce**

IN ACCORDANCE WITH FEDERAL LAW AND U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE POLICY, THIS INSTITUTION IS PROHIBITED FROM DISCRIMINATING ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, AGE, OR DISABILITY.



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