

# Piloting Change

## NWPP Focuses on Permanent Housing

*Northwest Pilot Project has been providing personalized housing placement services for elderly, disabled, homeless, and poor people for 42 years, and our program focuses on permanent housing. We believe that every individual in our community deserves to live in decent, safe housing that is affordable, no matter what their income. From July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011, NWPP helped 484 seniors to find and keep permanent housing.*

Lucy Fortney was born on February 28, 1930, in St. Michael, Alaska (the Eskimo name for her birthplace is Pitnicalik). Lucy never knew her mother or her father. Lucy and her two older sisters were raised by nuns at St. Mary's Mission at Alukurak, Alaska. Lucy quit school in the eighth grade to go live with an older sister who had married, and needed help caring for her babies. Lucy told us how hard these years were: "My sister had a new baby every year!" When Lucy was a teenager her uncle made it possible for her to live with him. He taught her to fish and to be independent. She lived with him until his death.

NWPP staff first met Lucy in 1993. She was urgently hoping to move from a dangerous living situation and have her own place, but she had no independent income. NWPP staff helped Lucy to apply for Supplemental Security Income. With regular income, and the support of NWPP, she was able to move into a lovely one-bedroom apartment in a subsidized building where she paid 30% of her income for rent. Lucy told us how much it meant to her to move into her new apartment: "That day was the beginning of my new life."

### MORE INSIDE

Angel Award . . . . .	3
Assistance Animals . . . . .	4
A Lifeline to Independence . . . . .	7
2011 Walk-A-Thon . . . . .	8
Holiday Giving . . . . .	14



*Lucy Fortney sorts bedding at NWPP's office.*

Lucy became an active volunteer with NWPP. She was an expert at organizing things, and loved creating order out of chaos. Lucy could walk onto our Conference Room where donated blankets, sheets, towels, and pillows would be piled in disarray, and within hours Lucy would turn the mess into a beautiful thing – a well organized linen closet with everything in its place, ready for staff to distribute.

Lucy was an avid walker, and loved her apartment, bingo, the holiday season, and her friends. She was an enthusiastic participant at NWPP summer picnics, holiday dinners, and other events. Lucy often told us that the happiest years of her life began when she met us, and was able to live independently in her own apartment. As Lucy's health declined, NWPP provided transportation to medical appointments and procedures. When Lucy died at the age of 76, she had been in permanent housing for thirteen years. She was part of a community that she loved.



*From the*  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*“As proud as we are of the number of people we’ve helped over the past year, we continue to be haunted by those we are forced to turn away – not because they are not eligible for our services, but because we do not have sufficient resources to help them.”*

Every Thursday morning the clinical staff members of Northwest Pilot Project have a regularly scheduled meeting. At this meeting they get the most recent updates on resources ranging from apartment units available, to the amount of rent assistance funding available, to whether any shelter beds are available. They routinely share successes, but the majority of time is spent discussing and problem solving about the most difficult client situations they are working on. This July I sat in on these meetings.

July is typically our busiest month of the year, but this July broke all previous records in terms of the number of people waiting in our doorway every morning before the building opened, waiting in our lobby, all seeking help. We’ve seen a dramatic increase in the number of people needing rent assistance due to job lay-offs, termination of unemployment benefits, and catastrophic illness. The complexity of individual situations has increased, while resources available to us continue to diminish.

At one of these meetings one of our Housing Specialists staffed a client situation and then said: “I feel like all the people I’m seeing these days are refugees of the recession.” We were all struck by this expression, and asked him where he’d heard it. He just said he’d thought of it as being appropriate to what we are seeing – lost their job, lost their business, lost their home. One situation described a man who has a long work history but got laid off from his construction job because his company had insufficient work. He “timed out” of his unemployment, and his wife is undergoing treatment for a life threatening disease. He is now old enough to apply for early Social Security benefits, but it will take months to process the claim. They need help paying their rent in an apartment they’ve been in for years. Every story is unique, and each one is heartbreaking.

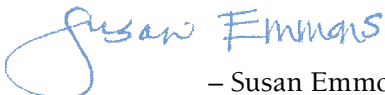
The highlight of each meeting is the sharing of success stories where staff members are able to tell about someone they have moved into permanent housing. From July 1, 2010

through June 30, 2011 there were 484 of these successes. As proud as we are of the number of people we’ve helped over the past year, we continue to be haunted by those we are forced to turn away – not because they are not eligible for our services, but because we do not have sufficient resources to help them.

With this issue of our newsletter we unveil a new look and updated logo emphasizing our new tagline: Housing Seniors, Creating Hope, Piloting Change. For 43 years NWPP has been known for its strong advocacy on behalf of the disenfranchised and forgotten people in our society, and we have led efforts to create change in our social service system, and preserve and develop housing for the very poor. Our efforts have made a difference in the lives of thousands of people, and changed the way our community views homelessness. Our major goal in the coming year is to develop a new sustainable resource of flexible rent assistance funds so that no one is turned away. We will need all of our partners and friends to be successful.

