



New placements and continued employment is story for many affected by coastal program closures

In early December, Shangri-La announced the closure of its Newport-based residential services. About a month later, it also announced the closure of its Florence residential program and employment and day services programs in Newport. Severe and ongoing staffing shortages in both coastal communities was the primary driver for closing residential programs.

"Without the people needed to appropriately staff these programs, we are unable to provide the quality of services we pride ourselves on. While we have a number of dedicated staff, there are only so many extra shifts we can ask people to fill before burnout happens," explained CEO Janet Yousey.

Furthermore, limited access to medical resources in the Florence community made it hard to continue to serve the individuals at the Florence home. The program's geographic location also made getting the necessary training, supplies, and maintenance services difficult on a consistent and timely basis.

Without coastal residential programs, Shangri-La decided its coastal Life Enrichment Activities Program and Community Employment Services Program were unlikely

"I have so much gratitude for the employees that worked through the closures and made the last 30-days the best possible month for the people we supported."

- Tiffani Olsen, IDD Residential Director

to remain stable enough to be viable on their own, let alone attempting to cover the overhead of maintaining a coastal office.

Residential Closure Update

Staff and program leadership worked diligently during the 30-day closure timelines to find placements for the 17 individuals affected by the closures. Four people moved to Shangri-La programs in Salem, two individuals moved in with

family, three remained living independently, and the other 11 individuals were placed with other 24-hour or adult



Eddie is one of a handful of individuals that relocated from their coastal program to openings at Shangri-La homes in Salem. So far, Eddie is enjoying getting to know his new housemates and is excited about finding employment with a local business.

foster providers. Due to the limited providers in the area, most individuals moved out of the area -- some as far north as Portland, others as far south as Grants Pass. Some placements brought individuals closer to family while others, unfortunately, are now farther away from loved ones.

"It was a long and stressful two months for everyone involved, but I have so much gratitude for the employees that worked through the closures and made the last 30-days the best possible month for the people we supported," said Tiffani Olsen, director of the IDD residential program.

Employment Closure Update

Shangri-La, ISN Network, and Vocational Rehabilitation worked collaboratively to secure ongoing job development or job coaching supports for everyone on the caseload. Thirteen individuals supported by the employment program remained in their community job placement. Four individuals retained their jobs without formal job coaching supports, and the other nine are now receiving employment support from Exceed Enterprises. Exceed Enterprises also hired all the employment staff affected by

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Cornhole and camaraderie mix at annual Capital City Cornhole Classic

After a hiatus in 2021 due to the pandemic, 150 players and over 50 event partners from around the region raised over \$15,000 to support Shangri-La programs at the fifth annual Capital City Cornhole Classic.

Familiar faces year after year is a big reason why the tournament, played on the lawn of the Oregon State Capitol, feels more like a family reunion than a fundraiser. Newcomers feel right at home, too.

"I loved the feel of the event with the music playing and such upbeat attitudes! We arrived early when there was still dew on the grass, and to see so many high-quality boards on the lawn, it had a majestic feel to me," said Brody Miller, a first-time tournament attendee from Vancouver who ended up winning the competitive division with his wife, Ashley.

Funds from the tournament will help furnish a new Residential Treatment Home for adults with complex mental illness, which Shangri-La aims to open in early-to-mid 2022.

Thank you to our 2021 primary partners: Enterprise Fleet Management, Pioneer Trust Bank, and RALI Oregon.

New partners and familiar supporters again make Holiday Wishes Project possible

Shangri-La's ninth annual Holiday Wishes Project provided gifts to 113 individuals with disabilities and six families with disadvantages served by Shangri-La who would have otherwise had an empty stocking.

"Watching [the individuals] be genuinely surprised on Christmas day [when given their gifts] was a joy to experience as a staff member. I can't imagine what it was like to experience this as individuals who don't often receive gifts," commented Morgan Bates, a direct support professional at one of Shangri-La's residential treatment homes in Eugene.

All told, 184 gift wishes – valued at nearly \$3,000 – were donated by Shangri-La supporters.

"I got lots of picture frames for Christmas," said Jeanne, one of the individuals that received gifts. "I am so excited to put pictures in them and hang them up in my room."

Like last year, participating businesses hosted virtual trees due to the ongoing pandemic. This allowed businesses from multiple Shangri-La service areas to participate.



