

Link to HELPLINE

Spring 2009



by Daniel Willms, Executive Director

Helpline has been, for the past year, working to establish an emergency shelter for single women in Walla Walla County. The need, as I have written in the past, is considerable. In 2008, Helpline served an average of 41 single homeless women each month. Currently, there is no shelter dedicated to single homeless women.*

The great news is this: Helpline has been given the opportunity to take over the operation of a women's shelter operated by the STAR Project for women in re-entry from incarceration. Helpline will expand that scope of services to include all single homeless women and Walla Walla County will have, for the first time in a number of years, an emergency shelter for women. It is now located at 530 S. 3rd St.

Many of you have been supportive of this effort and many have worked to see this become a reality. It is our purpose to serve the basic needs of homeless women and uphold their dignity as human beings. This is an opportunity to do that for women suffering the degrading cycle of homelessness.

The Women's Emergency Shelter is a community effort and so I am writing to you to request your assistance. We need your help in several ways:

1. Financial Support. Through a patchwork of various sources of funding, we have put together enough income to get the shelter operating and in service to homeless women. However, we will need to develop concrete commitments to the ongoing budget needs of the shelter. Would you consider supporting the shelter on a regular basis? Would you consider making your congregation or organization aware of this need?

2. Volunteers. We will need female volunteers to work at the shelter. These volunteers would work with the women, assisting in case management, counseling and other jobs in operating the shelter. These volunteers will need to pass a background check.

If you have questions or need further information, please call me or our Housing Coordinator, Mariah Weston, at 529-3377.

**other than the YWCA which serves women & families who are victims of domestic violence.*

Bunco for bunks!

Bunco night raised \$1500 for a women's shelter in the Walla Walla Valley. The Soroptimist International of Walla Walla Valley hosted a Bunco night on Thursday, February 19, to raise funds for Helpline Women's Emergency Shelter. Helpline would like to thank everyone who contributed to this fun and functional fundraiser.

Soroptimist International of Walla Walla Valley is a group

of service minded women working toward the betterment of women and girls in this community and worldwide. As an extension of its parent organization, Soroptimist International of the Americas, SI of Walla Walla Valley, is one of more than 1,400 clubs in 19 countries and territories. Each local club assesses the needs of its community and undertakes projects to meet those needs, receiving assistance in its volunteer efforts by participating in programs developed and sponsored by the international Soroptimist organization.

Steve Moss joins Board

Steven B. Moss has been with Blue Mountain Action Council for over 32 years currently serving as its CEO. Steve, a graduate of the University of Oregon (B.S. Sociology, 1973), has extensive experience in non-profit social services with particular expertise in housing issues. He is the

current board president of the Washington State Association Community Action Partnership and past president of the Washington State Coalition for the Homeless. Steve is also the current secretary of the Walla Walla Homeless Alliance. We welcome him to the Helpline Board and look forward to benefiting from his vast experience and knowledge in community-based social services.

Helpline Thanks In-kind

Individuals

Abbott MD, Martin
Alexander, Sean Eirik
Allan, Eileen
Bagley, Alice
Carman, Evan
Carreno, Paula
Castillo, Cindy G.
Cole, Evelyn
Cole, Val
Coleman MD, Jamie
Dawes, Don
Dawes, Marian
Dawson, Ben
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Farrens, Kathleen M.
Farrington, Keith
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Hender Barbour, Kathryn
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Joseph-Craigg, Patricia
Kajita, Kim
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Kegley, Patty
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Kinzer, Bonnie
Knudson, Dorothy

Kopf, Fern
Kreizenbeck, B.
Leavitt, Julia D.
Leyva Luna, Marilu
Mason, Kathie
McCauley, Harry L.
Miles, Ann
Miles, Merle
Naimy, Sandi
Noel, Barbara
Nordman, Alexis
Peterson, Dale & Jan
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Pokipala, Wanda
Raymond, Jodi Anne
Schlicher, Jeff & Judy
Schwien-Weider, Carol
Smelcer, Debby
Smith, Karen
Smith, Ronald G.
Spiess, Renae

Thompson, Johnathan
Thonney, Larry
Toms MD, Jeremy
Warnick, Cathi
Weston, Mariah
Wicher, Gordon
Wood, Doris
Wood, Jackie
Yoder, Penni
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Cayuse Vineyards
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Dr. Karmy & Dr. Ramsey Office
First Christian Church of Dixie
First Congregational Church
Franz Bakery Outlet
Girl Scouts Troop #1343

John's Wheatland Bakery
Katrix Limited
Ladies of Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Meadow Brook Intermediate School
Parent-to-Parent/DHS
Plaksmacker
PocketiNet
Rose Street Safeway
Sager Middle School
University Church of the SDA
St Paul's Episcopal Church
St. Francis Church
St. Patrick Church
Tietan Dental Team
Tom's of Maine
TV Towne
VFW #992
Vineyard Free Methodist Church
Walla Walla Dental Care
Walla Walla Vineyard Inn

The Helpline Team

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Liz Haskell
Bookkeeper

Elaine Simons
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SoupPort Helpline 2009

Tickets Now Available

April 22nd

The people we **serve**

2008 Helpline Client Demographics

Total Cases Served in 2008

9,048

Total Households Served in 2008

6,561

Location of Residence	# of Persons	% of Total
Homeless	1,465	6.3%
Walla Walla	17,954	77.4%
College Place	2,575	11.1%
Waitsburg	333	1.4%
Prescott	383	1.7%
Touchet/Lowden	180	0.8%
County	182	0.8%
Out of Area	122	0.5%
All Clients	23,194	100.0%

Race	# of Persons	% of Total
White	14,884	64.2%
Hispanic	7,032	30.3%
African American	509	2.2%
Native American	274	1.2%
Other	495	2.1%
Total	23,194	100.0%

Age	# of Persons	% of Total
Birth-5	2,864	12.3%
6-11	3,355	14.5%
12-17	2,834	12.2%
18-24	2,304	9.9%
25-44	6,136	26.5%
45-54	3,133	13.5%
55-69	1,883	8.1%
70+	685	3.0%

Individuals Served

(All Household Members)	# of Persons	% of Total
Male	11,034	47.6%
Female	12,160	52.4%
Total	23,194	100.0%
Adults	14,140	61.0%
Children	9,054	39.0%
Total	23,194	100.0%



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Helpline Thanks

Adams, Jean H.
Anderson, Renata
Assumption of the Blessed
Virgin Mary Church
Avery, Beatrice
Aylward, James & Joyce
Ayes, Ronald & Janice
Babcock, Marguerite Clark
Bachtold, Wayne & Kathleen
Baffney, Thomas & Jane
Baker Boyer Bank
Banner Bank
Barga, Bruce & Kay
Barga, Jack & Mary
Berlier, Nancy
Benzel, Harold & Katherine
Blackaby, Sandra L.
Blackwelder, Lois G
Blessing, Dr. Howard
and Karen
Blue Mtn. Community Church
Bobrow-Strain, C. Aaron
& Kate
Boggs, WM Howard &
Linda Kastning
Bonnie Braden Foundation
Bren, Jon
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Delaney, John & Jackie
Desmond, John & Linda
Didelius, D P
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Downtown Walla Walla
Foundation
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Doyle Electric
Elia, Dominick J & Pamela J
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First Congregational Church
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First Presbyterian Church, WW
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McClellan, Rory & Rachelle
McCarthy, James & Jayne
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