We recently received a gift of \$25 for our Emergency Fund from an 87 year old woman on a fixed income, who wrote that she wished it was a larger gift, but it was all she could afford. When I thanked her I told her that if everyone on our mailing list (4,000) sent us \$25 for our Emergency Fund – we would be thrilled beyond words, and could fulfill this year’s goal of helping more people.

Our work has never been harder, but it has never been more needed.

  
– Susan Emmons

*Ann Middleton*

## Our 2011 Angel Gives Her Time, Energy and Heart

Each year at our annual recognition event (see pages 12-13), we present an Angel Award to an individual who has made a long-term commitment to our work. It's our highest honor as we recognize someone who has been exceptional in the life of NWPP. This year's Angel Award was presented to Ann Middleton.

Ann is a social worker at Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital at the Rehabilitation Institute of Oregon, and this March she celebrated her 27th anniversary in this position. Her primary responsibilities are working with people who have spinal cord injuries or strokes. Ann has been a volunteer with NWPP for 22 years, and has served on our Board for 18 years. She's done everything a volunteer could do for us – she's provided transportation, she's walked in 22 Walk-A-Thons, and she brought up her son John at NWPP events. As a Board member, she has always had a keen interest in the day-to-day operations of the agency. She takes the initiative to buy bedding and hygiene supplies for our clients before being asked, and responds to any SOS for new bedding when our supplies are running low. The day we honored her, she arrived at the luncheon with new sheets. She has a heart of gold.

Over the years Ann has become one of our top fundraisers. Every spring she writes an annual letter of request to friends, family, colleagues, and a network of people who know her son John, asking all of them to sponsor her in our walk. It reads like a holiday letter as she updates everyone about her life and John's, but also about the



*Ann (center) with friends at Walk-a-thon*

life and work of NWPP. In this year's letter she wrote: "My involvement with NWPP has been such a part of my life and John's as well. He was in first grade when I joined the board. He loved volunteering with me, and his experiences tied in well with the expectations of Our Lady of the Lake and Jesuit for service to others."

She also includes in her letter "a reflection I wrote honoring the 25th anniversary of Susan Emmons as the Director of the NWPP. I think it captures the heart and integrity

of the agency and the work we do to help senior citizens who are poor and homeless or at risk of becoming homeless find safe, affordable housing. Supportive services including transportation to the grocery store and doctor appointments are also provided. I vouch for the fiscal prudence of NWPP. Administrative overhead is a low 12% of our budget. When you donate, your money goes primarily to immediately needed client services. I look forward to walking again this year and hope I can count on your support." Ann raised \$5,500 at this year's Walk-A-Thon.

Ann is one of those people who, when she entered our lives, immediately understood our mission, embraced it, and then figured out how she could be most helpful. When we presented Ann with her halo and angel wings at our April 5th luncheon she said: "It's been my privilege, and oh - the nuns who taught me would be so proud!"



*Ann Middleton, this year's Angel Award recipient, models her halo and wings.*

# Assistance Animals

Most people think of assistance animals as guide dogs or hearing assistance dogs. You might be surprised to know that The Americans with Disabilities Act recognizes a service animal as any guide dog, signal (hearing assistance) dog or other animal trained to provide assistance to an individual with a disability. You might also be surprised at how far assistance animals can go to help their owners. This assistance includes a dog that warns its owner of an impending seizure, an animal that assists with pulling and picking up things, an animal that provides emotional support and even an animal that aids in waking its owner during a sleep apnea phase.

These animals are no longer pets; according to the law, they are assistance animals for people with disabilities. They are still loved, pampered and cared for but they have jobs to do. Companion animals, service animals and therapy animals are different names for assistance animals. Today there are many more roles that assistance animals play with their owners. They help people live independently and live well.

Who says an animal functions as an assistance animal? A doctor, a therapist, a counselor, a social worker, or other official who will state that this animal provides a needed assistance to its owner. These assistance animals are accommodated in the owner's housing also. For instance, if a person is renting in a "no pets" building and becomes deaf, the person may make a request to the manager or owner

of the building that a signal dog be allowed to live with him or her. As long as the owner of the animal has the necessary paper work, the manager or owner must accommodate the renter and make an exception to the "no pets" policy.

There are a wide range of animals that assist their owners. It could be a cat that provides emotional support against isolation, a ferret, a hamster, a monkey or a bird and others that serve as particular help against disabilities.

Different assistance animals are trained to do different tasks. They are able to tell their owners when someone is at the door, retrieve a dropped item, assist with balance, tell the owner when the phone is ringing, or when the fire alarm is sounding. They can also help their owners deal well with stress, feel grounded and go outside. These animals stretch their roles beyond play to assessing a situation and acting upon it to help their owners. Sometimes they teach themselves how to recognize a situation in which their owners need them.

*"She heals people just by being around them."*

— Linda Williams, describing her dog

Margaret is a white, 16 year old Chihuahua-Jack Russell Terrier mix who is an assistance animal to Linda Williams. Linda and Margaret have been together a long time. At 7 weeks old, Margaret's special spirit started helping a young man heal



Linda Williams with her dog, Margaret

from AIDS. "Margaret has always been a healer," says Linda. "She heals people just by being around them."

