



**HEARTS
— WITH A —
MISSION**

2021 - 2022

**ANNUAL
REPORT**





**HEARTS
WITH-A
MISSION**

Every Child Deserves A Home



Together With You

One of the most rewarding parts of my job as the Founder/CEO of Hearts With A Mission (HWAM) is watching the successes of our youth, families, and staff grow each year. When I founded HWAM, I never could have imagined where we are today. Earlier in my life, I traveled to Mexico to help build homes for the less fortunate and assisted in Alabama after hurricane Katrina hit.

The shift to focusing on my local community happened when I read a 2006 article in the Medford Mail Tribune that reported there were 1,500 homeless youth in Jackson County and an emergency shelter was needed. The youth I read about could very well be friends of my own children, kids in the mall, or students I observed in the drive-thru pick-up line at school. Maybe I knew some of them, maybe I didn't, but I wanted to help provide a home for youth who did not have a safe place to stay.

The idea of providing services for at-risk youth and families started in 2006, but I had no clue what was in store as I made the shift from a successful career in the automotive industry to becoming a licensed Child Caring Agency in the State of Oregon. I sought out wisdom and direction from God and traveled to other youth shelters in Oregon. It only took three years for the vision to become a reality as I received immense support from friends, community partners, local government agencies, and boots-on-the-ground neighborhood backing. On December 21, 2009, HWAM opened its doors for youth 10-17 years of age in Medford, Oregon. Our youth shelter was and still is the only emergency youth shelter within a 160-mile radius.

Over the years, HWAM has continued to grow. We saw the need to bolster life skills training for foster care youth living in foster homes, and contracted with the State of Oregon to provide the Independent Living Program (ILP). ILP serves youth 16-24 years of age. We experienced a need in services for young people 18-21 years of age, and added two Transitional Living Programs (TLP) in Jackson and Josephine counties. We had many youth exiting our youth shelter with no place to go, so we began implementing a host home program called Safe Families for Children (SFFC). SFFC serves youth 0-24 years of age in Jackson, Josephine, Lincoln, and Klamath counties.

The tradition of compiling an annual report helps us reflect how we have grown and impacted our communities over time. Fifteen years ago, I could never have anticipated the strong community relationships we have shaped, and the impact we have had on youth and their families. I am very grateful to work with communities who understand the necessity of what we do, a Board of Directors who continue to support our growth and direction, and an organization who shines through their compassion and love for the youth and families they serve.

This path has not been easy, but it has been the most rewarding journey filled with incredible successes, laughter, and at times, sorrow. Thank you for believing in us and what we do. It continues to be a huge blessing to come along side with you to serve youth and their families in need.

Together with you,



Founder/Executive Director

CONNECT
WITH US



HWAM.ORG



[HWAM JOBS](#)

Hearts With A Mission serves homeless and at-risk youth by providing shelter, educational support, mentoring and transition planning with a faith-based approach.

COMMUNITY → ENGAGEMENT → EVENTS

Jershika Maple Sings Her Heart Out at Dancin Event



In June, Hearts With A Mission was blessed to be a part of the second annual DANCIN Vineyards benefit concert featuring Jershika Maple, a contestant from NBC's reality singing competition, The Voice. Jershika is known for her amazing vocal range which took her far in the 2021 season, finishing fifth overall. For two nights, while overlooking Dancin's stunning venue, Jershika sang to a sold out crowd. During the event HWAM and the Maslow Project had the opportunity to share our stories and how we are impacting local at-risk youth and families. An incredible night was had by everyone, and we are thankful for the support of DANCIN Vineyards, our local community, and partners.



Lithia Day at the Commons

On August 4, 2022, our friends at Lithia Motors Headquarters transformed their downtown amphitheater into a summertime oasis for Hearts With A Mission youth, families, and staff. The Lithia team and their 2022 interns went above and beyond to make the day special for everyone attending. There were activities for all ages, including a jump house, water balloons, arts and crafts, a photo booth, and the big favorite, the dunk tank! A big thank you to the interns who took turns getting dunked by a fast pitch and those little arms who could not resist pushing the "DUNK" button.

