A PRODUCT OF THE COLUMBIAN'S ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT

# Connecting Community GIVE MORE 24!

The Columbian

www.sharedhope.org

# KEEPING OUR KIDS SAFE FROM ONLINE PREDATORS

Shared Hope International is committed to protecting our community's most vulnerable from sex traffickers who hide behind their screens, posing as friends and romantic interests to develop trust. We work to prevent sex trafficking by educating the public about the warning signs.

Supported in part by the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust



# GIVE 24.

**COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON** 

### **GIVEMORE24.ORG**

### 24 HOURS OF ONLINE GIVING FOR COMMUNITY CAUSES

A generous community, more than 6,000 people strong, has helped grow Give More 24! into Southwest Washington's largest charity event. It's a 24-hour, online giving marathon that supports more than 200 local nonprofits, and it all takes place on Thursday, September 22. On that day, thousands of people who care about local causes will visit GiveMore24.org to donate. When they do, their gifts will literally "give more" because every donation has a chance of helping nonprofits win matching funds and cash prizes.

Last year, donations added up to more than \$3.3 million, notching the fifth straight year Give More 24! has surpassed its fundraising goal. To date, Give More 24! has now helped nonprofits raise more than \$12 million and is aiming to rise above \$15 million with this year's effort.

Participating nonprofits represent causes from animals and the arts to veterans and youth development and everything in between. With so many unique missions to support, everyone can find a way to make a difference in their community that is personally meaningful. Causes that attracted the most donors in 2021 included education, health and wellness, and arts and culture.

The regional giving day is in its eighth year of operation and is organized by the Community Foundation for Southwest Washington. The organization serves in part to inspire a culture of giving, and Give More 24! is a perfect example of what this looks like according to its president, Matt Morton.

"Generosity has always been one of our region's greatest strengths, and we're hoping the momentum donors and nonprofits have created through Give More 24! will continue this year," Morton said. "We know times are getting tougher for many, which is precisely when we need to show up for one another and give more as a community."

Local communities are facing multiple challenges, from an ongoing housing crisis and pandemic, to calls for racial justice and the effects of climate change. Give More 24! offers residents a way to plug into and support the critical organizations working to address these issues.

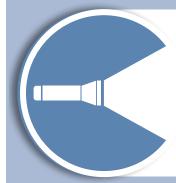
There are a multitude of ways to give as well. Donating to a participating nonprofit is the most important. Another way is to bring awareness to a cause or organization by using social media to encourage others to give to the campaign. For the most dedicated champions of a particular cause, there's even an option to create a personal fundraiser and rally your family and friends around a specific nonprofit.

Every day nonprofits work to lift up our most vulnerable neighbors, and this day offers a time and place to return the favor. Thousands will do just that by finding, supporting and cheering on hundreds of incredible community causes. Every bit of the generosity is added up in real time at GiveMore24. org, so everyone can watch the impact build.

Generosity is how we can overcome our greatest challenges, so let's rise together. Give More 24! starts at 12:00 a.m. and ends at 11:59 p.m. on September 22, 2022. Go online to GiveMore24.org to help take giving and local nonprofits to new heights.







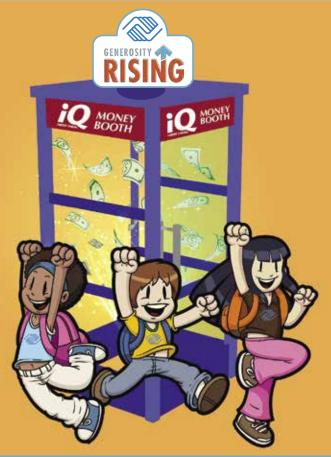
# NONPROFIT Spotlight 5







For information contact communitypartnerships@columbian.com



### TAKE GIVING TO NEW HEIGHTS!

Donate to Boys & Girls Clubs of Southwest Washington during Give More 24! on September 22, and help champion youth in your community. Your donation provides the resources youth need to succeed and the support they need to pursue their dreams!







Boys & Girls Clubs of Southwest Washington enables all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens.

Watch your generosity rise @mybgc 🚯 📵 💟





### **Boys & Girls Clubs of** Southwest Washington is **Building Great Futures Today**

Boys & Girls Clubs of Southwest Washington (BGCSW) was founded on and remains committed to providing a great Club Experience, meeting youth where they are, and understand what they need to grow and succeed.

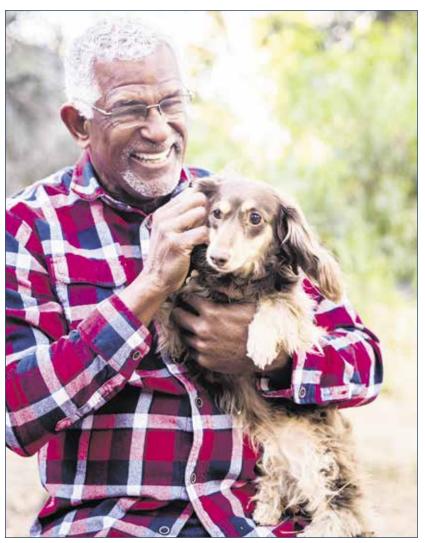
What does it mean to be part of a BGCSW? It means being surrounded by friends and mentors. Sharpening skills and discovering new pursuits. Feeling heard and supported in every way, and knowing that there's a team of caring professionals in your court. Boys & Girls Clubs are not one of these things—they are all of these things, providing a safe space where kids and teens can spend time between school and home. In fact, this is something Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGC) have been excelling at for over a century; opening doors of opportunity and preparing young people for a great future. As the leading youth development organization, BGC sees the possibility in every young person and is committed to being a voice for all youth in America—no matter where they come from.

BGCSW operates eight Club sites, a connected, vibrant network that far exceeds "a place to go after school." Today, a safe community, adult mentorship, and well-established innovative programs focusing on academic success, leadership and healthy lifestyles are the fabric of their programming. Each year BGCSW serves nearly 450 youth, providing an array of social-emotional learning activities, enrichment programs, recreation and time after school just having fun with peers. Though many members come from homes with limited resources, no youth is ever turned away for their inability to pay for fees.