Linda's life was going well until she lost her job. Then she began a familiar spiral of not finding work, ultimately losing her home and living in her car. Margaret was with her the whole time.

When Linda had a fall, breaking her ribs and puncturing a lung, Margaret had to live with a friend while Linda was in the hospital. Linda then went to a nursing home and assisted living followed. Margaret visited in the nursing home. Linda worked with her doctor and received a reasonable accommodation for Margaret. Margaret was then able to stay with Linda in assisted living.

What was the reasonable accommodation for? Margaret alleviates Linda's breathing condition by relaxing Linda. Linda consciously and unconsciously pets Margaret



Gary Wyatt and Duchess

*“She keeps me stable so my housing stays stable. My life is much better with her around.”*

— Gary Wyatt talking about Duchess

look at some puppies.” Duchess is a small, red cattle dog and, as a puppy, Gary chose her over her 5 brothers and sisters. But that turned out to be a bad time for Gary. He became emotionally unstable and felt unable to care for the little pup. He gave Duchess to his neighbor who wanted her. Gary found, however, that once he was stable, he really cared about Duchess and wanted another chance. “She didn’t trust me though. I had let her down,” Gary said.

Duchess returned to live with Gary but did not warm up to him. She didn’t really follow directions and didn’t spend much time around him. When her pregnancy came to full term and she started to deliver 8 puppies, Gary was there and helping her. “After that, we were inseparable,”

Gary said. “She is always by my side, affectionate and loving.”

Gary has a reasonable accommodation for Duchess. She keeps him on an even keel emotionally and helps him with sleep apnea. She wakes Gary when he stops breathing. “She picked up on the sleep apnea on her own,” says Gary. Duchess senses when Gary needs comfort and support and easily gives it, adding the vital companionship and stability his life needed. “I always feel better,” Gary says. “She keeps me stable so my housing stays stable. My life is much better with her around.”



Margaret and Duchess are two special animals with special skills that are invaluable to their owners. These assistance animals help stabilize the environments they are in and bring joy to their owners and others around them. With reasonable accommodations, assistance animals can help in many aspects of a disabled person’s life.

most of the time, and that keeps Linda calm and her breathing regular. Linda avoids complicated breathing issues and emergency room visits with Margaret’s help. Linda and Margaret are quite a team. Margaret keeps Linda moving through life.

Linda and Margaret have permanent housing now and are very secure. Linda states, “Margaret gets lots of love too. When I go downstairs all alone, all I hear is ‘where’s Margaret, where’s Margaret?’” On the few occasions that Linda must leave Margaret in the apartment, Margaret has a baby sitter. Margaret has separation anxiety and does not like being left alone. Both take care of each other.



Six years ago, Gary Wyatt needed a dog. He didn’t know it, but his daughter did. “I had just come to Oregon and someone stole my dog Ginger. My daughter thought I should



NWPP takes Taft Home residents to Cannon Beach in August. For more on our Transportation Program, see article on page 7.

# What's Affordable Housing?

At Northwest Pilot Project we are often asked how we define affordable housing. The expression has become so widely used, it is now applied to housing that serves a broad range of income levels. In response to this question we have started to publish an annual update of the income levels of the people we work with and what they can afford to pay for their monthly rent. You'll find this information listed below.

The people served through our Housing Program reflect a broad spectrum of backgrounds, careers, and work histories. We work with people who were bank tellers, nurses, teachers, long distance truckers, custodians, bookkeepers, construction workers, cooks, farm laborers, veterans, waitresses, loggers, and social workers. What they hold in common



*The Admiral Apartments in downtown Portland houses low-income seniors. Photo by Sally Painter/ REACH Community Development.*

is that they are now living on an income of \$985 per month or less. They are people who worked hard all their lives, but did not have retirement benefit plans attached to their

jobs, and are now living on a limited Social Security, a Supplemental Security Income, or a Veteran's Pension.

When NWPP published its first Downtown Portland Affordable Housing Inventory in 1994, it included 77 buildings and 4,554 units. Our 2011 inventory includes 43 buildings and 3,245 units, and is available at our website: [www.nwpilotproject.org](http://www.nwpilotproject.org)

We publish our inventory to inform the public about the continued loss of affordable housing in our community; and to report on the drastic shortage of housing for the very poor. This is why we continue to work so hard to preserve every building we have, and to agitate for the development of new housing that is truly affordable to the lowest income people in our community.

## Income Levels and Housing Affordability for NWPP Clients in 2011

Income Source	Monthly Income	Annual Income	Percent of 2011 Median Family Income (MFI)*	Affordable Monthly Rent**
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	\$ 674	\$8,088	16%	\$202
Employed half-time at minimum wage (\$8.50/hr)	\$737	\$8,840	18%	\$221
Social Security (average)	\$912	\$10,944	22%	\$274
Veteran's Pension	\$985	\$11,820	23%	\$296
Employed full-time at minimum wage (\$8.50/hr)	\$1,473	\$17,680	35%	\$442

\* \$50,400 annual income is the 2011 Median Family Income (MFI) for a single person in Multnomah County as determined by HUD (Department of Housing & Urban Development).