Along with having a day of fun for HWAM youth, Lithia hosted a clothing drive for our shelters. It is not uncommon for youth to arrive with nothing more than the clothing and items they have on them. Having the ability to choose articles of clothing that make them feel comfortable may seem trivial, but is oftentimes what makes youth feel safe and confident.



HWAM youth, alum, staff and their families enjoying a day of fun together



Thank you again to our incredible supporters at Lithia Motors Headquarters for a day that HWAM will not forget!

**"Kids need to have a voice,
they can only have a voice
in a safe place"**

~ Debbie Henley



SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

Cuffs to Crayons Jason Lewis, SFFC Lincoln County Family Coach Coordinator

I started working with at-risk youth in the psychiatric unit over a decade ago. Many of the kids I worked with had parents who were part of the 1990's meth epidemic in Oregon. I can say confidently that I worked with some of the most abused and difficult youth in the state of Oregon at that time. You couldn't pay me enough to ever do that job again but I wouldn't give up that experience for anything. I learned so much.



Eventually, I transitioned into the juvenile justice system. One encounter I will never forget is watching a fellow parole officer tell a youth in detention, **"I still believe in you."** The youth we served came from all forms of abandonment and abuse situations that were unthinkable. **"I believe in you"** was a powerful message to youth, especially when they were messing up and not making good choices. It was of the utmost importance that they knew someone believed in them.

In 2022 I felt like I was being called to do something different after 10 years in law enforcement. In January, Marisa Hayner, Safe Families for Children Lincoln County Director, asked me

to work alongside her. I was a bit hesitant as I wasn't sure how changing careers would work after being so ingrained in the juvenile justice system for so long. I had to lean into my faith and I believed. Two months later, I was working with Safe Families for Children.

During one of my first cases, a mother was sentenced to jail and her two children needed a place to stay. One of our faithful Safe Families for Children Host Homes

was able to take the children in, even though they knew that we had no idea how long the children would be in their home. It was an amazing moment to hear a volunteer family say "yes" in such an uncertain situation.

I will never forget setting up car seats for the little boy and girl in the back of my car; it was surreal for me because for the past seven years I had been putting youth in the back of my car in cuffs. Now I was putting these little ones in the back of a car with crayons and taking them to a safe place. What an amazing experience to make an impact on youth in my community in a different way.

SAFE → SEEN → SOOTHED → SECURED

For many youth and families the notion of a healthy relationship is of great mystery. They have not had any models of positive, loving relationships. As with many challenges we experience, the answer to this is surprisingly simple. The 4-Ss' of healthy attachment are Safe, Seen, Soothed and Secure. The 4-S's can easily be used to help young adults and families create healthy bonds with not only each other, but other important relationships.

SAFE We all need to be not only physically but emotionally safe. This does not mean that we never get hurt, but that we have a safe place to heal our broken hearts.

SEEN We all have an internal need to feel seen; God created us this way. To feel seen ultimately means to feel understood. Truly seeing another human means we see their emotions- the positive and the negative- and strive to understand.

SOOTHED Soothed is knowing how to cope when life gets difficult and showing others that you will be there to walk with them.

SECURE When a person knows that they can count on you time and time again- they will trust you in a feeling of secure attachment and Thrive!

Heather Siewell, SFFC Jackson County Family Coach Supervisor



OUR GOAL IS FAMILY PRESERVATION



Heather Siewell
Jackson County

JACKSON

This past year we have been working on our family stabilization model and building good relationships in the community. Wait-lists for counseling services can be many months out and there is almost a wait-list for the wait-list. Our team has been working to fill in the gaps. I am proud of the work we have been doing to help with short-term stabilization while getting long-term supports in place.



Janelle Tefteller
Jackson County



Tony Mendenhall
Josephine County

JOSEPHINE

This past year, we have been working with community partners to support families in crisis. Thanks to the involvement of caring volunteers, we have been able to help families stay together. We have also seen some of our church community partners catching the vision of Safe Families for Children - that's exciting!



