GROWING TOWARDS THE FUTURE
Tiny Homes Project Update

Sponsors is thrilled to share the news that plans are in the works to break ground on our Tiny Homes Project. This exciting project will help us to serve more participants who are at risk of homelessness because they cannot access market-rate housing. The project will create ten tiny homes designed to be compact, simple, and minimal. There will be spaces and amenities to support a healthy, independent, and dignified lifestyle.

Each home will include a private entry porch, a living area, a sleeping area, a kitchen, and a full bathroom. Plenty of windows will provide ample daylight and views, while maintaining privacy. The tiny homes will be organized into five duplexes facing a courtyard with walkways, a lawn, ornamental landscaping, and raised garden beds. A Common Building will include a generous meeting room with a kitchen, laundry room, and secure bike storage. Two gazebos and multiple benches throughout the community will offer ample places to relax and interact year-round.

All the buildings are designed with material and construction efficiency in mind.

This project will help reduce our community’s housing crisis. Our goal is to raise the necessary funds to construct this much-needed project without debt. We hope you will consider supporting our Tiny Homes. Your gift will make a huge difference in the life of our participants and our community.

Follow the progress of the Tiny Homes Project by subscribing to our e-newsletter: subscribe at www.sponsorsinc.org.

SPRING BENEFIT AND AWARDS DINNER – Thank You!

With your support, the Spring Benefit and Awards Dinner recognized three community partners and raised funds for the Tiny Homes Project and our programs for women with children.

Thank you for helping Sponsors grow toward the future. We couldn’t have done it without you!
SPONSORS IN THE COMMUNITY

Sponsors staff and Board members represented the organization’s dedication to reducing homelessness in our community at the Better Housing Together Forum on February 21st. Better Housing Together is a coalition of community leaders who work together to influence the Willamette Valley’s response to the current housing crisis.

On March 1st, the Sponsors team participated in Partnership for Safety and Justice’s Lobby Day in Salem. They joined public safety reform advocates to garner more support for the Safety and Savings Act, which was signed into law in 2017 but has been challenged in the courts by five counties. Subscribe to the Sponsors e-newsletter (www.sponsorsinc.org) for updates as the Safety and Savings Act is reviewed by the Oregon Supreme Court.

Sponsors helped lead the kick-off to the Oregon Second Chance Tour, a series of workshops designed to engage Oregon employers about Second Chance Employment – the successful employment of people with criminal records. Sponsors also co-hosted a workshop for Lane County employers with the Lane Workforce Partnership and the Dave’s Killer Bread Foundation on June 6. Follow the Tour at www.secondchancetour.com

SPONSORS: TRANSFORMING LIVES BEYOND LANE COUNTY

Deputy Director Nick Crapser gave a powerful Tedx Talk in Humboldt County in January before a large audience about the challenges of reentry and how to address them.

To watch this inspiring presentation and learn how you can get involved, search “Three E’s of Reentry” on Youtube.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that as a monthly donor, you can help Sponsors’ long-range planning efforts?

Knowing we can count on your continuing regular support has a big impact as we grow toward the future with expanded service programs, housing projects like the tiny homes, and advocacy efforts. You can start with as little as $10 per month. For more information, please contact Jean Stover at jstover@sponsorsinc.org.

Support Sponsors while shopping!

When you shop at AmazonSmile, Amazon will donate to Sponsors. Support us every time you make a purchase: https://smile.amazon.com/ch/93-0639815.
FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is a great time of year to be in Oregon, sans those who are afflicted by seasonal allergies. I am also reminded, as I marvel at the beautiful flowers in bloom and find myself wanting to be out-of-doors spending more time in nature, how tenuous our existence really is. More than ever, I am appreciating the many gifts in my life, including the beauty that surrounds us in the Willamette Valley. The need to do this was recently underscored by the loss of a dear friend and colleague, Jeffrey Shervey. Jeffrey was what I would call the “face” of Sponsors. He was the first person new program participants, law enforcement, donors, and visitors would meet when they walked through the doors of Sponsors’ administration building at Roosevelt Crossing.

Jeffrey experienced a severe heart attack on the weekend of June 23/24. He was placed on life support in the hospital and hung in for several days until another series of heart attacks caused his death. Our staff, clients, board and the many people Jeffrey interfaced with have all been taken aback by his untimely death.

I cannot find the words to adequately express the gratitude and sadness I feel. I am grateful for the many ways Jeffrey epitomized what it meant to be a Sponsors employee. He was kind beyond measure. He had incredible patience. He saw the goodness in every person who walked through the door. He was funny, irreverent and at times sarcastic but always had an infectious smile. He loved Sponsors and everyone associated with the program. His work ethic was unparalleled (possibly to a fault). And I am sad because we lost a good, good man way too soon. And I am heartbroken because I lost someone who I cared deeply about.

We are working closely with Jeffrey’s adult daughter and his ex-wife to help plan a celebration of life ceremony at some point in the not too distant future and will be sure to keep you posted.

—Paul Solomon, Executive Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE

A huge thank you to Margaret Hallock for her many years of service on the Sponsors Board of Directors, and especially for her leadership as Board Chair the past three years. Margaret will remain on the Board.

Sponsors welcomes Steve Christiansen as the newest Chair of the Board. Steve has been an active Board member since 2010. His skills and expertise have been invaluable, particularly as chair of the Development Committee and in his assistance with all four Benefit fundraisers. Steve has been a media designer, producer and director for more than thirty-five years and has focused his professional work on developing interactive technology for behavioral health and e-learning.

As Rev. Tom English retires from the Board of Directors, Sponsors is grateful for his ten years of dedicated service, as well as his role as volunteer chaplain for the Lane County Jail. Thank you, Tom!
BIKE DRIVE AND MEN’S CLOTHING DRIVE

Sponsors has a robust bike program that rehabs donated bikes and loans them to participants so that they have transportation to interviews, jobs and other destinations. Participants rebuilding their lives need affordable and flexible transportation. Demand is high right now, and our supply is gone—we need more bikes! We can repair them from any condition.

We are also in need of men’s clothing.

Our warehouse accepts donations of household items and furniture. These items help participants build new futures.

Sponsors can pick up large donations like bikes and furniture—call 541-485-8341.

Thank You!