\*\* HUD defines *affordable rent* as paying no more than 30% of your income for housing.

## A Lifeline to Independence

Transportation is a key issue for our elderly friends who are struggling to maintain their independence. Many seniors are unable to access public transportation, and cannot afford taxi service. Seniors consistently rank transportation as one of the most difficult needs to fill. NWPP's Transportation Program is meeting this need by providing crucial rides to medical appointments, physical therapy, life-sustaining medical treatments such as chemotherapy and dialysis, grocery shopping, banking, and other personal errands.

Wayne McIlhenny, NWPP's Transportation Coordinator, joined our staff in June 2006. He is highly regarded by the people who receive transportation services from him, who describe Wayne as: reliable, thoughtful, professional, a good driver, and someone they feel safe with.

We have also been told that our program is unique because of how personalized the service is for each individual. One regular rider wrote us saying: "Wayne doesn't just drop me at the curb when we get to my doctor's office. He takes me in because he knows I need that extra support. He's very aware of what each of us needs individually. I see him with others doing the same things he does for me. It's wonderful."

Wayne develops long-term relationships with the people he drives. In spite of the difficulties of driving in traffic, and the challenges of navigating in downtown Portland with multiple street closures, and sewer projects, Wayne says the hardest part of his job is losing people. "We work with an older population and many of them are frail. I get attached to the people I drive. One of the things I struggle with is loss."

In addition to the day-to-day transportation schedule, Wayne organizes monthly outings for our elderly friends who live at The Taft, located in downtown Portland at 1337 S.W. Washington. The Taft is home to 77 men and women who are receiving "retirement care." The residents receive 24 hour medical care, are medically and mentally fragile, and most are without families. They are also among the poorest of the poor.

This spring and summer Wayne, with the help of our Volunteer Program Coordinator, Dena Chilikos, made



Northwest Pilot Project's Transportation Coordinator, Wayne McIlhenny (left) goes the extra mile in driving people, making sure they get safely to their destinations.

*"They love these trips and wouldn't get out of the city if it wasn't for Northwest Pilot Project."*

— Leroy VanBergh, Activities Director, The Taft

it possible for residents of The Taft to go to the Wooden Shoe Tulip Festival, Blue Lake Park, Kelly Point Park, Bonneville Dam, and Cannon Beach on the Oregon Coast. Wayne plans the trips in response to specific requests made by the Taft residents. Leroy VanBergh, the Activity Director at the Taft has told us how residents eagerly anticipate these monthly outings. "They love these trips and wouldn't get out of the city if it wasn't for Northwest Pilot Project."

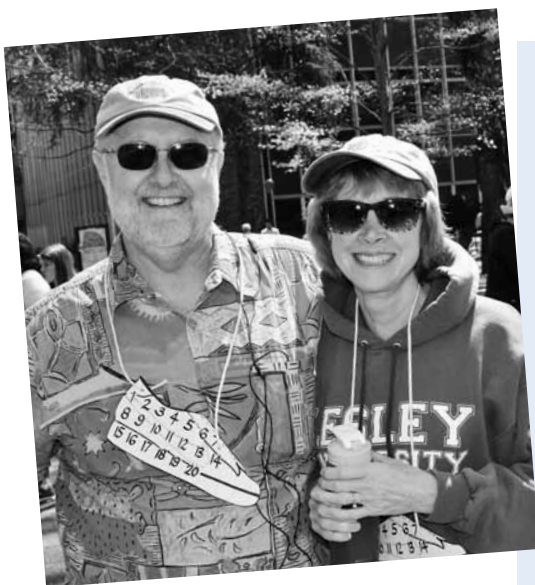
Ride Connection provides crucial funding for NWPP's Transportation Program, and we are grateful to the individuals, businesses, and foundations that provide additional support to make this program possible.



# NWPP's Community Turns Out for Walk-A-Thon

Thanks to **231 walkers, 20 businesses, 8 churches, 2 synagogues, 13 teams, over 2,000 people who sponsored walkers**, and our **corporate sponsors**, this year's Walk-A-Thon raised **\$150,000** for the programs and services of Northwest Pilot Project. We are thrilled with this result! Our thanks to all of our wonderful walkers, people who sponsored walkers, individuals and groups who purchased big feet, and all the businesses that give us their support. Our special thanks to **Hollowdog**, the band that donated their time and talent, for providing us with terrific music at this year's walk.

For more information about Hollowdog, please visit their website: [www.hollowdogmusic.com](http://www.hollowdogmusic.com)



## Corporate Sponsors

NWPP's 2011 Walk-A-Thon was our 32nd walk, and our biggest and best ever. With the help of our corporate sponsors we are able to use the money we raise to meet specific needs in our community rather than pay overhead. This year's major sponsors include:

**Income Property Management**

**Geffen Mesher**

**Dunn Carney Allen Higgins & Tongue LLP**

**The Partner's Group**

**Concepts in Community Living**

**West Coast Bank and West Coast Bank Trust Department**

# 2011 Walk-A-Thon All Stars

## Grand Prize Winner Ruth Schuld Raises \$6,745



Ruth Schuld is one of the most enthusiastic and successful fundraisers we have ever known. Ruth has been participating in our Walk-A-Thon since 1997 and this year she broke all of her previous records raising \$6,745 and winning our grand prize. In fifteen years of walking for NWPP she's raised a total of \$55,211. Ruth had 190 individuals, families, and businesses sponsor her.