Mariah Brennan
Josephine County



Marisa Hayner
Lincoln County

LINCOLN

Safe Families for Children Lincoln County hosted numerous youth ages 0-24 this past year. We also worked to connect struggling parents with dozens of mentors in our Mommy/Daddy mentor program. This is a great program aimed at helping parents to be successful. In early 2022, we helped a mother and her two children flee from domestic violence in their home. The small family came to us for help when they had nowhere else to go. We are thankful to be part of a program that allows us to make such a large impact on those in need.



Jason Lewis
Lincoln County



Bethany Holmes
Klamath County

KLAMATH

Since launching SFFC last October, we have been actively making connections and getting the word out about Safe Families in Klamath County; and building our foundation. We've made great connections with the school districts, Juvenile Detention Center, and people are already hearing about us through word of mouth. We have hosted multiple children and helped several families through difficult times. We are off to a great start!



Marie Linden
Klamath County

YOUTH SERVED IN SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM

245

JACKSON

Since 2014

99

JOSEPHINE

Since 2016

417

LINCOLN

Since 2019

23

KLAMATH

Since 2021

SHELTER → SAFETY → STABILITY →

Emergency Youth Shelter

- Emergency shelter for youth ages 10 - 17
- Walk-ins, drop-offs and referrals
- 15 beds and three meals a day
- A safe stable-living environment
- Education, employment and aftercare supports
- Individual Case Management | Youth and Family Counseling | Family Mediation | Parent Support
- 365 days a year | 24/7

Family Matters By Sharon Rush

All too often, in an effort to help all children succeed, families are the missing piece. One of the most valuable lessons we have learned since opening our youth shelter is: “The best way to help kids is to help their families.”

Kelly Jeffries, HWAM Family Advocate, works with families to strengthen their relationships, a critical but often undervalued strategy to help youth learn and grow up successfully.

Kelly began working with Karla and her parents when she entered our Medford shelter earlier this year. Their goal from day one was to establish healthy communication and clear expectations in the home to prepare for Karla to return. Kelly worked with her in the shelter and connected with her parents weekly in their Grants Pass home.

Let’s face it, parenting a teen can be challenging at the best of times. Karla’s parents had their own struggles with mental health and addiction issues. This added stress for the entire family. At times, Karla needed to balance being a teenager with being “the adult.” She would go grocery shopping, plan meals, get herself to school, and the list went on.

Kelly helped the family develop structures and routines



for completing household chores. Their daily and weekly schedules included family time, date nights, family meals, and monthly family outings. Kelly taught them communication skills, including how to listen well and use “I” statements. This is hard work! They continued to meet weekly, semi-monthly and monthly over the next six months. The family still calls from time to time to share success stories and to ask for support or schedule family meetings when needed.

Karla now has healthy peer relationships, will graduate high school in 2022, and has big plans for her future. By strengthening family relationships, Karla was able to learn and is well on her way to becoming a successful ‘grown-up.’

HWAM TIMELINE

2007

501(c)(3) status obtained.

2008

Awarded CDBG Grant obtained from the City of Medford to build shelter. Purchased property 521 Edwards St. Construction begins.

2009

DHS license to operate as a child caring agency acquired. **12/21/09**
First youth shelter opens in Jackson County

First youth entry: 12/28/2009

2012

Addition of youth and family counseling.

2016

Entered marketing contract with FCCU to purchase 1504 NE 9th St. property in Grants Pass. Renovation on Josephine County youth shelter begins.
Josephine County shelter opens. SFFC launches in Josephine County.

2017

HWAM awarded **Independent Living Program (ILP)** contract for foster youth.

2018

Demo on 517 Edwards St. property begins for new Medford youth shelter. City Life building paid off.

Transitional Living Program

- Serving youth ages 18-21 years old
- (2) 8-bed home(s)
- Safe, stable housing for up to 24 months
- Relationship/Communication skills
- Coordinated case management
- Educational opportunities, mentoring and employment support
- Money management, focus on goals

Diamonds in the Rough

By Tony Mendenhall

Many of us learn job skills at an early age in our home. Youth who have grown up on the streets or in the Foster Care system often have lagging skills due to all the upheaval in their lives. One of the core elements of the HWAM Transitional Living Program (TLP) is to help youth navigate employment and education.

