SPRING 2024 NEWSLETTER

Youth Empowerment Shelter

Serving the youth of North Central Oregon

Program Updates

TRANSITION HOUSE

By the end of June, five of the six spaces available will be filled at the Transition House. This week, a group of volunteers from Google have been beautifying the backyard by cleaning and adding garden beds!

YES HOUSE

We currently have five youth staying with us at the YES House. Life Skills Classes have resumed and are held every other Tuesday night. YES took a trip to the Oregon Coast over Spring break where they went whale watching!

Coming Up!

YES SUMMER BBQ

Calling all staff, volunteers, and board members! Come on by the YES House on July 16th for a BBQ from 5-7PM. We want to celebrate our YES community and share a meal together. Please RSVP by July 10th.

4TH OF JULY PARADE

Come join YES in the 10th Annual The Dalles 4th of July Parade! We will be wearing YES colors, passing out candy and stickers, and sharing information about YES! Please reach out to info@yeshelter.org to sign up.

Baltimore Bound!

This June, three YES House staff and one youth will be taking a trip to Baltimore for the 8th Annual National Symposium on Solutions to End Homelessness. They will also spend a couple of days exploring Washington D.C.!

4th Annual Yard Sale

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR!

Huge thank you to all of the volunteers that helped, and to everyone who donated items. We made over $2,000 and had an absolute blast!

OUR TEAM IS GROWING!

WE HAVE FIVE NEW STAFF MEMBERS

SADIE CARTER - Program Coordinator for Transition House

Sadie was born and raised in The Dalles. She loves nature and the outdoors of the area. Sadie went to school for nursing, however, learned that this is the type of work that warms her heart. She has helped tutor children and mentor kids. Sadie says, “I look forward to my career with Y.E.S. It is a job that I look forward to and feel rewarded by.” Sadie loves traveling and has been to almost all of the West Coast and the Bahamas. She is married with two children and her favorite food is pasta. She enjoys snowboarding, hiking, dancing, comedy, and games.

JENNIFER NOEL - Administrative Coordinator

Jennifer Noel joins us as our Administrative Coordinator. Jennifer has twenty years of administrative experience with six of those specifically with nonprofits. Jennifer is passionate about communication, authenticity, being a helper, self-reflection, spirituality, psychology, neuroscience, herbalism, and the arts. Jennifer has a love for suncatcher glass crystals, gemstones, conversations over tea, coffee of all kinds, potted plants, and diverse music. She is grateful for the everyday blessings in her life, including her cats, husbands, and so many amazing friends, family, and coworkers.

ELSA LONGINO - Youth Advisor

Elsa grew up in a small town in Central California. After completing her bachelor's degree in 2016, she decided it was time for change and moved to The Dalles. Elsa worked for Head Start as a Family Advocate and discovered her passion for helping families and their children. She became a Community Health Worker which gave her the opportunity to learn about various resources our community has to offer. Elsa's career goal is to get a Masters degree in early childhood education so that she can support families during the early stages of development for their children. Aside from growing her professional development she loves to spend time with her six year old with whom there is never a dull moment. Elsa is currently a Youth Advisor at YES and is bilingual in English and Spanish.

MARY RYAN - Program Development Director

Mary Ryan is the new Program Development Director at the Youth Empowerment Shelter. She has lived in the Gorge area for about seven years but is originally from Upstate NY. Mary has a master's degree in social work and has worked with young people in different capacities for over ten years. She is excited to be working with YES and supporting youth experiencing houselessness in our community. When she is not working, Mary enjoys hiking, being in the water, playing music, and spending time with friends and family.

JAMIE MACQUARRIE - Youth Engagement Coordinator

Jamie Macquarrie joins YES as a Youth Engagement Coordinator. The Pacific Northwest has been home base for Jamie. As a youth, he spent time in the Seattle area and has had strong ties here in the Gorge region. Specifically to his Grandmother and the woods of Klickitat County. Jamie loves working with the population that YES serves. He has a natural connection to our teens through his own shared life experiences. This work feels instinctual and energizing to him. Jamie shares that he loves working at YES because of the "authenticity, grassroots culture, and youth choice." Jamie has a love for basketball, camping and secret talent for making friends with street kitties. He is also the host of a Basketball Podcast, "Projecting the Jump." Jamie brings fun, passion, and amazing engagement skills to our team.

YES HIGHLIGHTS

- Two YES youth graduated high school this year!!
- 16 youth have stayed at YES in 2024 so far
- Transition House has served 10 youth since YES took it over
- YES now has 16 staff!

Photo of youth from the Spring Break Oregon Coast trip!

Mary and Sadie tabling at The Dalles Children's Fair.

VOLUNTEERS

SINCE DECEMBER 2023, WE HAVE RECRUITED EIGHT NEW VOLUNTEERS!

We cannot thank our volunteers enough for all that they do for YES and the youth in our community. From helping out at the annual yard sale, baking cookies once a week, teaching an art class, or mentoring a youth - all of you are making an impact on YES and the youth we serve. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please reach out to info@yeshelter.org to learn more!

Superstar volunteer Janell comes in every Wednesday to bake cookies for the shelter!

BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR!

One of the most impactful ways to support the work of YES is becoming a monthly donor. We are a small non-profit that works hard to support a large need in our community. Every penny counts. As a monthly donor, you help to provide consistent programming to youth experiencing homelessness in our community. To find out more please visit the donations page on our website.

BLUE BAG BOTTLE DROP

DONATE YOUR CANS & BOTTLES TO YES

Stop by the YES House to pick up a blue bag, fill it with cans & bottles for deposit, and bring it back to us! All proceeds go to the work of YES.

TO STAY UP TO DATE WITH WHAT'S GOING ON AT YES - FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

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