

# Link to HELPLINE

Fall 2008



## Women's Emergency Shelter

by Daniel Willms, Executive Director

A great unmet need for reducing homelessness in Walla Walla County is an emergency shelter for single women. It has been identified as a top priority in the County's 10-Year Plan to reduce homelessness. At Helpline, we see a constant stream of single women caught in difficult circumstances, living on the street and in need of a place to sleep in safety. We have very little to offer them beyond three nights in a local motel which is not always available and certainly not adequate to help them shift into a more stable situation.

Together with other social service agencies in Walla Walla, the staff at Helpline has been working diligently since late Spring of this year to research the viability of a local women's shelter. As with many worthwhile endeavors, the solution comes down to dollars and cents. We have the will and the skill in our community, we really just need money at this point to make this vision come true.

**What is it going to take?** Ideally, about \$100,000 per

year; however, to get started, approximately half that amount (\$50,000) is needed. This will provide a shelter for up to 10-12 women per night including shower and laundry facilities and most important of all, case management support to help these women quickly transition to more permanent housing and successful life solutions.

**Who are these women?** Some are escaping abusive relationships; numerous are caught in a cycle of poverty stemming from situations like teen pregnancy; many are battling the disease of addiction to drugs and alcohol; others struggle with chronic physical and mental health issues.

**How can you help?** If you can contribute financially to this exciting project, please do. It will make an incredible impact on the lives of so many women, giving them another chance to make positive life changes. Call me, Daniel Willms, or Mariah Weston at 529-3377 if you would like more information about the proposed emergency women's shelter.

# Board of Directors welcomes new members



*Gary Bainter*

## **Gary Bainter**

Raised in Dayton, Washington, Gary graduated from Eastern Washington University in 1971 and joined the Army. He was stationed at the U.S.M.A., West Point, New York for nearly two years. Upon discharge, Gary moved to Spokane, married and became a Spokane police officer. He moved with his wife, Jan, to Walla Walla in

1975 when was hired by the police department here. They have two grown daughters living in Portland. Gary's interests include gardening, wood working and he has been a member of the Methodist Church choir for the past twenty years.



*Jack Barga*

## **Jack Barga, MD**

Jack Barga was born and raised in Ohio and attended Ohio State University. He received his Medical Doctor degree from George Washington University. He served as a flight surgeon in the USAF for 2 years. He then practiced family medicine in Waterloo, Iowa for eight years. Jack then retrained in the specialty of Ear, Nose

and Throat at the University of Washington. In 1973 Jack, his wife and five children moved to Walla Walla where he

practiced his specialty until retirement in 1993. His volunteer activities include working at Christian Aid Center, St. Vincent dePaul, and St. Mary Medical Center. He has served as Chief of Staff at St. Mary Medical Center and President of Blue Mountain Community Foundation.



*Larry Siegel*

## **Larry Siegel**

Larry Siegel has been an attorney in private practice in Walla Walla for the past 30 years. He has been actively involved with many non-profits through the years including past chairman of The United Way and President of the Walla Walla Community College Foundation. He has been actively involved in the free monthly legal clinic

at the local Senior Center for the past 25 years. He is married to Claire and has 2 adult children living in the San Francisco Bay Area.... and a black schnoodle named Bogey.

## Current needs!

- |                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Cleaning Supplies         | Cash Donations for   |
| Personal Hygiene Products | Heating Assistance   |
| Baby Diapers              | Plastic Grocery Bags |
| Copy Paper                | Digital Camera       |
| Blankets                  |                      |

## The Helpline Team

### STAFF

**Daniel Willms**  
*Executive Director*

**Wendy Gonzalez**  
*Assistant Director*

**Mariah Weston**  
*Housing Coordinator*

**Liz Haskell**  
*Bookkeeper*

**Elaine Simons**  
*Admin. Assistant*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
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# Our Sincere Thanks...

### Sue Gillespie

A special thank you to Sue Gillespie for chairing Helpline's September 19th Patio Sale. Many donations of household items, furniture, clothing, shoes, tools, books, CDs and videos, etc., were displayed in the patio area north of the building. The weather was also totally cooperative that Friday which assisted in steady foot traffic.

The proceeds of \$901 will be matched by Royal Neighbors of America of Milton-Freewater and used to purchase a number machine called a Turn-O-Matic which utilizes paper rolls of consecutive numbers and a digital display unit to let Helpline's clients know when their number is being called.

A thank you to Helpline's employees and volunteers for the many hours they donated to this fundraiser and also to all of those in the community who supported this project by purchasing items.

### Larry Frank

We at Helpline offer a special word of gratitude to our volunteer, Larry Frank. He has developed software application utilizing Microsoft Access called the "Client Services Documentation Retrieval System." Larry has put hundreds of hours into this project and has been a tremendous help in training our volunteers and making the transition from our old filing system. Thank you Larry!

