

BLANCHET *SPRINGS TO ACTION*



www.blanchethouse.org

Spring 2016

Board of Directors

Bill Reilly, Pres.
Emily Harrington, V.P.
Ed O'Hanlon, Treas.
John Parker, Sec.
Dan Petrusich
Rich Ulring
Steve Feltz
Thom Faller
Jim Christianson
Katie Hennessy
John McGuigan

Emeritus Directors

Gene Feltz
Joe Moore
John Moore
Tom Moore
James O'Hanlon
Joe Van Gulik
Pete Van Hoomissen
Jim Drum
Kim Lusk
Dave Gunderson
Mark Auxier
Mike Haglund

Executive Director

Greg Baker

A note from Executive Director, Greg Baker...

A few weeks ago the Blanchet House celebrated the second Annual Lend a Helping Hand Brunch with over 220 individual supporters. The Board and staff are very grateful for the support and continued interest in our mission to feed, clothe, and provide shelter and aid for those in need. We are thrilled to announce that we exceeded our fundraising goals thanks to those community supporters and the generosity of the Maybelle Macdonald Clark Fund and the BP Lester and Regina John Foundation.



Bill Reilly, BH Board Chair, speaking at the 2nd Annual Lend a Helping Hand Brunch

I can never say thank you enough for the many volunteers who serve each day and continue to work along side the men downtown, as well as the farm, by giving of their time and service. We could not do this work without your help.

As I was reading and reflecting on the daily work done at the Blanchet House, I came across a passage from Isaiah 58 verses 7-9. The verse tells us to: Fast by sharing your food with the hungry, bring to your house the homeless, clothe the naked, and do not turn away from your own kin. Then your light will break forth as the dawn and your healing come in a flash. Your righteousness will be your rearguard. Then you will call and Yahweh will answer, you will cry and he will say.

This past year the Blanchet House worked with over 240 men who came to us from the streets, prisons, rehabilitation centers, families and other institutions. Many who sought us out for help stayed through their designated terms and left us in a much better condition. Typically, they expressed how living in our midst saved their lives. We served over 345,000 hot meals last year and we had a very exciting clothing/flu shot event where boots, coats, and shots were provided to anyone in need. The day was marvelous and we made many feel loved and cared for.



This year we will shine a light on the work at the farm. We are planning to develop a flower garden, expand the vegetable garden, restart raising bees, and expand our work in the "Wood Shop". The men working side by side with new volunteers will learn about gardening, canning, and carpentry through a newly refined employment training program. The skills learned will bolster the men to find jobs after they complete training. We will be reaching out to the Carlton/McMinnville community to enlist volunteer support. This work is very exciting, highlights the men at the farm and most importantly helps them realize that they are important, valued, and can reintegrate back into the communities from which they came. Blanchet is thankful for the responsibility to serve, and spread the word to others who want to help. There is much to be done and we have faith that we can do this with your continued support. May your families be blessed and the light of grace shine on you perpetually.



Food for Thought:

Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. — Ephesians 4:28

LENDING A HELPING HAND SINCE 1952.

Blanchet *CASE MANAGEMENT*

Case Managers Vicky Spear and Kristi Katzke are thrilled to announce the graduation of our first 4th Floor Transitional Living guest, Kris Miles. He successfully completed 1 year and 9 months of the Blanchet Work Recovery Program and the 4th Floor

The Men's Corner Blanchet's Featured Resident

Bill Neely
Blanchet House

Bill Neely was a resident at the Blanchet House and has been with us close to a year working on getting his life on track. During his time at the house, Bill worked diligently and his recovery always came first. This short email from Bill to Exec. Director, Greg Baker is a small testament to the effect the Blanchet had on his life. Many of our successful graduates keep in touch with the staff and attribute their success to the focus and mission of Blanchet. This letter is a reminder of the change that we are blessed to witness in people everyday.

The email is as follows:

"Greg,

How are you and Blanchet House doing?

I think about you and Dennis and the House often. The people and my experiences there were uniquely special. I always remember telling people that when I was a resident there that there were a thousand other places I'd rather be but for purposes of recovery - Blanchet House was the only place.

I have been working downtown at a stable company called for over 4 months now. My wife and I are doing very well - we live in NE Portland.

One of these days I will stop by and check out the place; I know you have a lot more programs and activities going on now. [...]

I will keep in touch."