Since the beginning, Boys & Girls Clubs of Southwest Washington has been dedicated to doing whatever it takes to build great futures for local youth, especially those who have the most barriers to success. Long established strategic partnerships with local school districts, local law enforcement agencies, the Children's Center, Clark County Food Bank, DSHS and Child Protective Services and local businesses create a collaborative partnership network to meet needs that reach beyond our Clubs and into the community.

Vancouver youth rely on Boys & Girls Clubs of Southwest Washington to provide a safe place with meals, mentors, and meaningful life experiences, giving them an opportunity to discover their great futures.

Donate today at mybgc.org to help make that vision a reality.







With your support, our our Living with Dignity/Pet Care Program has helped better the lives of our clients by taking care of their best friends!

You have made it possible for us to care for close to 200 pets, and we want to keep up the good work.

Please join us on September 22nd, 2022

www.GiveMore24.org/organizations/CDM-Caregiving-Services





Our Mission- To provide coordinated, comprehensive, individualized quality services that allow individuals to live with dignity in their home or residence.



www.CDMCaregiving.org

## CLARK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE SANTA'S POSSE



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SOUTHWEST WASHINGTO

**DONATE** ON 9/22/2022

**WE CARE ABOUT:** 

- POVERTY AND HUNGER YOUTH
- COMMUNITY ADVOCACY

**BOLO** (BE ON THE LOOKOUT) FOR OPPORTUNITIES HELP **FAMILIES IN NEED** 

**GO TO GIVEMORE24.ORG TO DONATE** 



# RISE UP TO THE CHALLENGE:

## Help Close Disparity Gaps in Early Childhood Education and Family Support Services

Crystal is a program parent within Educational Opportunities for Children & Families (EOCF) and mother of Charlotte (aka, Lottie). At 24-months, Lottie was given the dreaded label of "Failure to Thrive," due to her congenital heart disease that causes severe developmental delays. When approaching the next milestone, there would be extra care required for her long-term success. Thankfully, this is where EOCF came into the picture. Once enrolled, and within two years in the programs, Lottie has gone from totally missing her milestones, to being within average range.

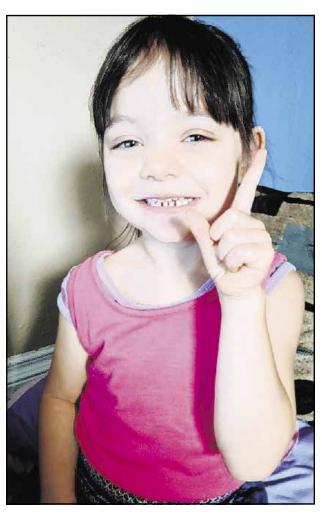
"EOCF's preschool programs look at the whole picture, not just an age number or income bracket. With their help, we've reached social and academic goals," Crystal said. "I believe this is because of the nurture, care, and special attention that she has received from the EOCF teaching staff. They continue to care for our child and our family in ways that are unexpected and incredibly appreciated!"

Educational Opportunities for Children and Families (EOCF) has grown to become the leading provider of comprehensive early childhood education and family support programs in Southwest Washington. EOCF

helps to close disparity gaps by providing multi-generational supports and connections including preschool programs and family services such as essential daily nutrition to housing, education and employment. The EOCF education and family services staff work collaboratively to ensure all needs are met.

In 2021, EOCF raised over \$18,000 in fundraising for Early Childhood Education and Family Resources through Give More 24! This year to celebrate their 55th Anniversary, they aim to expand their reach and connect with 55,000 community members through this platform, amplifying their mission and encouraging others to "Rise Up to the Challenge" to provide our region's children and families quality education, community resources, and inclusionary opportunities.

"Our greatest needs last year were addressing the impact from the COVID-19 pandemic," said Sarah Cooke, Communications Manager at EOCF. "With funding, we offered our talented staff members, who worked diligently throughout the course of those pandemic years, Mental Wellness days that offered them paid time off in response to the challenge of virtual learning, classroom closures, and 'the



Lottie poses with an "L" in American Sign Language, something she learned within her classes at EOCF. Bringing curriculum back home is part of that important holistic approach to education, offering parents and quardians the opportunity to engage with their children in academic, social, and emotional development.

Photo Credit: Crystal, EOCF Program Parent.

Continued on next page ▶

unexpected' our world seemed to face every week."

Give More 24! provides EOCF with the opportunity to grow their reach. From new parents, to grandparents, to foster families, and early education professionals, EOCF has an extensive list of programs and services that have a positive influence in the lives of program families, along with the next generation of families. "We are proud to partner with the Community Foundation for Southwest Washington each year for Give More 24!, not only because this is the largest fundraiser event in the region, but it allows us to discover new connections with local businesses and organizations also making a difference," Sarah said.

As they recalibrate from the impact

of the pandemic, EOCF is refocusing the application of their fundraising to provide for our community's greatest needs which include access to high-quality early childhood education. EOCF's goal in the next few years is to start the build of a headquarters location for their Administration Team, Central Kitchen, and largest classrooms, to conduct Family and Teacher/Family Advocate interviews, invite community members for tours of classrooms, provide for the security of the organization with their own space, and to encourage engagement throughout the surrounding neighborhoods.

"This year, Give More 24! provides our organization the opportunity to connect with passionate community members looking to

support the success and prosperity of highquality Early Childhood Education, especially for children and families who are furthest from opportunity. We provide numerous programs throughout SW Washington that focus on the entire family unit, offering customized guidance and goal setting for long-term success," said Rekah T. Strong, MSW, CEO of Educational Opportunities for Children & Families (EOCF).

Currently, EOCF has 40+ classrooms across 30+ locations. They hope this expansion will not only allow them to meet families where they are at, but help to provide for the prosperity of the organization and the families they serve for generations to come.

Fundraising through opportunities like **Give More 24!** offers EOCF the ability to expand on their Head Start, Early Head Start, and Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) programs by offering personalized and holistic family care. With focus on the development at every stage of Early Childhood, they apply fundraising dollars to various needs, including but not limited to:

- HIRING ADDITIONAL TRANSLATORS for Families and Teachers/Family Advocates from different cultures, creating long-lasting relationships with our program families and clarifying communication at every step.
- PROVIDING NUTRITIONAL SERVICES to children, in and out of the classroom.
- OFFERING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CURRICULUM for program families, parents, and part-time students, interested in pursuing Early Childhood Education as a career.