### New Housing Coordinator

Mariah Weston is our full-time Housing Coordinator for Helpline. She is a 2006 graduate of Whitman College (B.A. -Religion) and has been employed by Whitman College the past two years as a Residence Director at Prentiss Hall. Mariah grew up in Colorado and Montana and came to Walla Walla in 2003. She is also accomplished in dance and is currently teaching dance at Whitman.

Mariah started volunteering at Helpline last year. Her volunteer work included assisting in case management for housing clients. She then became the interim Housing Coordinator in April of this year and is now the permanent Housing Coordinator as of September 1.

Mariah is currently implementing a case management program for housing clients involving both student interns and volunteers interested in getting direct experience in social work.

We welcome Mariah to Helpline! Her experience, skills and personality make her an excellent addition to our staff.



## SoupPort Helpline 2009 April 22nd

# Honor a loved one with your gift

Can't think of a holiday gift for the person who has everything? Make a donation to Helpline in their name. All you have to do is cut out this slip and include it with you donation and Helpline will forward the donation notice to your honoree.

clip here 

## You are loved!

To: \_\_\_\_\_  
This year's Holiday gift is a donation given in your name to Helpline of Walla Walla.

From: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Helpline is a non-profit agency that supports the needs of our community by assisting individuals and families in crisis through direct services and advocacy, maximizing the use of non-duplicated community resources and education for long-term self-help.*



Return Service Requested  
A United Way Agency

Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage  
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Walla Walla WA  
99362  
Permit #197

Phone: 509-529-3377 • Fax: 509-529-3386 • www.helplineww.org

# Helpline Thanks

## Individuals

Anderson, Renata  
Astley, Doris  
Babcock, Marguerite Clark  
Barga, Jack & Mary  
Barrett, James  
Benzel, Harold & Katherine  
Blackwelder, Lois G.  
Briggs, Diane & John  
Bungard, Stanley  
Burlingame, Cathy & Robert  
Clizer, Charles & Marilyn  
Collins, Joann  
Desmond, John & Linda  
Dixon, Dale & Esther  
Eisele, Denise  
Flemmer, Harry & Voncille  
Fondahn, Wayne & Norene  
Fontenot, Robert & Maryjo  
Foust, Tom & Lynn  
Gardner, Patricia  
Graves, M.C. & Margaret  
Griff, Art & Norma  
Herbert, Linda  
Hunerlach, Donald & Alma  
Irwin, James & Shirley  
Klassen, Randy & Joyce  
Knudson, Dorothy Price  
Levan, Ted  
Logsdon, Susan

Madsen, Tom & Sandi  
Martin, Joanne  
McCarthy, James & Jayne  
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Ogoshi, G.  
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Reid, R.R. & Hedda  
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Treis, Roger & Anita  
Wallin, Christine

## Businesses, Churches and Organizations

Beauty Carousel  
Blue Mountain Baptist Church  
Blue Mountain Community Church  
Blue Mountain Community Foundation  
BMAC  
Catholic Charities, Inc.  
Central Christian Church  
Christ Lutheran Church  
Ellen's Cutting Edge  
Emergency Food & Shelter Program  
First Assembly of God  
First Church of Christ, Scientist  
First Congregational

## Church

First Congregational Women's Need  
First Presbyterian Church, College Place  
First Presbyterian Church, Walla Walla  
Friends of Chronic Kidney Dialysis  
Grace United Methodist Church  
Lohrmann Law Offices  
Pelo Foundation  
Pioneer United Methodist Church  
Smith Frozen Foods, Inc.  
South Wilbur Manor Apartments  
St. Patrick's Church  
St. Vincent De Paul  
United Methodist Church  
United Way of Walla Walla  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Walla Walla School District #140  
Walla Walla County Human Services Fund  
Walla Walla University  
Church of Seventh Day Adventist

## In kind donations

### Individuals

Alexander, Jan  
Arbogast, Leiloni  
Avila, Maria L.  
Barram, Loretta

Bautista, Victor  
Castillo, Cindy  
Corrado, Toni  
Delaney, Jack  
Fairbanks, Carol  
Fine, Gerry  
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Plucker, William H.  
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Winters, Carolyn

## Businesses, Churches and Organizations

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church  
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Creek Town Café  
Dutch Bros. Coffee  
First Christian Church of Dixie  
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La Casita  
Liberty Christian School  
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Saager's Shoe Shop Walla Walla  
Saxum Printing  
St. Francis Church  
St. Patrick Catholic Church  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
The Marc Restaurant  
Vineyard Free Methodist Church  
Vineyard Middle School Youth Group  
Walla Walla Vineyard Inn