Sometimes we don't understand why some young people don't thrive. Stigma, shame and lagging skills from past experiences tend to perpetuate poverty and homelessness. Intervention, supports, job skills, and understanding employers help create confidence in these youth. This is a process and great skills don't magically appear overnight. We are so appreciative of the employers who believe in these young people and give them a chance. They provide loving accountability and grace, while helping them attain jobs skills and income.

Diamond Home Improvement in Grants Pass is one of those companies. They have gone out of their way to support our kids and support our programs. This year Diamond Home Improvement selected our Grants Pass programs as the recipient of the proceeds of a benefit golf tournament at The Running Y Ranch Resort. Nearly \$16,000 was raised over the two days!



Tim and Gloria Steiner, owners of Diamond Home Improvement, pose with their team and the Josephine County TLP staff

We are so grateful for the Steiner Family and the Diamond Home Improvement team for their generosity.

TLP Jackson County
PAST YEAR: 23 | TO DATE: 49

TLP Josephine County
PAST YEAR: 20 | TO DATE: 29

2013

Formed City Life LLC with YFC (now Youth 71:5) to purchase the 529 Edwards St. property with a \$250,000 donation from West Family Foundation.

2014

City Life building completed. **Safe Families for Children (SFFC) launches in Southern Oregon.** HWAM 5-Year anniversary.

2015

Donation of land for 517 Edwards St. property.

Construction begins on 517 Edwards St. property. **SFFC launches in Lincoln County. New Jackson County youth shelter opens.** HWAM 10-Year anniversary.

Renovation on 529 Edwards St. property. **New Transitional Living Program (TLP) opens in Medford.**

Josephine County youth shelter is converted to TLP Program. SFFC launches in Klamath County.

Development and Marketing House opens at 505 Edwards St. in Medford

2019

2020

2021

2022



Thank You For Your Support



BUSINESS

ACCESS

Advanced Air & Metal Inc
 AllCare Management Services
 Allen Land Surveying, Inc.
 Banner Bank
 Barnstormers
 BBSI
 BLR Construction Inc
 Brian Case- Guild Mortgage
 Cataract & Laser Institute
 Central Equipment Co., Inc
 Chick-fil-A
 City of Grants Pass
 City Of Medford
 Citizen Lash & Brow
 Clarion Theatre
 Clouser Drilling Inc.
 D.A. Davidson
 Dancin Vineyards
 Diamond Home Improvement
 Diode Laser Concepts
 Dutch Bros.
 First Community Credit Union
 Fontana Roofing, Inc.
 Good Neighbor Painting
 Gregory Schultz
 Heritage Motors Inc.
 HUB International, LLC
 Jackson Care Connect CCO
 Jackson County New Car Dealers Association
 Jake Whitmire- Attorney at Law, LLC
 Jiles Quality Construction, LLC
 Jones & Associates
 Kathy Tinsley Windermere Van Vleet
 Kelly's Automotive
 King Aesthetics
 Knife River Corporation

Koenigsberg & Associates
 Lincoln County
 Lithia Motors Support Services
 Mark and Bonnie Jones
 Medford BMW
 Medford Dutch Bros
 Medford School District
 NIC Industries
 Oregon Department of Human Services
 PayneWest Insurance
 Payroll Specialties
 Pioneer Motors
 Precision Electric Contractors
 Premiere M&R
 Quantum Innovations, Inc
 RA Murphy Construction, Inc
 ReMax Integrity
 Richard Brewster, CPA
 River City RV
 Rogue City Comics
 Rogue Creamery
 Rogue Credit Union
 Rogue Disposal and Recycling
 Rogue Valley Classic Cruisers Inc
 Russ Wimmer Insurance Agency, Inc.
 Samaritan Health Services
 Sandeen Masonry, Inc.
 Secure Storage
 Spartan Management
 Stephanie Jarrard, Evergreen Home Loans
 Steven Self & Darcey Mann-Self
 Summit Family Dental Care
 Superior Carpet Service Inc.
 The Integrity Foundation
 Three Rivers School District
 Trinity Counseling Center, LLC
 UBS Financial Services
 Verkada
 Walmart Stores, INC.
 Water World Boating Center
 Willamette Valley Bank
 Women's Health Center of Southern Oregon