- Bill

TLP. During Kris' time at the Blanchet House he thoroughly addressed all of the following components of his Life Plan: Spiritual, Recovery, Occupational/Educational and Housing, Financial, Medical, and Social. Kris graduated the Culinary Institute and accepted an offer to work at the Sun Valley Resort in Idaho. While in school Kris wrote a superb paper on Homelessness and the Blanchet House. Please feel free to check it out on our website at www.blanchethouse.org. He left here on the next path of his journey with money he saved because he worked a part time job as well. The entire house acknowledged Kris on January 28, 2016 in the Founder's Café for his perseverance and follow through of his commitments by giving him a certificate of completion.

In other news...

- Intel Alliance Manager Frank Raimondi has just completed another series of computer classes with 7 guests at the House.
- Oregon LIONS Programs and Outreach Manager Melinda Rhodes helped more than 20 guests from the House and the Farm with resources for eye appointments and glasses
- Eric R. Gabrielsen (Business & Employment Specialist 2) with McMinnville Work Source Center came to the Blanchet Farm. He presented an overview of computer programs/classes, interviewing skills, and discussed job fairs that take place on a consistent basis. Four of our men from the farm went for a tour and got signed up on I Match in February. Two of these men have signed up and already taken basic computer skills classes and received certificates.



Blanchet *HOUSE*

The Blanchet House is excited to be bringing in more community partners to serve in the Founder's Café. Last year the Blanchet served 348,007 meals and also acquired new volunteer groups.



Wells Fargo, Kaiser Permanente, Fortis Construction to name a few. Currently the Blanchet House is having a new walk in cooler installed to accommodate all of the food donations. In addition to the service of our volunteers, we are able to serve the population through food donations from the community.

Several of our key food donors throughout 2015 included, Emanuel Hospital, Polara Studios, Hot Lips Pizza, and Lucky Lab Pizzas.

Come help us serve more than a hot meal, help us serve hope. For volunteer opportunities, contact our house manager at 503.226.3911 or darnold@blanchethouse.org.

Monday - Saturday **Breakfast:** 6:00am - 8:00am **Lunch:** 11:00am - 1:00pm
Dinner: 4:30pm - 6:30pm

**Spring Volunteer
*SHOUT OUT***

⋮ A giant thank you to the **Red Running Lizards** for volunteering to help serve our 2016 Lend a Helping Hand Brunch!



Blanchet *FARM*

NEWS...



In December 2015, the Blanchet Farm became a member of the Service Integration Team (SIT) in the Yamhill Carlton district. The purpose of the SIT is to bring together community partners to provide coordinated resources and information for individuals and families in the Yamhill-Carlton area. This is a great opportunity for the Blanchet Farm to connect with other community agencies providing services for those in need.

SIT is funded by a grant through the United Way. These funds can be distributed to those in need of emergency rent, the expense of a GED test, or something as simple as connecting someone with transportation to school or work. More than the financial benefits from the SIT membership, the opportunity for community partners to further improve the ability to meet the needs of residents by matching resources to clearly defined needs, while avoiding duplication of services is invaluable.

For our men on the farm, this could mean connections to peer support, medical and mental health care, local job fairs and other resources important to their success.

This also provides an opportunity for the Blanchet Farm and the services we provide to become known more intimately in our community. These relationships are important for our continued success and growth, ultimately seeing our guest utilizing any resource that contributes to their successful reintegration in our communities.

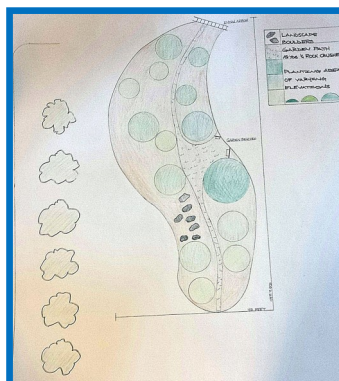
Mark Calendars and Get Involved...

The Blanchet House is thrilled to announce the expansion of our flower and vegetable gardens in preparation for the first ever Blanchet Farm Open House on **Wednesday May 11th at 9am.**

A big thank you to Chuck Dalich for helping design a beautiful flower oasis! With these exciting new plans, we are in need of volunteers willing to host bulb drives or willing to come to the Farm, roll up their sleeves, and get involved in planting in our new garden.

Needed Bulbs, seeds, or flower flats: Irises (various colors) Crocus, Tulips, Vinca, Lilly, Dahlia, Gladiolas, Ranunculus, Discovery Dutch Iris, Peony

If you or your group are interested in hosting a Blanchet Bulb Drive, contact Kelly Wetherald at 503-241-4340.