## Doing good is part of our DNA.

Heritage Bank is proud to support local organizations. We believe when banks and neighbors work together, the whole community benefits. And that's true prosperity. Learn more about our efforts at HeritageBankNW.com/community.

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## Self Advocacy and Support/Autodefensa y Apoyo

Hispanic Disability Support SWWA (Pasitos Gigantes) is the largest Spanish speaking organization in Southwest Washington. Participating in GiveMore24 gives them the ability to advocate and provide support to the marginalized I/DD (Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities) BIPOC community. The organization helps families with children from birth and throughout adulthood and supports community members with developmental and learning delays such as Autism, Down Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy and many other conditions. Services are provided in both Spanish

During GiveMore24! 2021 they received donations in the amount of \$5,400.00 to raise funds for materials for trainings, scholarships for parents and/

or self-advocates that attend DD (Developmental Disabilities) workshops, childcare for the parents to be able to take workshops, etc.

"We're so grateful for the awesome support in the community for our organization!" says Gabriela Ewing, Executive Director. "The funds raised help provide learning materials for children and scholarships for parents and self-advocates that attend DD and professional workshops, and childcare for the parents to be able to take workshops."

Donations to this organization support families with learning materials for children, scholarships for professional workshops for families and selfadvocates.

Pasitos Gigantes also provide support with special education, medical services, local, state and federal services.

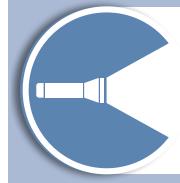
Contact them at: info@pasitosgigantes.org Phone: 360-583-0792





Amplify Hispanic Disability Support SWWA (Pasitos Gigantes) on this GiveMore24! YOUR SUPPORT NOW will make a world of difference for our community with Intellectual/ Developmental Disabilities and their families. Hispanic Disability Support SWWA (Pasitos Gigantes), is dedicated to supporting vulnerable minorities, Hispanic/Latino, BIPOC community and their diverse cultures in Southwest Washington. We provide professional training on topics of interest to self-advocates and their families. We help the I/DD community to navigate and advocate for special education, medical, and state & federal services, community resources, language access, and much more. Despite the pandemic we continued supporting our I/DD community, supplying food, essential items, financial assistance for rent, meds and bills. With your support on **GiveMore24!** We'll be able to continue this important work and help lead our I/DD community with our compassionate services **DONATE NOW!** 





## NONPROFIT Spotlight 5







For information contact communitypartnerships@columbian.com

# utsiders Have some INN. org Hope. Vancouver, WA

**Hope for recovery from homelessness** & re-connecting neighbors to community



- St. Paul's Men's Shelter
- The Outpost Safe Stay Community
- Street Outreach Team
- Clark County Unhoused **Resident Mail Services**
- Satellite Overflow Shelter
- Community Cooks Volunteer Meal Train



### Thank You for your support & donations!

outsidersinn.org/donations





utsiders Inn is a local peer run non-profit organization that is working hard to provide services that address the needs of our unhoused neighbors in Clark County. We have strongly advocated since 2016 that listening to authentic voices from those receiving services is the only way to truly build a system that works for everyone in our diverse community.

And we model that through our team. Our team is comprised of people who have endured living through trauma related to homelessness and/or addiction at some point in our lives, and we are now all bringing our skills and experience to our shelter locations, mail pick up service and street outreach teams.

Who are Peers? Peer support specialists are people who have lived experience with traumatic experiences like homelessness, mental health or substance use disorders - and we use this mutuality of experience to make a connection and help our community see that recovery from all of these is something achievable. Peer support brings a level of acceptance, understanding, and validation needed in our community to heal from the trauma of housing instability. Our Shelter Peers work with participants to develop goals, create strategies for self-empowerment, and offers practical advice along the way while encouraging a person's purpose and potential. We are hard at work creating the relationships with our neighbors that build trust, instill hope and encourage reciprocal responsibility for change.

Outsiders Inn believes in building community through involving the people of the community. We keep our goals simple. It is rooted in HOPE: Helping Out People **Everyday** staying connected to community and resources. Our Outsiders Inn program services in Clark County, at this time, includes the year-round eveningonly St Paul's Men Shelter, the non-congregate Outpost Safe Stay Community, the Unhoused Resident Mail Service, the Project Hope Street Outreach team, and the winter season's Satellite Overflow Shelter.

We invite you to help us continue to connect to community to collaborate and create compassionate solutions in our spaces. As YOU did with the need for healthy meals with limited kitchen resources. The Outsiders Inn Meal Train now has a vibrant and active online calendar at MealTrain.com/outsidersinn that connects local community volunteer cooks with an opportunity to share their culinary skills with the shelter locations.

We routinely hold community events at our shelter locations and are open to visits and tours. Email connect@outsidersinn.org to get more information.





**GIVE** 

**JOIN SW WASHINGTON'S LARGEST DAY OF ONLINE GIVING!** 

September 22nd at GiveMore24.org

Dedicated to Building Exploratory Play Spaces for the Young and Young-at-Heart in Clark County.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT COLUMBIA PLAY PROJECT VISIT: WWW.COLUMBIAPLAYPROJECT.ORG

# BRIDGE THE GAP:

# Help First Time College Students with Financial Support For Career-Focused Education

You don't have to be a scientist or a mathematician for a career in STEM. When you think about it, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) is present in almost every profession and field. There are even elements of STEM in industries you wouldn't imagine, such as cosmetology or restaurant management. Sometimes students lack confidence or enough engagement in these areas of academics. Others just need a spark to ignite their genius. The mission of iUrban Teen is to create that spark by providing exposure to STEM through education opportunities which can open a wide variety of career pathways for young people of all abilities from all demographics and backgrounds.

Deena Pierott is the Founder and Chief Innovator for iUrban Teen, a nationally recognized program focused on bringing career-focused education to underrepresented teens ages 13 to 18.

"I believe all kids are brilliant," Deena says. "We invest in our youth by exposing them to career opportunities that can segue into life changing pathways for them and their families."

iUrban Teen gives students hands on exposure to a variety of careers and civic engagement outside of their current boundaries. Supporters of this nonprofit can help this organization year-round through monetary donations as well as hands on volunteer engagement. Right now, Give More 24! is a way to increase the impact even more.