She celebrated her 90th birthday several weeks after our Walk-A-Thon.



## Walk-A-Thon Teams

- Kairos United Church of Christ, \$11,100
- Livestrong Strength, \$4,773
- Fire Rockets, \$4,747
- Heights at Columbia Knoll, \$1,855
- PSU Wonder Women, \$1,730
- Central Lutheran Church, \$1,372
- Partner's Group, \$1,285
- Team Workmeister, \$805
- Knight Walkers, \$613
- Gresham Cub Scout Pack 289, \$465
- Income Property Management, \$420
- Lucky Lab, \$223
- Greenway Adult Care, \$140

## Prize Winners

The following walkers won first prize in their age group raising the most money of anyone their age:

Age	Name, Amount Raised	Age	Name, Amount Raised
0-4	Freya Read, \$308	30-55	Eian Petry, \$1,413
5-9	Alexa Block, \$605	56-74	Jane Gott, \$3,118
10-15	Karly Weinstock, \$695	75+	Ben Jacobson, \$3,405
16-29	Andrew Rudman, \$5,357		



## Business Supporters

We are also extremely grateful to all of the businesses listed below for their generous support of NWPP and our Walk-A-Thon.

### Bristol Equities

- J.D. Fulwiler
- McDonald Jacobs, PC
- Huber's Café
- Escape from New York Pizza
- Susan Utterback, CPA
- Providence Portland
- Cantel Sweeping
- East Side Motel
- City Liquidators
- PGE
- The Heights at Columbia Knoll
- Hot Lips Pizza



# Thanks to all our 2011 walkers

They came in strollers, and with walkers, as teams, and in families, as church groups, high school groups, and friends. Our walkers ranged in age from the newly born to 95. Some of our walkers have been with us for thirty years, some have just begun. We are grateful to every walker for getting a pledge sheet, seeking people to sponsor them, coming to our walk, and participating in our work. 100 percent of the money raised by our wonderful walkers goes directly to help low-income and homeless seniors, because all of the Walk-A-Thon expenses are covered by our event sponsors.

Jory Abrams  
Penelope Allen  
Beulah Anderson  
Donna Arentz

Herminia Arias  
Eliana August  
Ansel Balmer  
Dan Balmer

Elliot Balmer  
Barbara Bariletti  
David Barringer  
Louise Beauchamp  
Lois Bergstrom  
Ramella Beugli  
Carol Blatner  
Ernest Blatner  
Alexa Block  
Samantha Block  
Ella Bogdanski  
Greta Bogdanski  
Patty Borst  
Kathy Brumwell  
Jim Brunke  
Susan Bryer  
Don Callender  
Maggie Campbell

Brenda Carpenter  
Avery Cenicerros  
Joe Cenicerros  
Pasha Cenicerros  
Kevin Charlston  
Vicky Charlston  
Peter Charlston  
Donna Childs  
Rebecca Childs  
Dena Chilikos  
Chris Christensen  
Denise Cooper  
Jennifer Cooperman  
Jason Coulthurst  
Jack Courtney  
Michael Coyle  
Arianna Cruz-Sellu  
Dayja Curry

Shaniece Curry  
Catherine Curtis  
Mary Daggett  
Paul Davis  
Karen Day  
Jon Decherd  
Nancy Decherd  
Felice Denis  
Susan Emmons  
Lillian Erdman  
Scarlet Erksa  
Rhiannon Etheredge  
Geneen Farmer  
Alice Fischer  
Denis Floyd  
Joyce Follingstad  
Patricia Fried  
Sarah Friel



Beth Gant  
 Leith Gerber  
 Todd Gergen  
 Peggy Gillpatrick  
 Carol Glad  
 Henry Glad  
 Margaret Glad  
 Sophie Glad  
 Susan Glen  
 Linda Goodman  
 Rick Gordon  
 Jane Gott  
 Pat Greenland  
 Bruce Greenwald  
 Marva Guenther  
 Macy Guppy  
 Kai Gutierrez  
 Kathy Haines  
 Mary Cal Hanson  
 Judith Heath  
 Rebecca Hein  
 Sydney Hendrickson  
 Charles Hill  
 Dov Hirschfield  
 Elisha Hirschfield  
 Shane Honish  
 Jackie Hultine  
 Ben Jacobson  
 Adam Johnson  
 Cole Johnson  
 Emma Johnson  
 Joan Johnson  
 Mark Johnson  
 Christie Jones  
 Jessie Jones  
 Kathy Jones  
 Mary Jones

