

Volunteers raise your hand!

Something changes when a person discovers that it is in serving others that they most find their joy. Have you ever experienced the profound affect it has on your community when you selflessly give of your time and energy? It is priceless and something we witness in our volunteers every day.

Did you know that when a person volunteers their time there are several effects it has on one's life? We are impacted in 3 realms - Economic, Social, and Individual. The economic factors of volunteering include helping to offset the general operating costs that the agency would have to spend to contract the work with professionals. In 2007 it was reported that the average cost of having a volunteer work with an agency in Washington is worth \$20.37 per hour. (http://www.independent-sector.org/programs/research/volunteer_time) The value of volunteer services, factored into agency major financial decisions, budgets, and grant writing, can literally save an agency hundreds of thousands of dollars annually.

The social aspects of volunteering are huge as it helps to bring communities together and fosters trust between citizens. On an individual level, a person always feels good about donating their time, effort, and energy knowing that they are giving back and are making a difference in their own community.

In addition, people who volunteer can market their services and consider their volunteer time as work experience. This makes volunteering a great invest-

ment for students applying for grants or scholarships as well as professionals looking to improve their resume.

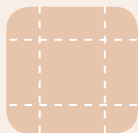
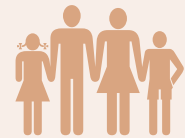
The volunteers who work with Helping Hand House are absolutely priceless to our agency and are vital as we look for ways to serve more families. It may seem like one is doing a very small task at times, whether baking a child's birthday cake, cleaning our shelter yards, or making a quilt. But to us it means the world. That birthday cake is for a child whose parent may not be able to do, providing means for the child can have a happy birthday. Those hours in our yards make it possible to move a family into a house and hear them say, "Wow- what a beautiful home and yard I get to live in." That quilt becomes a message to every one of the family members in our programs "that people in your community care so much for you, that they made you this beautiful quilt that you can keep forever".

Small or big, the volunteer task you provide for Helping Hand House helps out so much and we are so grateful for any and all support.

In 2008, Helping Hand House had a total of 210 volunteers that worked with us, which equaled 1,987.25 hours of time. This is a huge number to us as it helped save our agency over \$100,000. We are looking to keep growing and evolving with new volunteers.

If you are interested in volunteering or have a great idea to share, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator Lisa Heintz at 253-848-6096 ext. 17 or check out volunteer opportunities listed at our web site at: www.helpinghandhouse.org

210 volunteers totaling 1,987 hours



135 Quilts were made and given to HHH families



126 school backpacks/ school supplies were donated and given to the students



141 Birthday Cakes were made and given to the children on their birthdays



70 Thanksgiving meals were delivered to families



47 Easter baskets for every child and food for dinner were donated and given to families



72 Christmas "wish list" gifts for every member in the family and food for dinner were delivered to families

CONTACT US

P. 253-848-6096

F. 253-770-1548

E. info@helpinghandhouse.org

M. PO Box 710, Puyallup, WA 98371

www.helpinghandhouse.org

Bonney Lake Buckley Eatonville Orting Puyallup Sumner Tacoma





Helping Hand House

MISSION

Helping Hand House is dedicated to preventing and ending family homelessness in Pierce County.

VISION

Helping Hand House is committed to ending family homelessness in Pierce County by providing caring support through innovative programs, designed to empower families to achieve self-sufficiency. Helping Hand House develops and implements model programs in partnership with community resources to strengthen families with children, while contributing to a healthier community.

VALUES

Helping Hand House provides an environment based on compassion, honesty, respect, good stewardship, and professionalism through positive and caring relationships.



Dear Friends,

Although I love the rich beauty of summer with all of the flowers, birds and butterflies, I also love fall. There is a richness in fall, the air has a different smell and a crisp feel, as the leaves begin to change into their glorious colors. One of my favorite things about fall is making homemade jam, freezing green beans, and storing a variety of food from our garden. It becomes all the more special when I want a special gift for someone and can share some of our bounty with them, such as a jar of raspberry jam, a blackberry pie, or extra tomatoes or green beans. It's always special to share those

things with a friend, but I have found it even more so to share them with someone who has never enjoyed that luxury of "home-made" before.

This all brings to me to one of my favorite things that we teach our client families, how to make their very own batch of homemade jam and freeze green beans. I love to see their excitement as they see themselves actually doing the steps and then having 6 jars of fresh jam to take home with them. It is something I am willing to teach lots of people because it is such a pleasure to me.

This is where our volunteers come in. The volunteers at Helping Hand House are people just like you and I who find pleasure in the work they volunteer to do. From supply drives to major house and yard projects they are committed to our work. And, quite frankly, we couldn't do it without them. Our volunteers save us tens of thousands of dollars each year in the work they provide and the goods they procure. I am excited each year to see the total of volunteer hours provided to change lives through the work at Helping Hand House. What would we do without you?