"As a nonprofit organization that relies on grants and donations, we participate in Give



More 24 because it's an opportunity for local nonprofits who are doing amazing to be seen and be supported by our community," Deena said. "We raised over \$75,000

Continued on next page ▶



iMoney Program

last year! We were gratified that sponsors matched funding and our community came out to support us during challenging economic times. Their support was loud and clear."

With the donations from last year's campaign, iUrban Teen was able to fund their "Bridge the Gap" program which financially assists first time college students with necessities such as books and technology needs to support their college journey. The organization also redesigned curriculum for their Coding and Cybersecurity programs, and also were able to secure a training center in downtown Vancouver.

"Our students can dream of infinite possibilities and it's the community that can assist us in building that 'yellow brick road' for future generations," Deena says. "This is the direct impact of donations."

Marissa Spires got connected with iUrban Teen in the 6th grade. Marissa had attended some local STEM summits in the Portland area where she learned about marketing, internet safety, intro to pH chemistry and

iEngineer program

coding. In February 2020 before the pandemic hit, Marissa had the opportunity to attend the first pilot run of iUrban Teen's iWrite workshop.

"That program was so impactful for me, especially as an aspiring author, and my time during that program helped shape what I wrote my college essay about for applications," Marissa said. "Last summer, I really wanted to stay connected with the



iEngineer program

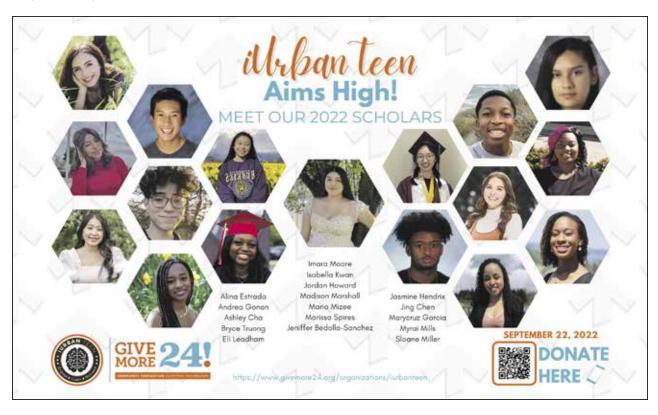
organization, so I followed up with one of their staff members about taking part in their student internship opportunities, which they provide for high schoolers and college students to gain work experience. I was able to come back to their second run



Marissa Sparks

of the iWrite program, but as a TA/mentor! I also got to help with some of their outreach, program planning, and chaperoning... I want to help them out as much as I can to give back, show my appreciation, and to hopefully spark inspiration/meaningful experiences for other students at iUrban Teen."

To support iUrban Teen's educational opportunities visit iUrbanTeen.org or make a gift to our Give More 24! Campaign on September 22, 2022. www.givemore24. org/organizations/iurban-teen

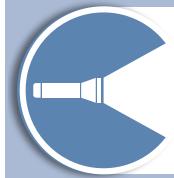








Join In and Choose CAN for #GiveMore24
Columbia Arts Network is a Clark County
Nonprofit Art Advocacy Organization



# NONPROFIT Spotlight







For information contact communitypartnerships@columbian.com



**ENRICHING LIVES. PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES** 













Visit NWABA.ORG/GM24

ounded in 2007. Northwest Association for Blind Athletes (NWABA) has been providing life-changing opportunities through sports and physical activity to children, youth and adults who are blind and visually impaired.

Being blind or visually impaired creates obstacles that can feel impossible to overcome, such as finding sustainable employment, participating in sports and activities, and making friends. NWABA's programs are a catalyst for these individuals to build confidence, self-esteem, independence and a sense of community, along with giving the support needed to follow their dreams.

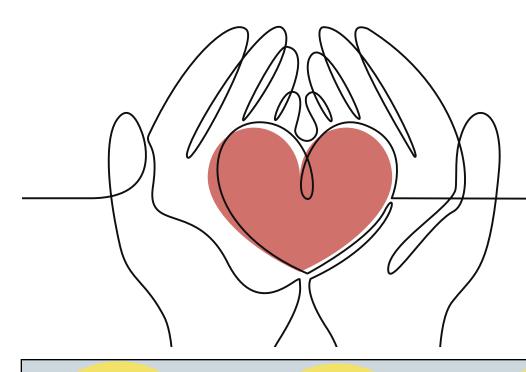
NWABA provides year-round programming including regular sports events and experiences, as well as Camp Spark-a developmental sports camp for youth and young adults who are blind visually impaired, offering activities such as tandem biking, swimming, hiking, kayaking, goalball and a variety of other sports. This year, Camp Spark added a new week-long session adapted specifically for children, youth and young adults who also had complex needs, offering one-on-one engagement to enable full participation in all activities.

The programs offered by NWABA have also grown virtually by offering a variety of weekly live and pre-recorded workouts, to reach a broader community of individuals who are blind or visually impaired, in the comfort of their own homes.

In addition, while working with educators, athletes and their families, our Sports Adaptations Program ensures that individuals, who are blind and visually impaired, always have access to programming and resources at school and at home.

NWABA is almost exclusively funded through generous support from the community. With the support of generous community supporters by our side, our athletes are building the confidence, self-esteem, friendships and independence they need to truly achieve success in all areas of life.

To learn more about NWABA, visit www.NWABA.ORG.



### **JESUS**

**Every Patient** Offered Gospel

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### **EDUCATION**

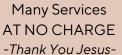
Life Coach Trauma Support



**GIVE DAY** Online Thursday Sept. 22, 2022

WomensWellnessClinic.Org





PREGANCY to MENOPAUSE

Pregnancy Testing/STD Testing

CLARK/ COWLITZ COUNTY & BEYOND

Parenting Classes

Well Woman Exams

Life Coaching

Christian Mental Health & Trauma Counseling



## Many Services

#### **Stacy Belvin**

Founder RN, BSN, MBA Wife, Mother, Christian Limited OB Ultrasound

Menopausal Homonal Support

16 | SEPTEMBER 18, 2022 | THE COLUMBIAN







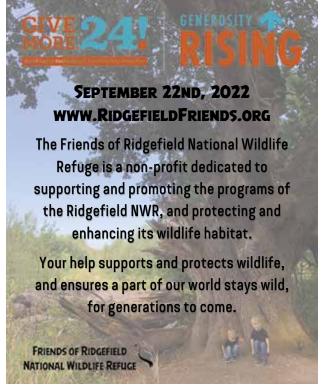
The Clark County Veterans Assistance Center's (CCVAC) mission is to provide a welcoming and safe environment with the goal of assisting Veterans and their families in obtaining benefits, services and resources to meet their basic needs. CCVAC strives to support the reintegration of Male and Female Military Veterans into the Community.