Eagle Point Community Bible Church
 First Presbyterian Church of Jacksonville
 Grace Point Fellowship
 Journey Church
 Jubilation Fellowship
 Life Community Church
 Mountain Church
 Rogue Valley Christian Church
 Sams Valley Community Church
 St. Paul's Lutheran Church
 Westminster Presbyterian Church
 Yaquina Chapel

FOUNDATIONS & CIVIC GROUPS

Anna May Family Foundation
 Carrico Family Foundation
 Cow Umpqua Indian Creek Foundation
 Coquille Indian Tribe Community Fund
 Curt and Carol Bennett Family Fund
 Dutch Bros Foundation
 Grants Pass Active Club
 Greater Medford Rotary Foundation
 Joseph E. Weston Public Foundation
 Kimmel Family Foundation
 Kiwanis Foundation Of Medford
 Oregon Community Foundation
 Reed and Carolee Walker Fund
 Richard and Leanne Krieger's Gratitude Fund
 Robert and Frances Chaney Family Foundation
 Sid and Karen Deboer Foundation
 Spirit Mountain Community Fund
 Table Rock Kiwanis of Jackson County
 The Ford Family Foundation
 The TJX Foundation, Inc.
 United Way of Benton & Lincoln Counties
 United Way of Jackson County
 West Family Foundation
 William and Florence Schneider Fund
 Windermere Foundation

FAITH COMMUNITY

Bethel Church
 Calvary Chapel Lincoln City
 Central Coast Assembly of God
 Community Baptist Church of Merlin

Thank you to all of our community members for the numerous ways you have shown your support. We truly appreciate all of our individual, monthly, and in-kind donors, you make Hearts With A Mission possible.