Mykelle Jordan  
 Sharon Kent  
 Sarah Kirwin  
 Gordon Lam  
 Jes Larson  
 Dale Latham  
 Adair Law  
 Tracy, Ryan, & Lillian  
 Lawrence  
 Ross Lemen  
 Tamara Lewis  
 Loanda Lichtwardt  
 Burnie Lunsford  
 Teresa Mandzij  
 Betty Martin  
 Kellie Martin  
 Travis Martin  
 William Martin  
 Joanie McClellan  
 Kim Metcalf  
 Ann Middleton  
 Ella Miller  
 Alison Moore  
 Charlie Moore  
 Cindy Mosney  
 Dan Murphy  
 Judy Murphy  
 Lauren Murphy  
 Ryan Murphy  
 Wayne Naillon  
 Keaton Nash  
 Pauli Nash  
 Peyton Nash  
 Thom Nash  
 Christina Neault  
 Richard Newman  
 Sara Newman

Cherie Nomura  
 Fred Nomura  
 Steve Norcross  
 Jane Oakley  
 Don O'Leary  
 Courtney Olive  
 Kelly Olive  
 Linda Olsen  
 Judith O'Neill  
 Dorothy Oreste  
 Alisha Paden  
 Sheryl Pagenstecher  
 Tom Pagenstecher  
 Aubrey Palmer  
 Ethelyn Pankratz  
 Loren Pankratz  
 Hannah Park  
 Maxwell Park  
 Kathy Peabody  
 Richard Peabody  
 Eian Petry  
 Lauren Pfeffer  
 Carolyn Potts  
 David Potts  
 Jack Potts  
 Susan Potts  
 Andrea Powell  
 Laura Quinn  
 Fraser Rasmussen  
 Freya Read  
 Samina Reese  
 Ezra Rich  
 Sylvie Rich  
 DeeDee Richardson  
 Charlene Robertson  
 Andrew Rudman  
 Wendy Rudman



Sandra Russill  
 Yayoo Sado  
 Amy Schaffer  
 Nancy Scheele  
 Ruth Schuld  
 Heidi Scofield  
 Sia Sellu  
 Marina Shepard  
 Audrey Sigurdson  
 Holly Silver  
 Gary Sinnen  
 Elfreda Skidmore  
 Rick Skidmore  
 Caroline Smith  
 Colin Smith  
 Pat Squire  
 Elaine Stensrud  
 Leonard Stoffer  
 MaryAnna Stoffer  
 Judith T  
 Breeanna Taft  
 Lynn Taylor  
 Cora Traetow  
 Mary Traetow  
 Linda Tran  
 Trish Trout  
 Lizz Tully-Fern

Carla Valenzuela  
 Michelle Valenzuela  
 Pam Vetter  
 Erik Voiss  
 Tori Ward  
 Bobby Weinstock  
 Karly Weinstock  
 Jasper Welly  
 Sierra Welly  
 Sue West  
 Jane Westcott  
 Samantha Westcott  
 Taylor Westcott  
 Merrill Weyerhaeuser  
 Lorraine & Richard  
 Wheeler  
 Jeanne Whitbeck  
 Kinsey Wilson  
 Lydia Wilson  
 Workmeister Family  
 Amber Wright  
 Martha Wright  
 Pirrie Wright  
 Angela Wykoff  
 Andrea & Daniella  
 Young  
 Merrie Ziady



*Kairos UCC was our top team again this year and raised \$11,100.*

# Hats On to our Volunteers & Partners

Every year on the first Tuesday in April, Northwest Pilot Project hosts a luncheon to honor our amazing community of volunteers, church members, community groups, government employees, other social service organizations, building managers and owners, and NWPP board members – all of the people who make our work possible. We create hats, glasses and other items to recognize these incredible individuals. In *Song of Myself* the great American poet Walt Whitman wrote about “the numberless unknown heroes equal to the greatest heroes known.” On Tuesday, April 5, 2011, we honored some of our heroes.

**BILL WELCER** volunteers with NWPP an average of five hours each week. He’s willing to do anything to support our clients. He helps people with applications to apply for apartments, provides transportation to see the apartments, helps people move to a new apartment and set up their kitchen. We admire Bill’s ability to convey respect to everyone he works with.

Bill was the first volunteer involved in our Medical Advocacy Project, a very successful program where our clients who have health concerns and are without insurance, can have an appointment with a doctor at a free medical clinic. Bill has played a large part in the success of this project. He’s unflappable and has excellent judgment. He takes clients to the doctor or social worker, helps lessen their anxiety, and advocates for the clients with the medical staff. Many times our clients are not able to do this for themselves. We admire



Bill Welcer

Bill’s ability to handle any situation he’s given with ease, professionalism, and compassion. Our Housing Specialists rely on him, and trust him completely.

Recently Bill took the time to teach one of our clients to use the streetcar to get to an Oregon Health Sciences University clinic in South Waterfront. This is the type of thing our staff don’t have time to do but can greatly increase an individual’s independence and self reliance. We created a new



Sid Moberly and Priscilla Cowell from Trinity Episcopal Cathedral



Melissa Greeney, Multnomah County

hat and award this year to honor Bill. It’s called the **What a Gem Award**. We don’t know anyone who more richly deserves it.