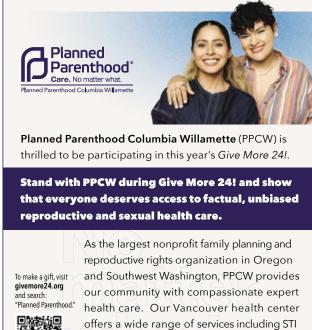
CCVAC ASKS YOU TO SAVE THE DATE FOR GIVING ON SEPTEMBER 22 AT GIVEMORE24.ORG.

U.S. VETERAN



Sunrise over the River 'S' Unit of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, by Gary Grossman, 1st Place, Landscape Category, 2021 Refuge Photo Contest Winner



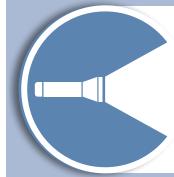


birth control, and more.

screening and treatment, gender affirming care,



Mother Raccoon is sniffed by her kit, by Chiko Kobayashi, Honorable Mention, Wildlife Category, 2021 Refuge Photo Contest Winner



# NONPROFIT otlight







For information contact communitypartnerships@columbian.com

GiveMore24.org



**CHANGING LIVES ONE JOB AT A TIME** 

> **EMPOWER.** OVERCOME. THRIVE.

**ASK HOW YOU CAN HELP** 

3210 NE 52nd St., Vancouver, WA 98663 360-696-8417

www.partnersincareers.org sharon@swwpic.org

### Hope grows at Partners in Careers where lives are changed every day.

Individuals are offered the tools to empower themselves, overcome barriers, and thrive. When their eyes are opened to possibilities they've not considered, a whole new world unfolds in front of them. PIC provides a lifeline, and the individuals are ready to step into their lives, rising above the challenges they've faced and the misperceptions they've endured.

Knowing that someone will stand up for them and be there to support them is powerful. They can "fly from welfare to stability". When there are unbelievable options before them, indescribable feelings change their point of view. Suddenly life looks different: "Every day you have something to offer, you have a role in society, you can choose to live in darkness or the truth." "People look at me differently now-I'm not just poor, I have something to offer."

"Know Your Story, Tell Your Story, Change Your Life"

Dan was a homeless veteran looking for stable housing and employment. He was immediately interested in getting involved in the Roots to Road Program because of his passion for sustainable agriculture. Through his hard work at the farm, Dan was accepted into a vocational rehabilitation program and accepted a full-time position at a manufacturing company in Woodland.

Prior to immigrating to the US with her family, Lin worked in a hospital in China as a gynecologist, specializing in reproductive health. Her family moved to Clark County so her husband could attend school. The degrees and certifications that she once held in China were not recognized in the US. Even though Lin managed to find work, she longed to work in healthcare again. With the support of the PIC staff, Lin was accepted into the Clark College Pharmacy Technician program. Lin is now a certified Pharmacy Technician and is working at a pharmacy in Clark County, realizing her dream to return to the healthcare field.

Dear PIC,

I share my deep gratitude to you for organizing a great help for me in starting a new profession. Thank you for the support and motivation. Your staff studied my needs very carefully and provided help for exactly what I needed. I am grateful for the training funds and the equipment purchased to help me in my new job. You have a huge mission to help people like me. I am very happy to be your client. Vladimir

Names have been changed to respect their privacy.

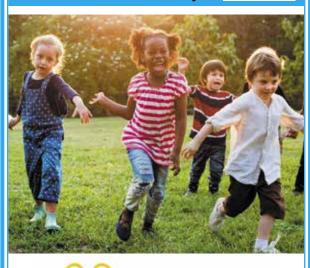


## Allow a Child's Voice to be Heard

Your Donation Makes a Difference in the Life of a Child in Foster Care!



**Call or Scan to Donate Today!** 





1024 Broadway Street • Longview, WA 360-414-5212 • www.childadvocatescc.org



Saving babies drop by drop.



Give Today!

Your generosity gives premature and medically fragile babies a chance to thrive.



RISING

Find us at www.givemore24.org





## **Budgeting for Charity ULTIMATELY PAYS**

According to data from Charity Navigator and Giving USA, slightly more than \$410 billion was given to charitable causes in 2017. Philanthropy helps nonprofit groups and the people they serve, and such charitable efforts also benefit donors.

Perhaps the greatest benefit of charitable giving is helping others and the way that makes volunteers and donors feel. But there is also a financial benefit to charitable giving. Charitable donations are often tax deductible, and budgeting for such donations can teach people how to properly manage their money.

Donors who want to make the most of their charitable dollars can consider the following tips.

 Stick to one or two causes. Being a "giver" doesn't mean you have to contribute to every cause that draws your attention. It is important to believe in the cause you're donating to and that the message and efforts

resonate with your values. This way you can focus your attention directly,

and it will not seem like a financial burden. That might require you to narrow your donations down to one or two causes.

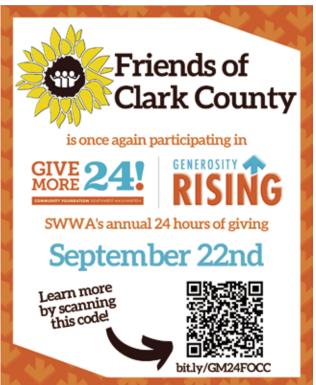
 Treat charitable giving as any other monthly bill. Look at giving to charity as a necessity rather than a luxury. Create a recurring "bill" that you pay each month and factor it into your overall spending budget. Some charities may even be able to arrange for automatic deductions from your bank account.