Thank you with all our HEARTS

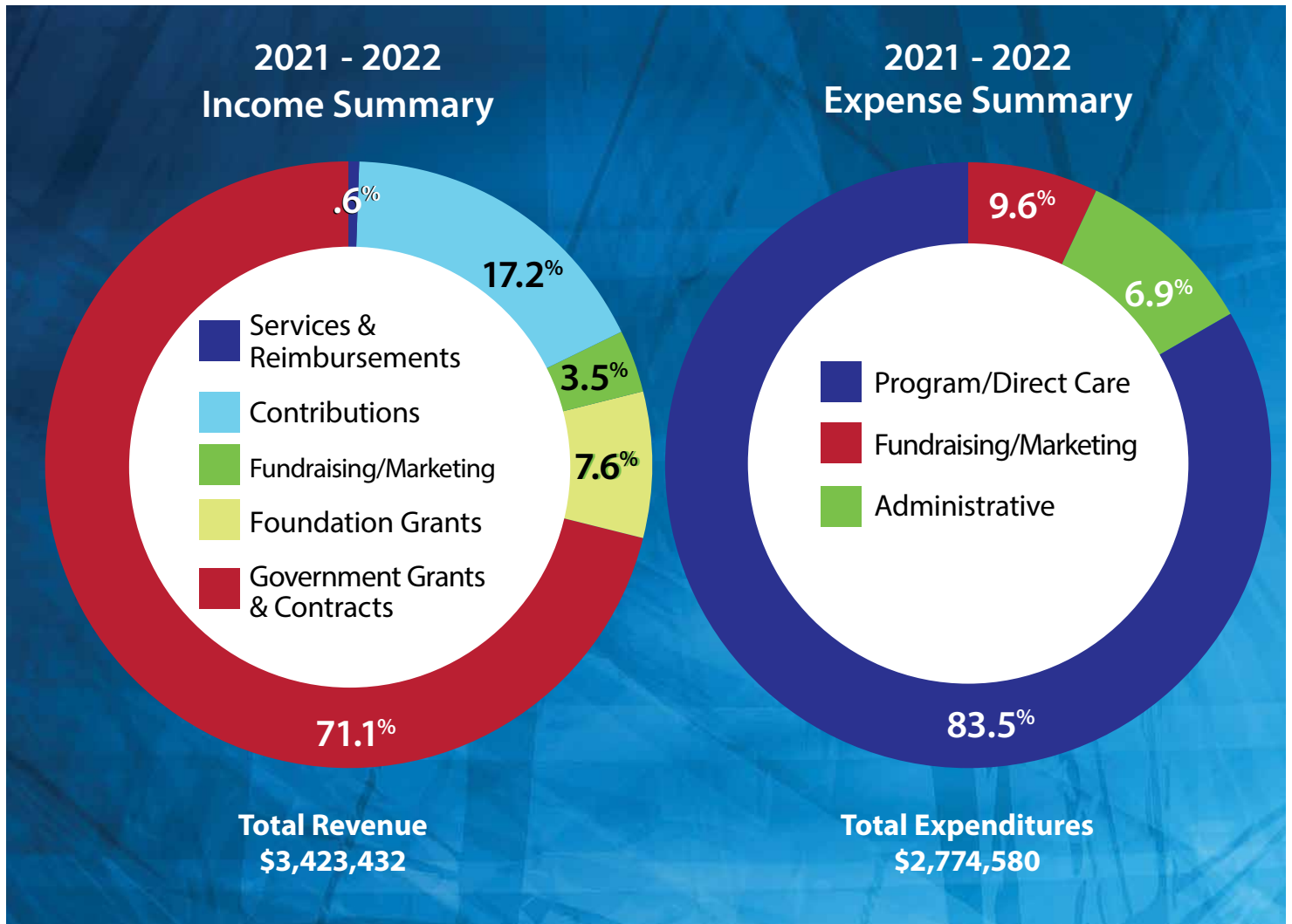
583

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

125

IN-KIND DONORS

HWAM 2021-2022 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



New Program Coming in 2023

Hearts With A Mission is excited to announce **Hearts For Seniors**, a new program geared towards providing relational services to seniors in Jackson County.

This program focuses on supporting our elderly community who may need assistance in driving to appointments, grocery shopping, light house cleaning, meals, and friendship.

We are excited to extend family supports to include the seniors in our community and make life easier for those who need a little extra help.



The Difference YOU Make

559 YOUTH
SERVED THIS PAST YEAR

2,617 YOUTH
SERVED SINCE OPENING



"The river doesn't pick favorites."

~ April Hubbard

ADVENTURE THERAPY

Keeping a Paddle in the Water

Rafting is one of my favorite activities for adventure therapy. Due to the length of the trip, there is a depth of relationships and reflection that takes place. Our rafting trips are typically four days long and are facilitated by our guides at True North Navigators. Our participants are mindfully invited from each of our programs, including after care, youth in shelter, and those in our transitional living programs. The goal is not that we have the easiest, most problem free participants; but that we have those who are most open to growth, and able to be safe (i.e. generally follow instructions) when things get tough! This year, Adam came on the rafting trip. Typical of many of our youth, he struggles a lot with anxiety and regulating his emotions. When times get hard, he gives up, and blows up. But during a rafting trip (especially a four day long one), one is bound to face a few rapids and challenges that would challenge them on both fronts.

Almost every youth is immediately eager to try being in a kayak on their own during the raft trips. To a teenager, the allure of independence and self-sufficiency is strong. But, they're often humiliated when their illusions of success, and admiration from peers fail to materialize. Such was the case for Adam. He was eager to show his skills in the kayak, but

April Hubbard LCSW #L10317, Youth & Family Counselor

as soon as he got into the rapids, his panic and anxiety would take over, and he would raise his paddle into the air, releasing his fate to the whims of the currents. This did not end well for him, at least on day one. One might say he was "mad as a wet hen," and he was definitely wet! He rationalized how it wasn't his fault: the paddle was "caught," and that he was somehow a victim of the rapid. But, his goal for this trip was to overcome some of his anxiety and emotions, including a fear of the water.