This fall if you have a little extra time (or maybe a lot of extra time!) and want to know that your service will change lives right here in your community, please consider giving Lisa Heintz a call. Lisa is our Volunteer Coordinator and she will work with you to find just the right task for you. You never have to doubt that you are appreciated. You mean the world to us. Thank you for all you do!

Best Wishes,

Nola B. Perry

Best Wishes,
Nola



BACK TO SCHOOL

The smell of the color crayons, and the touch of the glue can only mean one thing- it's BACK TO SCHOOL TIME!! During the month of August is a special time for the children that we serve at Helping Hand House, as every child receives a new school backpack full of school supplies. Our children were so happy and excited when the case managers delivered their backpacks to them. Parents are grateful as they know that their children have been taken care of so that they can have the best start to a successful school year!

Helping Hand House thanks everyone involved for putting together such wonderful school backpacks this year! Packs were filled to the brim with school supplies, extra special gifts, and notes of well wishes to our children as they venture back into their classrooms. With your help we assisted 100 children and are helping them to start off a successful school year!

We are deeply grateful for your enthusiastic support for the families!

Christina Allen, Audrey Anderson, Jackee Bechtold, Linda Benedetti, Laura Beste, Leanne Blyth, Boy Scout Troop DXVI, Gail Bunker, Pat Chong, Marcia Cummings, Curves, Gary Davick, Donna Deford, Chris & Sara Devine, Melissa Dodge, Jeanine Eshpeter, Alison Fent, Susan Flatebo, Frontier Bank (Sumner), GFWC Valley Volunteers, Becky Giffin, Teri Hochstein, Lori Howe, Annette Husted, IKEA Distribution Center, Sharon Jewell, Sheila Johns, Bob & Maureen Kleinhanz, Tammy Kelly, Joni Knudsen, Doris Lagares, Pam Larsen, Light of the Hill United Methodist Church, Bob & Joan Linden, Cathi Mahan, Laura Marcoe, Kathy Mettler, MGM Outlaws, Milgard Windows/Vinyl Extrusion, Chuck & Dorothy Mosely, Multi Care (Lakewood), Stephanie Murphy, Lisa Ostergren, Rene Painter, Korrice Pederson, Patricia Perry, Shari Rempe, Marion Sagaser, Katie Seppi, Jolyn Stricherz, Bob & Connie Tacy, Wilma Walden, Weyerhaeuser Real Estate Company, Hans Zeiger, Jamie Zylstra

We cannot do our work without your support!



House Warming TOURS

Helping Hand House invites you to one of our upcoming "House Warming" tours. They are held on the third Saturday of every month (except November and December) from 9:30 am to 10:30 am. We encourage you to come learn more about what we do to serve the community. Our goal is to create an awareness of the growing needs of the homeless families in our communities. If you would like to join us, please let us know you are coming or call us at (253) 848-6096 ext. 15 and speak to Jamie Anderson.

COME JOIN US!

TIS THE SEASON!!!

It's that time of year when we start to think about the holidays. The smells that make your Thanksgiving dinner and Christmas a truly special and meaningful time of year, we too are gearing up for the holidays- but we need your help!

Helping Hand House serves 60 families with 150 children. We need to make sure that every family and child is able to enjoy the holidays just like we do! With your help, we can achieve this goal!

Please consider adopting a family for both Thanksgiving and Christmas; a process which includes providing groceries and a turkey or ham to complete the meal, purchasing gifts for the entire family to unwrap and enjoy, or by purchasing grocery store gift cards for perishable foods for the families to use to help assist them while their children are home on school breaks.

If you are interested in adopting a family for the holidays- please call Lisa at 848-6096 ext. 17. We can match individuals, groups, clubs, businesses and churches up with our families. With your generous donation we all can celebrate the holidays with love and spirit!

Birthday Wishes

Provide Birthday Gifts for our Children: Do you remember how magical it was to blow out candles on your birthday cake and how excited you were to open a birthday gift? We create that same happiness and magical feeling for every child that we serve. Our volunteers and staff go above and beyond to help make every birthday an extra special day! Every child receives a homemade birthday cake, a birthday gift, and a new book.

So we can continue to make birthdays special, we need help with the following:

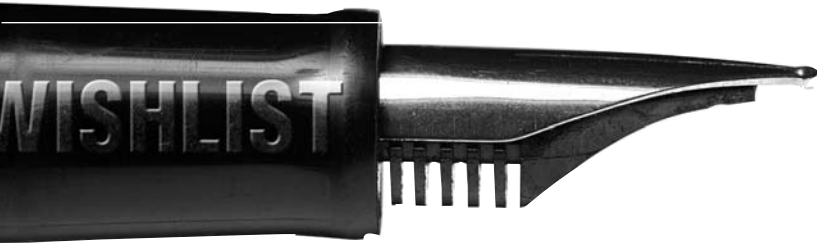
■ **Gifts for children (Boy or Girl):** New books and toys for children ages 1 -19 which are age appropriate. If a gift requires batteries, please consider including the appropriate type with your gift.

