

SHELTER: Donations are needed to support work

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to employment support and community services. Activities offered at the shelter include meals, movies, puzzles, cards, conversation, and community.

Through the work of Dawn James-Cooper of the Sisters Family Access Network (FAN), a number of outcomes have helped shelter guests to improve their situation including: obtained birth certificate; applied for

employment; began work; obtained Oregon State I.D.; received food benefits; received OHP medical insurance; applied for housing; obtained permanent housing/shelter; and connected to legal services.

There are many ways to help support the shelter. Organizations with a facility can be a host site for a month. Individuals or groups can sign up to bring dinner or breakfast. Individuals can sign up to serve as a shelter monitor for the 5 p.m. to midnight shift (background check required). The advisory committee can always use people willing

to volunteer for a variety of duties besides monitoring or providing meals.

Donations of supplies to be used by the shelter or guests can be dropped off at Westside Church starting on November 9 during church office hours, Tuesday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. The Habitat ReStore can take donations of equipment such as tents, tarps, and larger items. Please do not take donations to the FAN office.

Needed items include: twin-size bedding; storage bins; Tracfone minute gift cards for shelter phone; movies, DVDs, puzzles and

cards; disposable silverware, plates, coffee cups; toilet paper and paper towels; coffee, tea, hot chocolate and creamer; snacks to go such as granola/protein bars, yogurt, fruit, etc.; hand-warmers; toiletries; jackets, boots, wool socks, hats and gloves for cold weather; camping equipment; and propane canisters.

Monetary donations help pay for shelter expenses, which primarily include compensating the contracted night shift (midnight to 7 a.m.). It costs a little over \$200 each night the shelter is open. To make a donation online visit www.shepherdshouse

ministry.org/donate-scws or a check may be mailed to Shepherd's House Ministries, PO Box 5484, Bend, OR 97708. Make sure to mark the donation for the Sisters Cold Weather Shelter. Shepherd's House is working with the shelter again this year, acting as their fiscal agent and partner.

The shelter has a page on Facebook – Sisters Cold Weather Shelter – and a SCWS page on Signup.com. For information about volunteering contact Ronni Duff at ronniduff@aol.com. For other information email loiskaping@bendbroadband.com.

HABITAT: Volunteer labor, donations, keep homes affordable

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volunteering with Habitat in 2002 and worked on 46 homes. He loved Habitat and the families, Larry Lennon, construction volunteer and close friend to Harris, said.

Conner's home will be the sixth house built in Habitat's 17-lot neighborhood, Village Meadows. Many other companies will be donating materials and labor to the building of the home. Roofing materials will be donated by GAF and installed by the employees of Northwest Quality Roofing. Electrical supplies will be donated by Schneider Electric and will be installed through an apprenticeship program with International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 280 (IBEW).

In-kind donations along with proceeds from the Sisters Habitat Thrift and ReStore, personal donations and grants, in addition to volunteer labor helps keep costs affordable for future homebuyers.

Sisters Habitat for Humanity is dedicated to eliminating substandard housing locally and worldwide through constructing, rehabilitating and preserving homes; by advocating for fair and just housing policies; and by providing training and access to resources to help families improve their shelter conditions. Sisters Habitat was established in 1991 and since then has helped 61 families build strength, stability and self-reliance through shelter.

Local families who think they might qualify for a Habitat home can review the homeownership guidelines at www.sistershabitat.org/housing-programs/homeownership.

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