(Left) Jennifer Manning, Shangri-La's community engagement coordinator picks up the numerous gifts donated by employees at Aldrich CPAs and Advisors. (Right) An individual served holds up the cat toys and treats he received for his feline friend.

"Security Monster is always looking for an opportunity to give back to the community and contribute in areas outside of our world of security and protection," explained Janie Anderson, director of business development at Security Monster in Eugene -- a new Holiday Wishes partner.

"It was fun to discuss amongst the team the wish list items and surprising to see how humble some of the requests were."

Shangri-La sends our gratitude to the many generous donors within our community who donated gifts and to all the volunteers that helped wrap them.

better together

Thank you to these donors and volunteers whose contributions helped people with disabilities and families with disadvantages thrive at home, at work, and in our community. We truly are, *better together*.



Thank you to the small, but mighty, team of volunteers who wrapped over 100 Holiday Wishes gifts.

Better Together Giving Community Members

* denotes new Better Together Giving Community member

Alan Apodaca	Madeline Mulhern
Nick Bender	Allison Myers
Vicki Caldwell	Holbert and Lynda Myers
Ronald and Marlene Carpani	Michael Norman
Greg and Holly Crawford	Tiffani Olsen
Megan Denison	Holly Pharms
Aalicea Dominguez	Laurie Phelps
Fred Duckwall	Roger and Colleen Plott
JoAnna Edwards	Rachenda Reynosa
Ashley Erb	Kelli Rogers
Heidi Frederick	Kathy Sewell
Julia Frisbie	David Sloves
Jennifer Gray	Susan South
Carole Hellman	Yvonne Stewart
Beth Hill	Ron and Joanna Stout
Jeremy Hill	Ross Stout
Tim and Jeniffer Johnson	James and Nicole Titus
Winifred Ju	Irene Tynes
Michael Kemry	Amanda Valerio
Judy and Jim Kennedy	Andre Veillet
Theresa Kies	Jessica Walsh
Amy Korkowski	Donna Welch
Elizabeth Larson	JD Welch
James Lindekugel	Rose Wilgus
Jeanette Merrick	Dan and Robin Winkle
Tammie Montgomery	Rhonda Wolf
	Janet and Ben Yousey

Grants / Special Funding Partners

OnPoint Community Credit Union
Oregon Health Authority
Oregon Office of Developmental Disability Services
American Rescue Plan Act Funds via State Senator Deb Patterson

This list represents supporter contributions made between June 1 - December 31, 2021

Holiday Wishes Project Supporters

Tree Partners

Aldrich CPA's and Advisors
Citizens Bank - Salem branch
Oregon Association of Disability Examiners
Philadelphia Insurance - Tualatin Team
Security Monster - Eugene Team

Tree Partners

Bruce and Debbie Carpani
Philip and Susan Coleman
Caroline Cummins
Aalicea Dominguez
Sally Dvorak
Ashley Erb
Kristan Ezziddine

Patricia Feeny

Janis Frank
Elizabeth Fraumeni
Lynne Heroux
Beth Hill
Jimmy and Patricia Jackson
Winifred Ju
Judy and Jim Kennedy
Chris Manning
Danny Schmotzer
Denise & Larry Seith
Hannah Shuholm
Irene Tynes
Kristen Voyles
Donna Welch

And all those who gave gifts anonymously.

Event/Special Project Volunteers & Interns

Vicki Caldwell
Kristan Ezziddine
Winifred Ju
Patricia Lentz
Gerry Blakney
Kelli Rogers
Megan Dominguez
Jan Frank
Rachenda Reynosa
Annie Fritz
Aalicea Dominguez
AnaMaria Millard
Gail Dominguez
Jessica Lang
Amanda Valerio
Lorilynn Espinoza

Marcus Manning
Ashlee Ries
Eileen Wolfe
Larry McCool
Audriana Conklin
Mariann Ayers
Janis Frank
Rachel Louise Trytko
Gracie Heagy
Hanna Hanson
Bryant Seton
Sage Ingalsbe
Joyce Heatherington
Mike Dominguez
Logan Wolfe
Mckenzie Wolfe