■ **Gift Cards:** Please consider donating store gift cards for our teens to: Old Navy, The Gap, Target, Wal-Mart, Zumez, Hollywood Video, Subway, and McDonald's.

■ **Handmade Birthday Cards:** Make an age appropriate homemade birthday card for a child. Involve your family, neighborhood, church, or civic group in helping to make the cards

■ **Party Supplies:** Donate birthday themed gift wrap, gift bags, paper plates & napkins, party hats, noise-makers and indoor decorations.

■ **Host a Birthday Party:** Ask the guests at your next party to bring birthday gifts to give to the children of Helping Hand House.



The following are items that are consistently needed by the families in our housing programs.

Helping Hand House is always accepting donations of the following items:

- non-perishable food (canned soups, fruit, etc.)
- shampoo & conditioner
- paper towels
- toilet paper
- new pillows
- new or very gently used pots & pans
- new twin and full/queen bed sheets
- new cookie sheets
- new toys for children and teenagers
- household cleaning supplies
- twin/full/queen mattress & box-spring sets
- bed frames
- bunk beds
- new reading books for all ages
- bath towels
- cookware accessories

Tax deduction receipts are provided for all donations.

Thank you for your continued support!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

JANE HARTMAN

Every once in a while there is a certain someone special that comes along and says "I have an idea of how I can help the community in which I live and I'd like to make it happen". Jane Hartman of Hartman Foto Works is one of those people. Jane became a friend to us through the Puyallup/ Sumner Chamber of Commerce and after learning of the work of Helping Hand House, she took it upon herself to host, organize, and collect over 1500 household and personal hygiene products. Jane has a vision of helping children and families who may not always have the proper personal care hygiene products as she understands that "parents don't always have the means for providing the bare necessities that are sometimes considered luxuries".

"Everyone deserves the right to feel good about themselves and in my own small way providing donated products to achieve just the basics of personal hygiene for those who cannot, well then it's what I am supposed to do".

Jane contacted several local chamber member businesses and had printed signs made up and asked the businesses to act as a host for a site drop off box. As a result from her hard work and determination she had over 10 businesses compete with each other and to make the drive more interesting, she created a cash reward of \$400.00 for the business who collected the most hygiene products. Denny's Valley Auto Body won, collecting over \$1,500.00 in donation totals for the families of Helping Hand House.



Jane has a passion for her community as she the result of her own personal experiences. "Through several of my own stages of adversity, I have always strived to maintain a clean home and a high standard of personal hygiene. My idea to do a personal hygiene and household product drive is one way I can help families send their children and themselves out into the world feeling and on the path to knowing they are worthy of being confident to pursue their dreams in life. It's just the basics. As the quote from Eleanor Roosevelt goes 'no one can take anything from you without your permission'. And that goes for your dignity! In my world if I am clean, have clean clothes to wear, and clean sheets to slide into at the end of the day; well life just seems a little better, no matter what. Everyone deserves the right to feel good about themselves and in my own small way providing donated products to achieve just the basics of personal hygiene for those who cannot, well then it's what I am supposed to do".



We heartily thank Jane and other countless volunteers, donors, and community members who understand and feel the same way Jane does about the ongoing support we receive. Thank you to everyone for helping our families- we always say, WE CANNOT DO OUR WORK WITHOUT YOU.

Donated items from the supply drive

Diapers **6** packages

baby food **25** jars

baby items **36** different items

toilet paper **47** rolls

deodorant **90**

soap **378** bars

shampoo/conditioner **135** bottles

razors **101**

band aids, first aid items **8**

shaving gel **169**

toothbrushes **230**

toothpaste **111** tubes

feminine products **30** dozen

hair access. **7**

make up items **11**

paper towels, napkins **7**

cleaning products **49** bottles

cereal **8** boxes

canned goods **46**

snacks **5**

dinner kits **8**

juice **6**

soup **7**

pasta **12** bags

baking dishes **3**





Helping Hand House thanks all of our loyal supporters who have given their time, talent and money during these last months. THANK YOU SO MUCH

June 2009 thru August 2009

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CHURCHES

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 green Presbyterian Church First Presbyterian
 Church Immanuel Lutheran Church Joy of
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 terian Church United Methodist Church of
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CLUBS/GROUPS

Boy Scout Troop DXVI 4-F (Friends of Four
 Legged Animals) GFWC Valley Volunteers
 MGM Outlaws Hands All Around Tacoma
 Eagles Puyallup Valley Quilters