Blanchet *WOODSHOP*

Blanchet House Wish List

For the Men: Jeans/Levis (all sizes), rain coats, socks, tennis shoes, Size 10-11 shoes

Recreational Gifts: Small gift cards to Fred Meyer, Target, Starbucks, Stumptown, Powell's Books, Little Big Burger, set of Bocce balls, two basketballs

Sponsorship Opportunities: Gym memberships, bus passes/tickets, tickets to shows, games, museums, funding for license/ID renewals

Woodshop Supplies: Wine barrels, primer, wood stains, outdoor paint, paint brushes, nails, screws, bolts, lumber, sandpaper, etc. to allow training in the woodshop.

Farm Supplies: Vacuum cleaners, garden tools, power trimmers, old usable paint, hand tools, or other tools for landscaping

Organizational Needs: Industrial letter folder/stuffer, security cameras for Farm

Food Supply Needs: Coffee (ground or whole bean), Sugar, spices (any and all).

Stay up to date at
www.blanchethouse.org

2016 Spring Creation:

HANDCRAFTED CONFERENCE TABLES



Agnes Zach from the Willamette Valley Development Officers (WVDO) contacted the Blanchet House with a request for 10 new conference tables. Through collaboration with the Blanchet House Woodshop, the tables were custom designed for WVDO's needs.

Tim Barrett, our Blanchet Farm Woodshop Manager and the men at the Blanchet Farm worked diligently to design, manufacture, and duplicate this custom conference table. This particular model has been named the "Agnes" model.

To the left you see the row of beautiful Douglas Fir custom made tables.

If you or your organization is interested in placing a custom order with the Woodshop, please reach out directly to the BH Administrative Offices at 503-241-4340.

For all order inquiries email tbarrett@blanchethouse.org AND/OR kwetherald@blanchethouse.org

Blanchet *WELCOMES*

Tim Barrett, Woodshop Manager



The Blanchet House of Hospitality is thrilled to announce the hiring of Tim Barrett as the full time Woodshop Manager. Tim came to Blanchet in 2012 just like any other resident. Now, sober over three years, his impact of working in the Woodshop has subsequently changed the future of the Blanchet Farm forever. Tim is a highly skilled Metal Fabricator and Artist with over thirty years of experience. His technical competence and ability to design is exceptional, however it is not only his skillset that has made his input into the Woodshop revolutionary. It is his patience, compassion and teaching skills that he exhibits every day when working with the men

at the farm. Tim has transformed the Blanchet Woodshop from an extra-curricular activity to an invaluable program geared toward rehabilitation. Not only is Tim teaching a valuable and employable trade, but he also works with the men to foster creativity, tolerance, and out of the box problem solving. Welcome Tim, we are thrilled to have you as a part of the Blanchet Team!

Blanchet *HIGHLIGHTS*

2016 Lend a Helping Hand Brunch Sponsors



FORTIS
CONSTRUCTION INC.

John and Lori
Parker



Threemile Canyon Farms, LLC

2016 Service Award Recipients

Fr. Kennard Award – **Holy Cross Priests of University of Portland** - For encouraging and inspiring today's youth to give back to the community and place the needs of those less fortunate above all else.

Al Riley Award – **Rhoni Wiswall** - For her dedication to the importance of the Blanchet mission and her unwavering support of individuals less fortunate.

Founders Award – **Caruso Produce** - For their sustained devotion and selfless commitment to the Blanchet House. Like our founders, their support for the mission of Blanchet is unprecedented.

Contact Us

To learn more, feel free to call or visit us online at:
www.blanchethouse.org

Greg Baker

Executive Director
503.241.4340
gbaker@blanchethouse.org

Kelly Wetherald

Development Manager
503.999.9455
kwetherald@blanchethouse.org

Dennis Arnold

Food Program, Purchasing & Building Manager,
503.226.3911
darnold@blanchethouse.org

Ross Sears

Farm Manager
503.852.6626
rsears@blanchethouse.org

Tim Barrett

Woodshop Manager
tbarrett@blanchethouse.org

Vicky Spear

Case Manager
971.337.8745
vspear@blanchethouse.org

Kristi Katzke

Case Manager
971.337.8747
kkatzke@blanchethouse.org



Thank you Community Supporters!



KAISER
PERMANENTE®



Multnomah Athletic Club



Portland State
UNIVERSITY

B P Lester & Regina John Foundation

{MCM}
LXX}

Maybelle Clark Macdonald
fund