**MELISSA GREENEY** is the Safety Net Specialist with Multnomah County’s Aging and Disability Services. One part of Melissa’s job is managing the Emergency Housing Assistance Fund of Multnomah County, and our staff contact her to get funds for emergency housing, medical equipment, and extreme housekeeping needs. What sets Melissa apart is her responsiveness to our calls and requests, her respect for our clients and commitment to seeing that clients get all possible services, her consistent willingness to do the work – to make the extra phone calls and ask the follow-up questions to make sure our combined efforts best serve the client. She understands our mission, supports our goals, and is dedicated to helping our mutual clients get the services they need in a system that can be confusing and



*José Barron, St. Francis team*

difficult to navigate. We presented Melissa with our prestigious **Housing with a Heart Award** because of what Melissa does every day to help our clients find housing and keep their housing. She truly is an angel with a safety net.

## TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

Northwest Pilot Project began working with Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Northwest Portland on a project called **SeniorConnect** in May 2009. Since its beginning, 569 seniors have participated in the SeniorConnect housing program. Of those, 191 seniors have received permanent housing placements, eviction prevention services, or transitional housing services. Trinity members sponsor a beautiful noon meal every Wednesday, and volunteers help with the meal, and sign people up to receive housing assistance. **Sid Moberly** and **Priscilla Cowell** have been actively involved with SeniorConnect since its beginning. We

honored them for their big vision and great hearts.

## ST. FRANCIS DINING HALL MEDICAL SERVICES TEAM

As members of the St. Francis Dining Hall Medical Services team, **Dr. Jim Thayer**, **Sharlene Rivers**, and **José Barron** provide medical services to homeless people who have no medical care or insurance – the forgotten people in our community. This team provides a crucial safety net for those who are most in need.

NWPP staff recognized that many of our clients needed medical care and were not receiving it because they did not have insurance or income. We approached the team at the St. Francis Dining Hall and they were willing to

provide four medical appointments with Dr. Thayer for NWPP clients each week. In addition, we refer clients to meet with Sharlene, who is a licensed clinical social worker. José is our contact person at the St. Francis and keeps everything running smoothly. We have referred people with a variety of undiagnosed or untreated illnesses and they have received immediate medical attention. Without exception, our clients report back to us about the kindness, compassion, and concrete help that they receive from the medical team at the St. Francis.

We honored them for years of great service to our community, as well as being incredible partners to NWPP and for being wizards at what they do.



**VICKI SCHMALL AND HER FRIENDS.** Vicki Schmall (front row, second from left) has been involved with our holiday stocking project for years, and every year she involves more of her friends. This past December we received 1,100 stockings and gift bags for NWPP seniors. 300 of these were provided by Vicki Schmall and her friends. Their stockings and bags were gorgeous – holding beautiful and useful items for our seniors. Many of the bags contained shirts and sweaters for men and women. The bags were all color coded with sizes, making it very easy for our Housing Specialists to grab the right bag for their clients. This group put imagination and love into every stocking and bag, even having gifts for people's cats and dogs.

## Celebrating Each Person

# Holiday Giving at Northwest Pilot Project

At Northwest Pilot Project, our goal during the holidays is that everyone we are involved with will be remembered. Many groups and individuals help us accomplish this by becoming involved in our holiday stocking project.

In 2010, during the month of December, NWPP staff members and volunteers distributed 1,100 stockings and gift bags to seniors involved in our housing and transportation programs. Some stockings go to individuals that may not have family close by, or are apartment bound. Some go to buildings that have a lot of seniors, some go to medical facilities, where seniors are alone. Every client at NWPP feels valued and thought of when they receive a stocking.

The stockings contain all kinds of goodies: candies, gifts, books, magazines, puzzles, candles, teas and coffees, mugs, soaps, flashlights, scarves, gloves, hats, socks, flannel shirts, fleece throws, and gift cards.



The stockings and gift bags that poured into our office last December were amazing. Some included jackets, shirts, and sweaters with labels indicating sizes and whether they were for women or men. Every year this project grows and new groups create new items. Last year a group made lovely hand-sewn fleece pillow cases to include in the stockings.

If you would like to participate in NWPP's Holiday Stocking Project, please see our list of suggested items at [www.nwpilotproject.org](http://www.nwpilotproject.org), click on Volunteer, then click on Volunteer Opportunities, Holiday Stockings. Or, call our office: 503-227-5605 and request the list be mailed to you. We need three times as many men's stockings as women's stockings. Completed stockings can be dropped off at NWPP, 1430 SW Broadway, Suite 200. Contact Dena Chilikos with any questions at 503-478-6861 or by email: [dena@nwpilotproject.org](mailto:dena@nwpilotproject.org)

### Gift Cards: Another Great Way to Give

Most of our seniors have income problems, and these income problems can prevent them from enjoying their favorite holiday foods. You can be the solution to this problem by purchasing holiday gift cards. Gift cards to local grocery stores are an essential part of our Holiday Stockings (Fred Meyer's and Safeway are best for our clients). These gift cards provide our seniors with a way to purchase holiday treats that are normally unavailable to them.