• Set up a specific savings account. Much like you might create a separate account for a Christmas club or vacation savings, create an exclusive account for charitable endeavors. Over time, that account balance will grow and the money can be used for whichever causes you deem fit.

• Donate what you can. You need not donate hundreds of dollars to make a huge difference. Organizations can benefit greatly from small donations. Do not avoid donating because you think your donations are too small to make a difference.

• Find out if your company will match. Ask your employer to match your donations. Even if they decline, drawing attention to a cause may inspire your bosses and coworkers to donate. Nonprofits benefit greatly from wordof-mouth. Simply talking up a charity to others can make a big impact. -Metro Creative





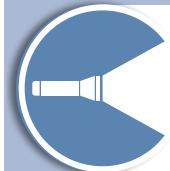


# The Columbian COMMUNITY Partnerships

Columbian Community Partnerships has worked with hundreds of local area nonprofits to help soar past their goals over the past 30 years. Through our Local Public Service Announcements, Community Partnerships matching funds program, Nonprofit Spotlight promotions and offering specially priced advertising options to our Give More 24! participants we are able to share our Columbian audience and help nonprofits get their message out.

We are proud to support southwest Washington nonprofits and our neighbors by encouraging our community to get involved and give generously of time, talent and resources to nonprofits of all varieties across our area.

If you'd like more information on how Columbian Community Partnerships can help your nonprofit organization soar into the future, contact **Teresa Davis** at **CommunityPartnerships@columbian.com** or **360-735-4572**.



# NONPROFIT Spotlight







For information contact communitypartnerships@columbian.com









#### **OPEN HOUSE MINISTRIES**

Open House Ministries helps families struggling with homelessness find hope. For over 35 years, families entering our shelter doors have been cared for and given opportunities to learn new life skills. Obstacles keeping them from moving forward are addressed, helping families rebuild and rise. But it takes time. And no one can do this work alone.

Our work focuses on helping families heal and restore healthy relationships with one another, their community, and Christ. Certainly, we offer shelter. We also walk alongside of families, helping them overcome dysfunctional lifestyles and addiction and teaching solid nutrition and financial skills. Our goal is to equip families with the tools they need to live stable lives and confidently rejoin society.

We believe families require more than a place to stay. A full-time chaplain serves at Open House Ministries, leading staff and residents in prayer and Biblical instruction and counseling families through life struggles. Residents working through our program gain spiritual strength, experiencing new hope as they learn to place their trust in God. Open House Ministries was founded by the faith community in Clark County and continues to network with area churches, connecting residents when they relocate to new church homes.

Funding for Open House Ministries is met primarily through private donations. Additional income is sourced through our onsite thrift stores, Secondhand Solutions, and Wheel Deals Bicycle Shop. Both stores provide vocational training for residents, teaching vital job skills for their resumes. Our city also benefits through shopping opportunities and drop-off donations, connecting Open House Ministries with our neighborhood.

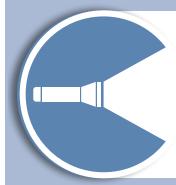
Residents at Open House Ministries advance through community partnerships with a common purpose. Forged over time, connections with area social organizations have strengthened our mission to help break the cycle of homelessness in Clark County. Open House Ministries works with Clark College and WSU Vancouver, Clark County School Districts, Clark County Food Bank, YMCA, Community Services Northwest/ Sea Mar, Department of Children, Youth and Families, Jail Re-entry Program, Partners in Careers, Teach One to Lead One, and more, strengthening the social services network within our community.

Finding affordable housing in Southwest Washington has become one of our biggest obstacles. Open House Ministries helps graduate residents locate stable housing to move forward and build stable futures for their families. You can help by supporting our organization during GiveMore24! Together we can help restore families in Clark County and give them the tools they need to succeed.

www.givemore24.org/organizations/open-house-ministries

www.sheltered.org

360-737-0300



# NONPROFIT potlight







For information contact communitypartnerships@columbian.com













For more than 73 years Vancouver Master Chorale has enriched **SW Washington through** music. Your contribution will help us:

- **Produce** outstanding choral performances
- **Fund VMC Youth Vocal Scholarships**
- **Provide** opportunities for high school choirs to sing with a professional choir
- **Support local** musicians



#### **Vancouver Master Chorale Enriching SW Washington Residents Through Music** for the Past 73 Years

Music is for the soul! Vancouver Master Chorale (VMC) brings joy, delight and harmony to the audience and singers alike through outstanding performances and full orchestral accompaniment.

This October, Vancouver Master Chorale presents the American premiere of Canadian composer Andrew Downing's original score for the 1925 silent horror film "Phantom of the Opera" starring Lon Chaney. We'll be joined by Battle Ground High School and Prairie High School Choirs to sing the score while the silent movie is screened. The two high school choirs will also sing The Monster Mash.

Led by music director Jana Hart since 2009, Vancouver Master Chorale is comprised of more than 90 outstanding singers from around SW Washington. Over the 73 years of VMC's life, we have performed master choral works such as Brahm's Requiem, Tony Award musical The Music Man, iconic Bohemian Rhapsody and many other wonderful pieces.

In addition to providing quality performances, VMC offers a prestigious scholarship program for high school vocal students, with the winner being awarded \$1,000 and an opportunity to perform at a VMC concert. In the spring of 2022, Skyview High School joined us for the hauntingly beautiful Requiem by Faure and the national anthem of Ukraine. A full house of audience stood and applauded. The concert was on the Portland KATU news.

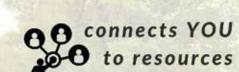
We cannot accomplish all these wonderful concerts without the community support. With the impact of the pandemic in the past two years and ongoing economic challenges, we need your help more than ever. You can support this community treasure in a variety of ways:

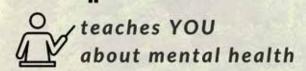
- Donate to Vancouver Master Chorale during this year's Give More 24 on September 22
- Share with your network about VMC and ask them to contribute during Give More 24 (on September 22 this year)
- Buy VMC season tickets for yourself and as a gift
- Spread the word about VMC's concerts and scholarship program
- Audition to be a VMC member

In addition to our October Phantom of the Opera silent film concert, VMC's annual holiday tradition in December continues with singing selections from Handel's Messiah, carols by Rutter and other holiday treats. In May 2023 we present A Glimpse of Heaven, featuring Mozart's gorgeous Regina Caeli and Requiem, as well as music by Whitacre and Mollicone. Our 2022-23 season concerts will be accompanied by full orchestras. More info: www.VancouverMasterChorale.org.









