



HARD TIMES SUPPER NEEDS A NEW HOME

For 38 years Pat Schweibert has facilitated an army of volunteers and marshalled the resources to feed and serve SE Portland's homeless and marginalized communities. This has been possible through the generous support of individuals and neighbors as well as deep partnership with churches like Bridgeport UCC, Unity Church, Lake Oswego United Methodist, Hope Korean Presbyterian and Oregon Food Bank. And, certainly Metanoia Peace Community United Methodist Church has been at the helm of structuring this work and will continue to be the lead fiscal sponsor. These partnerships are deepening and growing as we find those that want to partner with our work. It is not an overstatement to say that the consistency of these offerings and willingness to always do more has touched generations of Portlanders. 38 years. In June 2019, after holding space in the Sunnyside Methodist Church at 35th and Yamhill for years, our vital services were given 90 days to vacate the space. The "why" is a long story that ends with a situation familiar to the people we often serve...being told to find some place else to be.. This work needs a new home. And in the meantime, we're not done. Will you help us? It is clear that the work is not done and we are not done with the work. As we move out, our ongoing work with homeless and marginalized folks will be known as Beacon PDX. We are a project within the Metanoia Peace Community work and are committed to fostering connections with the friends we already know. The heart of our work has always been the individuals we support. It's Dondee that desperately needed a shower today when the park closed theirs for the season. It's Lorrie who works the midnight shift at Freddie's and needs a place to lay his head during the day time. It's Val who lives in a tent near 205 who needs a meal. It's Leroy who had an infection in his eye before we got him to a doctor. This we can do without a roof over our head. This we can do with creativity and dedication. This, we can do with your support. A core team of volunteers made up of individuals from across the city and from each of our partner congregations will each be taking a few friends into our "family". We will: Offer supportive relationships Commit to regular meeting

in making and keeping appointments
Aid in filling out paper work
Help navigating city services
Connect people with needed health care
Provide an address for mail and obtaining IDs
Host regular support group meetings
Support in goal-setting and making plans
Meet people where they are without judgement.
We will start with a number folks who we have already been supporting outside the walls of Sunnyside. We will be advocates and informal case managers without any of the bureaucracy that so often gets in the way. We will give hugs when needed, provide transportation without trouble, and a listening ear without judgement. Additionally we will find our way into parks and community centers for pop-up meals and offerings to a larger community. This will continue to be a way for our friends to come say hi and get a meal, to touch in and ask for help if needed. Over time we will take on more family members as our trainings and volunteer pool increases and our ability to help folks gets increasingly streamlined. But what we really want, is a home--a stable place where we can tell people, "You are supposed to be here". Where we can meet them where they are and help folks find a new sense of stability and possibility.
Why should you support? Why should you spread the word? What do we do?
Portland is in crisis and more Portlanders are forced to live in crisis because of it. A recent report estimated that there are at least 38,000 people living on the streets in our area last year. On any given night there are upwards of 4,000 people sleeping outside in our city. There are not enough beds, not enough shelters open, not enough supportive services, and nowhere near what we need in terms of

Donation



for people living on the margins. The primary experiences for folks living on Portland's streets, in parks, in cars, and on friends couches is one of displacement and impermanence. We want to change that experience by offering a consistent place of connection and community where all are welcome. Our goal is to meet the basic needs of our neighbors in need. We know we can't solve



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home for which we need 1.5 million. Can you help us?