Each day during the evening debrief, he received feedback from his peers, staff, and guides. On day two, he got back into the kayak again, at least for a very short distance. By day three, he began to experiment with kayaking through the rapids again. He saw that others flipped too. We talked about how "the river doesn't pick favorites" and does not have a vendetta against him; that it really does depend on his ability to respond and remain engaged through the rapids, rather than to react and give way.

In the end, Adam did it! He experienced the power and stability that having a paddle in the water provides! He understood as we talked about this, how life also doesn't pick favorites. Instead, it is up to us to stay present and balanced through the "rapids" of our lives, engaged, and "keeping a paddle in the water" even through life's toughest challenges. "The river isn't against me," he came to acknowledge. And neither is your life.



ADVENTURE THERAPY EXPERIENCES THIS PAST YEAR

109 PARTICIPANTS ENJOYED

HORSE RANCH - ROCK CLIMBING - HIKING - RAFTING - BACKPACKING



True North Navigators

Forrest and his team of guides have consistently demonstrated endless amounts of patience, modeling for our youth what true humility, servant leadership, and integrity look like. They push our kids to be stronger and know their limits, pointing out to them when they break through their own self-limiting beliefs. They've sat around the fire for countless conversations and debriefs.

"What I appreciate the most about all of these things is that they provide what is missing for so many of our youth: A positive male adult role model. An example of what it means to be strong and tough, while also being humble, kind, loving God, and acting with integrity." ~ April Hubbard, Counselor

We are so grateful for True North Navigators, who have partnered with us to facilitate outdoor activities for HWAM youth since 2016. True North Navigators is a faith-based non-profit organization intent on encountering the Creator through outdoor wilderness adventures.

"The Lord is our teacher, the wilderness our classroom."

Quantum Innovations

Quantum has been making a difference for Hearts With A Mission since 2010. They started out with financial contributions and have evolved their support into hands-on service with their staff. They always answer the call of duty with teams of volunteers. From wrapping Christmas presents, serving as event committee members for the superhero run, pre-event projects, technical support, and helping set up for our annual auction, we can count on them.

Quantum Innovations is our Superhero! Truly. We needed help in a big way with the timing system for our Homeless 2 Hopeful Superhero run this year. Quantum stepped up and took on that whole (very technical) aspect of the run. They came to every run meeting and helped out wherever they were needed. Their dedication to service, integrity, and sincere heart for others shines through. Thank you Quantum for the numerous ways you use your time and resources to serve the youth in our community; you truly are making a difference at Hearts With A Mission.

Independent Living Program in Jackson & Josephine County

FOR TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS

Serving Age Tiers

16 - 21

22 - 24

With monthly trainings and get togethers, ILP

served 87 youth this past year and a total of 311 youth since starting in 2018.

Independent Living Program (ILP) helps youth and young adults from Josephine and Jackson Counties who have been in foster care to transition into adulthood.

ILP's approach is to build relationships with the youth while teaching essential life skills that prepare the youth to live on their own, with their own community supports.

ILP SERVICES: Educational / Vocational Services • Employment Coaching • Life Skills Training • Peer Support



Matthew is passionate about cars and has been learning how to work on them with his mentor

C OMMUNITIES

FOCUSING ON SUPPORTING

**HOMELESS
& AT-RISK**

YOUTH

HEARTS WITH A MISSION
*TOGETHER
WITH YOU*



**HEARTS
WITH A
MISSION**

2021 - 2022

ANNUAL REPORT

Every Child Deserves a Home

Youth Shelter | Safe Families for Children | Transitional Living Program | ILP



Youth Shelter 517 Edwards St, Medford, OR 97501

Transitional Living Program 521 Edwards St, Medford, OR 97501 | 1504 NE 9th St, Grants Pass 97526

Admin Office 529 Edwards St, Medford, OR 97501

Mailing Address 711 Medford Ctr #334, Medford, OR 97504

Lincoln County PO Box 299, Newport, OR 97365

Klamath County PO Box 6510 S 6th St PMB# 292, Klamath Falls, OR 97603