24/7 hotline 833.488.9888

For info & education, contact us ph: 888.214.3133 email: info@listenline.life web: listenline.life

a 501c3 company





**Battle Ground HealthCare** 

battlegroundhealthcare.org







#### **Housing is a Human Right**

We want to live in a community where all people can afford a safe and decent home for their families, a community where seniors know they have a place to live, a community where the most vulnerable among us need not live in tents. We can make this happen. It's our community. Learn more at

https://www.faithpartners4housing.org/

Our Mission: To expand affordable housing in Clark County, WA by mobilizing our shared resources.

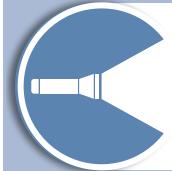


September 22nd. www.givemore24.org









# **NONPROFIT** otlight







For information contact communitypartnerships@columbian.com







#### Gifts small & large make a difference! Your donation could:

- · Help send one child to Camp Hope's Outdoor **Discovery Camp**
- Enhance your walk along a Ridgefield trail with new signage & markers
- · Help add inclusive play & nature place space at Curtain Creek Park
- ... and so much more!

**Donate September 22: givemore24.org** 







t the Parks Foundation of Clark County, we know that trails and greenways create healthy recreation by providing people of all ages with attractive, safe, accessible and low- or no-cost places to cycle, walk, hike, commune with nature, spend time with family and friends and so much more.

With your help, we provided \$182,000 in grants to local parks to replace aging playground equipment, create inclusive playgrounds, build a new sand volleyball court, create a nature play area, and fund scholarships and programs for kids of

And we want to do more - for our community and for you - in 2023 by supporting these programs and projects:

- Battle Ground Parks and Recreation Department's annual 9-week traveling summer program for youth, which serves families from Amboy, Hockinson, Yacolt, and Ridgefield.
- City of Vancouver's Teen Late Night, which provides a free and safe space for teens on Friday nights during the school year to hang out and socialize at both Marshall and Firstenburg Community Centers.
- Camp Hope serves at-risk kids, providing access to outdoor camp experiences, and ensuring a safe environment to build lasting relationships with peers and caring adult mentors. The camp is also in need of new roofs for cabins and buildings.
- Vancouver Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services offers structured and positive activities, plus lunch, for children ages 6-11 throughout the summer.
- Crown Park in Camas is working to develop Phase 1 of a Master Plan to include an interactive water play feature, inclusive play areas, a new permanent restroom, and ADA access and pathways. And it's designed to protect the magnificent grove of mature trees (Douglas Firs, Western Red Cedars, Giant Sequoias, Zelkovas, Blue Spruces, and Maples) and ensuring no tree removal.
- Hearthwood Park's drinking fountain needs an upgrade to serve all users of the park, including the four-legged visitors.
- The City of Ridgefield aims to implement a system-wide trail signage program, enhancing the aesthetics and improving the experience for outdoor enthusiasts.

And, last, but not least, the City of Washougal hopes to soon be home to a Dog Park and Civic Recreation Campus.

We are unique in that we serve ALL of Clark County - Yacolt, La Center, Ridgefield, Battle Ground, Camas, Washougal, and Vancouver, in addition to all the unincorporated areas.

Your donation in support of Give More 24 is a gift to our community and offer all of Clark County residents the opportunity to unplug, play and explore. Learn more about our 2023 grants at parksforclark.org.



# YOUR GIFT SAVES LIVES



COLUMBIA RIVER NIGHT CRISIS





givemore24.org/organizations/crmhs

## Night Crisis Team Closes Circle on Darkest Hour Trauma

Nighttime hours had always been long and painful for Beth. A survivor of childhood trauma, she could not shake the nightmares that took her back to her dark past. Sleep aids, late-night TV, breathing exercises – nothing seemed to work. Suicidal thoughts began creeping into her anxious mind.

One recent night, after battling suicidal thoughts for days, Beth began to make a plan. She truly did not want to die, but living had become too much for her

In her darkest moment she decided to ask for help. Beth remembered her therapist mentioning a late-night crisis line for people in trouble. She gathered her courage and called. That call set Beth on a new path.

The person on the phone connected Beth with the Columbia River Night Crisis Team. The team arrived at her house within 20 minutes. Once there, they helped Beth ease her suicidal thoughts. They created a safety plan for Beth for the next seven days, connected her to a crisis case management team the next day, and stayed in touch throughout the following week. With more intensive therapy and new medication for anxiety, Beth is optimistic that her problems are solvable.

The Night Crisis Team was

launched this year with the mission of saving lives, improving community connections, and diverting calls that in the past had gone to law enforcement or emergency services.

Mobile crisis response teams have operated during daytime hours in Clark County for years. Typically, crisis teams respond to calls from people experiencing severe mental or behavioral health episodes, or substance abuse crises. They aren't designed to intervene in potentially violent situations, or instances of a lifethreatening injury or illness. Police and emergency teams handle those.

Until this year, those crisis response services weren't available to those in need between 10 p.m. and 8 a.m. Law enforcement and ER personnel had to handle those as well as the cases of violence or physical injury they were created to manage. Oftentimes, the outcomes were less than ideal for both the person seeking help and those who arrived on the scene.

Now, folks like Beth receive assistance from a team trained to handle situations like hers. Law enforcement and ER teams do what they do best 24 hours a day, and Clark County is a healthier, safer place because of the work of the Columbia River Night Crisis Team.





#### Who is Chor Anno?

One of the NW's finest professional level choirs...made up almost entirely of choral directors from the schools and colleges of Oregon and Washingon. Many teach right here in SW Washington!

#### Why help this organization?

We depend on our friends to help us meet our expenses each year. Inspired music enriches our listeners as well as our singers. They, in turn, inspire students in this wonderful art form.



**DONATE TO CHOR ANNO** 



households is skyrocketing, but you can ensure that food is available to all in need by donating to FISH of Vancouver on September 22. Visit our profile at www.givemore24.org.