Capital City Cornhole Classic Partners & Donors

Ace Chemical Toilets	Wilco Farm Store
AJ's Auto Repair	Willamette Dental
Amerititle - Silverton	Willamette Valley
B.C. Towing Inc.	Vineyards
Best Damn BBQ Sauce	Withnell Motor Company
Bob's Red Mill	Linn County Cornhole
Cal's Moving Help	Cherry City Cornhole
Celtic Storage, LLC	McMinnville Area
Cherriots Salem Keizer	Cornhole
Transit	503 Cornhole
Cherry City Interiors	Oregon City Cornhole
Chinook Winds Casino	Gerry Blakney
Resort	Steven and Stacy Erb
Doolette Custom	Jan Frank
Dot's Pretzels	Dona Kruse
Eagle Eye Droneography	Michael Norman
Enterprise Fleet	Jeffery Post
Management	Dan and Robin Winkle
Grindz Food Truck	Nick Bender
Ipsenault Company	Winifred Ju
James Heating	Tiffani Olsen
Kaiser Permanente	Holly Pharms
LifeSource Natural Foods	Aalicea Dominguez
Montgomery Construction	Ashley Erb
Northside Electric	Elizabeth Fraumeni
Northwest Rehabilitation	Jake French
Associates	Michael Kemry
Philadelphia Insurance	James Lindekugel
Companies	Jennifer Manning
Pioneer Trust Bank	Michael Norman
R and R Tree Service	Rachenda Reynosa
Ratchet Brewery	Vicki Caldwell
Republic Services	Andre Veillet
Rx Abuse Leadership	Eileen Wolfe
Initiative (RALI)	Janet and Ben Yousey
Six By Six Cornhole Bag	Keith Flores
Data	Kaden Dugger
Straight from New York	Guillermo Bello
Pizza	Dwayne Gardner
The Shutterbug	Hank Gietema
Ticor Title Salem	Brian Gooley
Touch of Mink	Tim Sparks
Valley Credit Union	Kristen Voyles

Greatest Need Givers and In-Kind Contributors

Newport Presbyterian	Jimmy and Patricia
Women	Jackson
United Way of the Mid	Dennis and Darlene
Willamette Valley	McCrea
Mid Valley Quilt Guild	Nathan Patterson



'Furnish it With Hope' - New RTH Campaign

Better Together Event and 'Furnish it with Hope' Campaign - New Residential Treatment Home (RTH) Supporters

Propeller	Roger and Colleen Plott
Hollmeyer HVAC	Janet Schmidt
BST Realty LLC	David Sloves
R&J Mobility Service	Susan South
Modern Woodmen of	Sue Stalnaker
America	Donna Welch
Rx Abuse Leadership	Gila Burger
Initiative (RALI)	Steven and Stacy Erb
Daryl Calfee	Bethany Innis
Janet Carlson	Amy Jauron
Michael Fiala	Melanie Jones
Douglas Golden	Holbert and Lynda Myers
Michael and Susan	Sherree Rodriguez
Mahoney	Judy Clark
Chris Malone	<i>And all those who</i>
Dennis and Darlene	<i>sent household items</i>
McCrea	<i>anonymously.</i>
Cynthia McGladrey	

COVID-19 Relief / Meal Trains

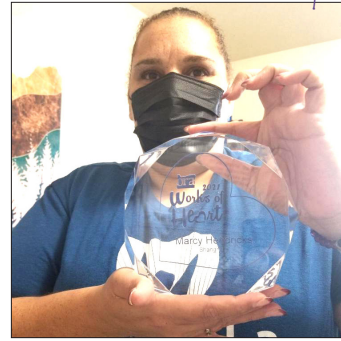
Tiffani Olsen	Rae Reynosa
Vicki Caldwell	Ashley Erb
Randi McKinney	Tracy Mitchell
Florence Tiemeyer	Jan Frank
Beth Hill	Jennifer Gray
Jerri Hargis	Linda McCreery
Kathy Sewell	Holly Pharms
Robin Winkle	Nicki Robinson
Shana Winn	Jennifer Manning
Rose Luttrell	Mersha Studer
Michelle Simmons	Wendy Sampels
Melinda Bunker	Lesha Barber



Kristina



Tyrell



Marcy



Chris

Four Shangri-La team members honored for outstanding efforts

Annually, the Oregon Resource Association recognizes the outstanding contributions of Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) throughout the state of Oregon at its annual Northwest Conference. Three DSPs from Shangri-La, Kristina Tennimon, Marcy Hendricks, and Tyrell Wilbert, received Works of Heart Recognition Awards at this year's virtual ceremony. Additionally, from Shangri-La's Employment Services Team, Chris Benedict was named Employment Professional of the Year by the Marion-Polk Employment First Network. Each staff was nominated for their ability to connect and support the individuals they serve.

