

NORTHWEST newsbriefs



Volunteers help Our House residents

made to Our House—the foundation is recognizing the nonprofit organization's broad community support and the commitment of its board and staff.

For more information, contact Joe Jefferson at 503-234-0175 or jjefferson@ourhouseofportland.org.

EQUALITY COALITION MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next meeting of the Equality Coalition will be held 3 p.m. Dec. 18 in Room 102 of Jackson Hall at Portland Community College's Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth St.

The agenda includes a discussion of the Dec. 15 marches throughout Salem and other places in Oregon. It will also address concerns people have about the court case of *Li vs. Oregon*.

TRANS CENTER ISSUES AIR TRAVEL TIPS

The National Center for Transgender Equality has released its latest publication, *Air Travel Tips for Transgender People*, just in time for the holiday travel season. The nonprofit organization hopes to aid in lessening anxiety for holiday travelers by providing tips on topics such as identification, security measures and reporting mistreatment.

The center was motivated to provide travel guidelines after the implementation of a new Transportation Security Administration policy directing agents at security checkpoints to pat down passengers wearing bulky clothing items. The agency's policy regarding pat-downs is included in the guide, as well as instructions on how to report misconduct by a government agent.

"Although TSA's heightened security measures are not trans-specific, transgender travelers may experience increased scrutiny, harassment and discrimination. Transgender travelers need to prepare for any obstacles they might face during their holiday travels," said Mara Keisling, the center's executive director.

Transgender people who feel their rights have been violated by airport or security personnel should report the incident to the Transportation Security Administration immediately as well as to the National Center for Transgender Equality by filling out the Discrimination Incident Report at nctequality.org/discrimination.asp.

PORTLAND WOMEN'S CRISIS LINE CALL FOR ADVOCATES

Are you interested in helping others, gaining social service skills and working toward social change? The Portland Women's Crisis Line is seeking volunteers to help in all aspects of its programs. Volunteers may choose to provide direct services as advocates, help with commu-

nity outreach or serve on the board of directors or the fund-raising committee.

Volunteers must be 18 years or older, but no experience is needed. The crisis line is in particular need of bilingual/bicultural volunteers.

Basic advocacy training starts in late January. (These trainings are offered three to four times a year.) Direct-service volunteer positions require a 40-hour training session.

The Portland Women's Crisis Line works collaboratively with universities and colleges to provide internship experiences for college credit.

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All agency volunteers are expected to commit to a minimum of six months, but one year is preferred.

If you are interested in serving on

the board of directors, these positions are elected for either one- or two-year terms. The board typically meets once a month for two hours. Board members are also required to participate on committees. The total time commitment varies depending on the member's availability. (Elected officials—the president, vice president, secretary and treasurer—generally put in more hours than other members.)

If you are interested in serving on the fund-raising committee, the time commitment is about five hours a month. The committee typically holds one or two 60-minute meetings each month. Additional time may be necessary during special events.

For more information on any of these positions, contact Andrea Overbeck at 503-232-4176 or aoverbeck@pwcl.org.

ID PROJECT SEEKS HOLIDAY MIRACLE

Looking to help this holiday season? Why not donate to the Identity Project?

Since August, the program has enabled 17 people to obtain an Oregon identification that more accurately reflects who they are. The money helps people obtain a legal name change and, if desired, a birth sex designation change. Individuals are provided with information, referred to a therapist for a letter and accompanied to the appointment by an advocate.

A \$130 donation will sponsor one person through the entire process. Can't afford that much? Why not get your friends, office, organization, group, etc. to all chip in?

Make checks payable to Outside In, with a memo indicating "ID Project." You can send your donations to the Trans/Identity Resource Centre, 1030 S.W. 13th Ave., Portland, OR 97205. ☐

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