SCHOOLS

Pacific Lutheran University- Center for Public
 Service Rogers High School

INDIVIDUALS

June Abbey Christina Allen Christy Allen
 April Ames Audrey Anderson Eric & Anne
 Arnston Ted & Carole Axtell Patricia Bahny
 Dr. Michael & Cynthia Bailey Patricia Becerra
 Jackee Bechtold Linda Benedetti Laura
 Beste Leanne Blyth Marge Brouillet Bob
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 Butcherite Carrel Cabrerra Andrew Cantrall
 George Capestany Ahnna Carlson Kimberly
 Chandler Pat Chong Jean Coleman Mar-
 cia Cummings Gary Davick Donna Deford
 Chris & Sara Devine Melissa Dodge Peter

NEED YOUR HELP

Given how rough the economy is for everyone, you can imagine how much harder it is for the families who come to us for help. Items that we take for granted are missing in many of their lives and we like to make sure that doesn't happen as they are working so hard to save and budget their money.

We are so deeply grateful for all support, as we cannot do our work without you at all. If you are able to contribute in the following ways or if you have an idea to share, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator at 848-6096 ext. 17

Here are some ways you can help:

■ Organizing a Food Drive- The shelves in our food bank are a little low. We are in need of non-perishable food- mostly peanut butter, jam, juice, crackers, canned fruit, applesauce, flour, sugar, oil.

■ Provide House or Yard Work:

We are always in need of individuals or groups to help us clean and prep our houses for when families move in and move out of our programs. That could be in the form of cleaning and prepping a house and making it feel cozy and inviting for a family to move

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into or by cleaning and maintaining the yard work so that the house looks attractive and appealing for a family to live in.

■ Ideas of Monthly Support: Every month you can help by supplying: Toilet paper and paper towels, bath towels, wash cloths, and hand towels, new children's books, household Supplies (kitchen utensils, light bulbs (60W), pots & pans, baking pans, silverware, bowls, measuring cups & spoons), twin and full size bed sheets, quilts for beds and twin/full sized bed comforters.



& Sarah Donermeyer Bret & Tara Draven Robert & Dorothy Duchesne Kaitlin Eaber Jeanine Eshpeter Alison Fent Dan Ferrin Mackay Ferrin Mitch Ferrin Susan Flatebo Timothy Flood Gregory Foos Michelle Gaut Sandra Geiger-Richardson Lee & Becky Giffin David Givens Anthony & Jennifer Glove Jaron Gould Yvette Grohs Jeffrey & Sharon Guddat Virginia Guptil William & Jane Hagen Jane Hartman Lois Harvey Deanna Hasenwinkle Michael & Nancy Herold Dan Hill Teri Hochstein Ernest & Irene Hopp Melvin Horn Jordan Howlett George & Susan Hulbert Annette Husted Caleb Horsley Lori Howe Kendelle James Sharon Jewell Sheila Johns Tammy Kelly Bob & Maureen Kleinhanz Joni Knudsen Tina Krogh Doris Lagares Chris & Kellie Lamb Pam Larsen Katie Leitz Bob & Joan Linden Joy Longe Monica Louie Cathi Mahan Jennifer Malo Sondra Mangan Laura Marcoe Nancy Marquess Deanna Maschner Phillip & Denise McEachin Manley McKay Vicki Merrill Kathy Mettler Chuck & Dorothy Mosely Stephanie Murphy Beri Muse T.G. & Ivy Myers Jeffrey & Cathleen Nelson Barbara Owens Rene Painter Lucy

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GRANTS

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Helping Hand House makes every effort to accurately list the names of our valued donors. If we have inadvertently omitted a name or misspelled a name, please accept our apology. We appreciate your corrections- please call Helping Hand House at (253) 848-6096 ext. 17.

HHH STAFF

Executive Director: Nola B. Renz
Operations Director: Linda Tevis
Finance Director: Anna Burris
Development Director: Jamie Anderson
Deputy Development Director: Marion Hogan
Executive Assistant: Becca Schlecht
Volunteer Coordinator: Lisa Heintz
Receptionist & Homeless Prevention Specialist:
Melanie Zdunski
Emergency Housing Specialist: Mike Vega
Bright Futures Specialist: Kay Kohlman
Rural Bright Futures Lead Specialist: Pat Williams
Maintenance Manager: Bill Jones
Front Door Lead Program: Martha Myers
Front Door Tacoma Program: Ralph Preston
Front Door Sumner Program: Tre Davis
Front Door Children's Specialist: Jess Gotwals

Sign of The Times

In an effort to help the environment and to help reduce costs, we are going to also offer a paperless copy of our newsletter to our supporters. If you would like to receive a paperless copy rather than a paper copy, please call us at 253-848-6096 ext. 17 and provide your e-mail address or you can email directly to: lisah@helpinghandhouse.org



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P.O. Box 710
Puyallup, WA 98371-0184
(253) 848-6096
www.helpinghandhouse.org