Gift cards are perfect for those of us with a willingness to give during the holidays, but not a lot of time to shop. You can simply purchase the gift cards and drop them off at NWPP's office, 1430 SW Broadway, Suite 200. Our dream again this year is to have a \$20 gift card in every stocking for ever senior. For more information contact Dena Chilikos (503-478-6861) or email her at: [dena@nwpilotproject.org](mailto:dena@nwpilotproject.org)

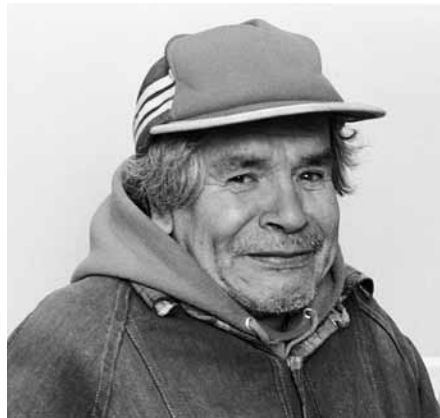


*We need three times as many men's stockings as women's*

# NWPP Housing Program Focuses on Permanence

Northwest Pilot Project has been providing personalized housing placement services for elderly, disabled, homeless, and poor people for 42 years. We believe that every individual in our community deserves to live in decent, safe, accessible housing that is affordable to them, no matter what their income is. We emphasize an approach that includes understanding the situation of each person we work with, and respecting their dignity, and uniqueness as individuals.

We are interested in outcomes, and knowing whether our services do lead to housing stability and permanence. We know we are achieving phenomenal success rates, because we stay connected with people for years. Over the fourteen year period from July 1, 1997 through June 30, 2011, NWPP staff helped 6,166 people to find and keep permanent housing, and 88% of these people are successful in their housing over the long term.



## NWPP's Emergency Fund Responds to Urgent Needs

Every year Northwest Pilot Project touches the lives of 3,000 elderly, disabled, homeless and poor people. As the demand for our services continues to grow, our challenge is greater than ever before to maintain our vital services, and to continue to respond to unmet needs in our community.

This year we have set a goal of raising \$200,000 for our Emergency Fund. The Emergency Fund is used to pay for housing application fees, housing

deposits, moving expenses, furniture, medical expenses such as prescriptions and emergency care, rental payments for seniors in crisis, bus tickets for job search, and meal vouchers. These resources are crucial to the success of our Housing Program, and our ability to respond quickly to people who come to us in crisis. All donations to NWPP's Emergency Fund directly benefit the people we serve.

During the past year we've experienced a dramatic increase in the number of seniors coming to us seeking help to pay their rent due to: job lay-offs, termination of unemployment benefits, foreclosures, and catastrophic illnesses. The need is greater than ever before.

We need your support so that we can continue to respond to the increase in need in our community. Please use the coupon below and the return envelope in this newsletter to make a gift to NWPP's Emergency Fund.



**Yes! I want to contribute to NWPP's Emergency Fund.**

\$25     \$50     \$100     \$500     \$1,000     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my credit card  VISA  MasterCard

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this coupon in the attached return envelope to NWPP, 1430 SW Broadway, #200, Portland, OR 97201

You can easily give online too! Visit our website at [www.nwpilotproject.org](http://www.nwpilotproject.org)

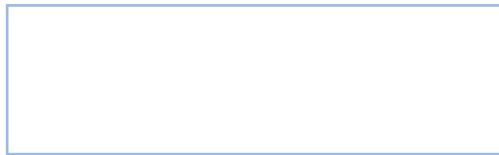


## NORTHWEST PILOT PROJECT

1430 SW Broadway • #200 • Portland, OR 97201  
(503) 227-5605 • www.nwpilotproject.org

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 1729  
Portland, OR

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



*Save the Date!*

# December 4th Concert Will Benefit NWPP

On Sunday, December 4, at 2:00 p.m., a wonderfully talented and generous group of musicians, will be hosting a benefit concert for NWPP’s Emergency Fund. This is the third year that the concert, called **Harpers for Housing**, has raised money to help our clients. The organizer, Kathleen Staub, has been a supporter of NWPP for years. She owns Arpeggio Harps and Music and has been teaching for over ten years. Last year’s concert was packed with people enjoying the beautiful music of harps, mandolins, French horn, guitar and voice. Many of us who attended felt it was the most beautiful music we heard during the whole holiday season. The concert raised \$1,500 for NWPP’s Emergency Fund.

The concert will be held at Lincoln Street United Methodist Church at 52nd and S.E. Lincoln. We will be posting it on our website and Facebook page closer to the date. Please save this date, enjoy some lovely music, and help raise funds to help seniors with housing.



This quote from the Harpers for Housing program last year epitomizes the thoughtfulness of these musicians:

*“If there is a kindness I can show,  
or any good thing I can do to any fellow being,  
let me do it now, and not defer or neglect it,  
as I shall not pass this way again”*

– William Penn