Thank you for donating!

FISH of Vancouver Food Pantry 906 Harney Street, Vancouver (360)695-4903



#### YOUR LOVE OF COMMUNITY CAN TRANSFORM THE FUTURE.

We connect you with causes you care about, and help inform your year-end giving.

OCTOBER 4!NSPIRE PHILANTHROPY WORKSHOP

Create your own giving strategy aligned with community needs.

OCTOBER 11
 GIVING CIRCLE ON FOOD
 INSECURITY IN CLARK COUNTY

Come learn the big picture of hunger in our community.

More information at **RippleImpactNW.org** 

Ripple Impact NW inspires generosity, informs giving, connects people.

We do not manage financial investments, nor provide financial or legal advice.

A tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.



Children can learn about the importance of giving back at an early age. Youngsters who become accustomed to volunteering and supporting charities may be more inclined to continue doing so as they get older.

Parents magazine reports that the number of parents with young children who are volunteering and getting involved has increased in recent years. As family schedules continue to be busy, charitable work done as a family unit can be an ideal way to spend time together and engage in activities for

the greater good.

Kids can get involved in many different charitable efforts. Quite often children are forward thinkers and innovators and may have their own unique ideas in regard to volunteering or charitable work, but the following are some ways kids can get involved in giving back.

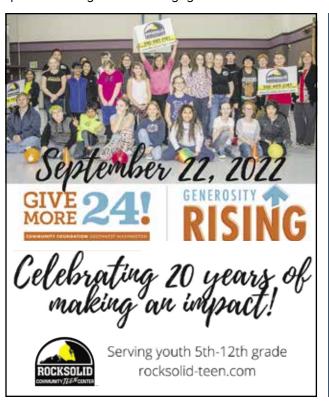
• Donate food. Children can easily gather food to donate to a food pantry in the area. Set aside a bag to donate and pick one item for the donation bin each time the family visits the supermarket. When the bag is full, deliver it to an organization in need. Children also may work with their schools to have a collection box on campus and encourage other families to donate.

• Participate in a "walk" or "run." Walks or runs for a cause are popular events in which participants solicit pledges tied to their performances. While

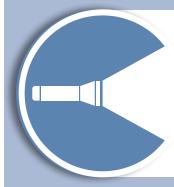
these are traditionally group efforts, COVID-19 may change the way future walks are organized. Participants may be able to do a walk or run on their own and still raise funds for local charities.

- Be a buddy. Children can be paired up with a senior at a nursing home, a child at a children's hospital or even a kid who is new to the neighborhood and hasn't yet made school friends. Companionship can be a great gift.
- Get involved in a cleanup campaign. Picking up litter from parks, beaches, streets, and even around school grounds can be a great foray into volunteer work. Go beyond just removing trash. Organize a planting event or remove brush and weeds as well.
- Collect funds. Children can learn the joy of charitable giving by starting small. Keep a change collection jar at home and toss change from shopping excursions or coins they may find while out and about in the community. When the jar is filled, cash in the coins and donate to a charity of your child's choosing.

Children can begin learning about the benefits of being charitable individuals at a young age when their parents introduce them to volunteerism and other ways to give back. -Metro Creative







# NONPROFIT Spotlight 5







For information contact communitypartnerships@columbian.com













WWW.LELOOSKA.ORG 360-225-9522 Since its creation in 1977, the Lelooska Foundation has sponsored a variety of educational programs aimed at preserving the rich cultural heritage of the Native Peoples of North America.

Students, parents, teachers and the general public learn through living history programs, workshops, classes and museum tours offered throughout the year.

Located outside of Woodland in rural Ariel, WA, the Lelooska Foundation hosts a Cultural Center that includes a museum, two traditionally built cedar longhouses, an outdoor education area, art, and lush grounds incorporating native plants.

#### **Living History Programs & Performances**

A favorite field trip among elementary schools in Oregon and Washington, the educational programs were developed in the 1960's by the late Chief Lelooska and the late Chief James Aul Sewid along with many elders from that time.

Lelooska's clan chieftaincy was passed to his brother Tsungani in 1996 and his family continues to partner with the foundation to share their stories, songs, masks and dances of the House of Lelooska & the House of Sewide of the Kwakwaka'wakw people.

Thanks to the support of our community, donors, volunteers and local businesses, we are able to offer a rich educational resource in our area.

We invite you to join our community!

#### Free Museum

The museum holds an immense collection sharing the art and culture of many indigenous cultures across North America. The items include baskets, parfleches, corn husk bags, dolls, spoons, cradles, moccasins, tomahawks, pipes, pipe bags, dresses, a 15 foot birch bark canoe and an entire replica fur trade store fully furnished to the period.

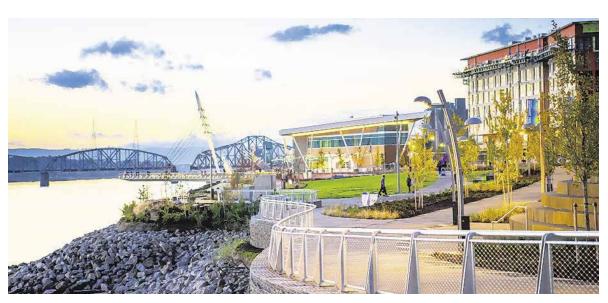
#### Classes, Workshops & Special **Events**

Classes include woodcarving, northwest coast flat design, button blankets and more. Special events include hands-on learning about cordage, native plants and their uses, parfleches, rock art, bentwood boxes, beadwork, and woodcarving.

> Find us on Facebook at Lelooska Foundation & Cultural Center and instagram at @lelooska\_cultural\_center to learn about upcoming events.

Lelooska Foundation & Cultural Center 165 Merwin Village Rd, Ariel, WA 360-225-9522 info@lelooska.org

# COMMUNITY FUNDED JOURNALISM







## You can invest in our community

The Columbian's Community Funded Journalism Program is designed to raise awareness for important issues in Clark County, including homelessness, transportation, climate change, and the environment.

# Give Today and Support Local Journalism



## The Columbian

In partnership with



#### **WAYS TO DONATE:**

Scan **QR Code**, or visit www.givemore24.org/organizations/the-columbian





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