"Krissy [Kristina] somehow has the superpower that allows her to connect with individuals, and she shows the utmost respect to the people that she supports," said Krissy's manager in her nomination letter.

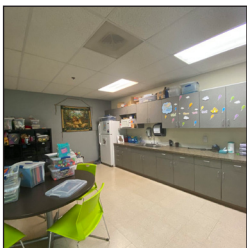
Tyrell, who works a night shift in his home, was praised for being an excellent listening ear to some of the individuals served who are night owls. "[Night time] is a time where things may be weighing heavily on their mind, and they have Tyrell to chat with," his manager explained. "He has an open, calm demeanor where he is very approachable and helps people feel comfortable sharing and talking with him. He is there to help them debrief at

the end of the day and to help pump them up for the following day. He has a way of relating to people that helps their worries melt away as they feel heard and validated."

Marcy on the other hand is a champion at finding activities for the people she supports to be involved in. Before the pandemic, Marcy was facilitating all types of outings. Still, when community outings started to close down due to COVID-19 restrictions, Marcy turned her efforts into making the house an entertaining place. "It takes a very special DSP to make time at home enjoyable with favored activities," said Marcy's manager.

Chris spends his days helping individuals with IDD obtain community employment. Despite many changes in his department, Chris has been a constant source of positivity and professionalism. His supervisor praises his ability to discern an individual's needs quickly, then, provide key information, recommendations, and directions.

"Our participants are what drives me," explained Chris. "To me, there is nothing better than the smile on our participants' faces when they achieve their employment dreams and goals."



Light Industrial/Warehouse Space for Lease

Shangri-La is leasing extra space at its Salem Office located at 4080 Reed Road SE. Extremely functional, high-quality light industrial or warehousing space. Heated with fire suppression and heavy 3-phase power. Easy I-5 access from Mission Street or Kuebler interchanges. This property is located in Fairview Industrial Park, with ease of access from two major interchanges. Zone IC. 12'-16' clear height. Grade level roll doors. Your lease payment helps fuel Shangri-La's mission.

Price: Starting at \$3,900 per month
Available: ≈5,029 - ≈16,500 SF
<https://firstcommercialoregon.com/listing/light-industrial-warehouse/>

missionmoments



A is for Alex is Awesome

Alex wrangles carts and tidies shelves at the Salem Trader Joe's store. He was nominated for an "Employee of the Year" award by his teammates.



Delights for Hungry Dragonborn

Mike made this delicious dessert -- a snowberry crostata, from his official Skyrim cookbook that features recipes inspired by the popular video game.



Fresh New Style

Letrice was all smiles under her mask after getting her hair done. Never, never underestimate the confidence-boosting power of a good haircut.



Go Beavs, Go!

The crew from Northview Terrace braved the cold to cheer on the Oregon State Beavers football team at a home game.



Dancing in the Streets

Employees and individuals served represented Shangri-La in the annual Keizer Holiday Lights Parade in December.



Quilted with Love

In 2021, the Mid Valley Quilt Guild donated numerous handmade quilts to Shangri-La. These quilts were distributed to individuals served during the holidays.

Closure Update, continued from page 1

the closure.

"The support, encouragement, and resiliency demonstrated from individuals served, their families and guardians, community employers, and case managers really helped with the continuation of services," explained James Lindekugel, employment services director.

As of Jan. 28, 2022, all coastal services had concluded. In the months ahead, Shangri-La will continue to mitigate the ongoing effects of the pandemic and staffing shortages and is hoping to eventually strengthen the quality of services in programs along the I-5 corridor.

At Our Core

Mission: Serve individuals with disabilities or disadvantages so they may recognize and achieve their full potential.

Vision: Communities where all people are accepted for their abilities and celebrated for their successes.

Become Better Together

Visit Shangri-La's website to learn more, donate, volunteer or see current job openings.

www.ShangriLaOregon.org

If you no longer wish to receive the Shangri-La quarterly newsletter or have questions about this publication, email: community@shangrila-or.org or call 503-581-1732, x318.

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Shangri-La is a 501c3 non-profit human services organization, tax identification number: 93-0509414.