

The Holiday Season is upon us. We pray that these coming months that our communities will be blessed with their needs being meet acts, of kindness will be seen and a brighten spirit.

Last year, Gg's House did our 1st ever Christmas Drive Through Party for children and their families. It was a huge event with a lot of fun and fond memories and connects made with others community organizations, many group volunteers and individual volunteers.

You might be wondering why you are not seeing the signup for a 2nd Christmas event this year.

We have decided that with other organization being able to take care of toys & gifts for the children in need. We would go in a different direction we have set a lofty goal of providing gifts for the local Nursing Homes, Assisted living, Group homes, etc. We have already started making and delivering gifts now and will continue until we have made it to everyone on our list. As we decided it is not just for the holidays, but to show these elderly people that they are not forgotten all year. As we know this last year has been harder on them with no visitors allowed and at times confined to their rooms.

The last count we have was 797 elderly in the ones that we have contacted so far. We are having community members help by volunteering to make lap blankets, dementia sleeves, adult bibs, bring little gifts (like crossword puzzle books, deck of cards, non slip slipper socks, etc) We are hoping to get an interactive pet (joy for all) for each center. If you are interested in help us spread cheer to these elderly through out the year, please feel free to give us a call.

Besides this we are helping local schools with items for their Christmas Stores and wrapping paper. We are also partnering with some of our Mentors to provide Christmas for their clients. As the clients in these programs can't work as treatment is full time but we know being in recovery is a very tough job in it self without having to worry about how they will get gifts for their children.

We also have another idea cooking on our back burner. We would like to start a type of pals for the elderly in our communities. We know some of the elderly could write back to the pal and some wouldn't be able to, but we think they would all be tickled to receive a card, a letter, a child's drawing monthly. We are in the planning stage of getting this started. If you or your family would be interested in being a pal please email us at ggshouse@yahoo.com, subject line Elderly Pals. We will email you back once we have the details worked out.

We will definitely help others that we didn't list. Know we are doing our best to brighten people days through out the year. We would like to thank all of the people that have helped or will help Gg's House put smiles on faces.

Are you interested in volunteering or supporting Gg's House?

- 1. Pick items from below to donate
- 2. Become a monthly donor
- 3. Hold an item drive (ex. Towel Drive)

Items always needed

Backpacks for adults & kids Bandages

Bath Towels Bar Soap (travel size & regular)

Batteries Clear Storage Totes

Diapers Dish Soap
Kitchen Towels Laundry Soap

Pots & Pans Sanitary Feminine Products Shampoo & Conditioner Shower Curtains & Rings

Silverware Sleeping Bags Toothbrushes & Toothpaste Wash Clothes

Contact Gg's House for more details.

We accept donations only on <u>Tuesdays and Wednesdays</u> during regular hours unless pre-arranged. Please do not drop off donations when we are closed.

Gg's House depends solely on donations (and grants) in order to continue our mission helping those in need. Currently, we're able to accept your financial donation using one of the following methods:

- *Cash
- *Checks
- *Venmo- Search for either Angel Sheets or ggshouse
- *Paypal—Send it to ggshouse@yahoo.com or use 503-359-3871
- *Facebook-Donation Button on our Gg's House Facebook page
- *Set up a reoccurring payment to Gg's House at your bank

Thank you to our monthly donors for being a "Piece of our Puzzle"

Would you like to start receiving our newsletter electronically?

If you would, please send your email address to ggshouse@yahoo.com

Volunteer Spotlight





This spotlight is different as I am taking it over to thank some of the people who I have the privilege to work with, consider my friends, make my job easier.

We have awesome set of core volunteers who always been willing to roll with the changes with a smile. Angel and I were plotting to allow her to be with her grandbaby they all volunteered to make sure that happen. I suggested new hours, they all said "Let's give it a try" When we change stuff around or how to do it for the 10th time, they just do it without much fuss. They encourage me to be better, supportive and make me smile.

Maxine, Tom, Ron & Becky, Becca, Donna, Krystal and her family I love you all dearly.

We have had other volunteers come in and out for community service hours, school hours, and other reasons. I want to thank you as the tasks you did for us, allowed us to continue doing what we do without us having us get behind or not being able to do other things.

Thank you for picking Gg's to do your hours.

Thank you to the 3 people that come weekly to pick up our expired food for their pigs and tolerate us saying "the pig lady or the pig guy is here" without you we'd be buried in a stinky mess.

Thank you for taking our mess and doing it with a smile,

I have to thank **Rochelle** who is always willing to come with a hug when I call for help when we have more food than room, Without you it would be more stressful and food would go to waste. Thank you my friend.

To our wonderful board Cindy, Diana, Melanie, Sheila and Terri. These awesome ladies keep us grounded, our sounding board, and are very supportive of Gg's House. They help us with our ideas even when it may not be as organized as they wish. Without each of you doing what you do, it would be bumpier, things would fall through the cracks and it would not be as fun,

Thank you my Gg's House Sisters

Thank You to Angel & Steve for allowing me to become a big part of Gg's House. For trusting me to run Gg's when you can't be there. I'm honored and humbled.

Steve drives many miles weekly to pick up 7 loads of products from different store, plus he does errands we send him on. Plus he's our heavy lifter and mover, maintenance man and much more plus keeping us laughing along with being a Preacher and having another full time job.

He's one of the hardest working and giving person I know.

Thank you for all you do for me and becoming my extra brother

Angel is the heart of Gg's. She will always build others up and say she can only take credit for making a mess. (which isn't true) Without Angel Gg's wouldn't be as amazing as it is. She always thinks outside of a box on ways to help people and we are privileged to help make her ideas happen. At times she goes to Gg's at 3am to get stuff done so it is not left for others to do, her phone rings of the hook most days (weekends included) with people asking for help and if she can she'll answer. I have seen her give a person her very own shoes she was wearing that day and other items from her house because they needed the items more than she did.

She taught me to look outside of the box, be more spontaneous, to worry less and be more giving. I love you MORE and you became my little sister for life

-Tina (Gg's Treasurer)

Questions & Blessings

At Gg's House we get questions and blessing daily. We decided to share some with you.

Blessing: A phone call a lady asked what does Gg's House Need. We rattle off the standard items of hygenie, blankets, coats, and they lady said keep going. We said would you like us to email you a list? She said perfect and make it a great list. We have no idea what it was for or when we might get items, but we are blessed to have people inqure of what we need.

Question: Your staff must be paid well as they are at Gg's daily. They are busy but very cheerful.

Our staff is totally volunteer. No one and Gg's house is paid. We have amazing volunteers with giving heart. As agencies that do have paid staff can't believe our staff work so many hours without compensation.

Blessing: Homeless clients that we have known and helped with food and clothes for months or even years, Come share with us that they are getting into an apartment and we get to help them with items for their new home.

Question: How do I know what Gg's has, if I can't come in? Gg's philosophy is if your in a real need of an item you will know what to put on your list or ask for. We are here to be an hand up not a hand out. If we let people in they would then see wants which might be a need for someone else.

Blessing: Community Members who will bring us stuff that have hand made (such as baby blankets, bowl holders, lap blankets, hats, wooden toys) to give to our clients. They never ask us for anything in return. Wee are just luckily to have them donate these items to us that they took time to make.

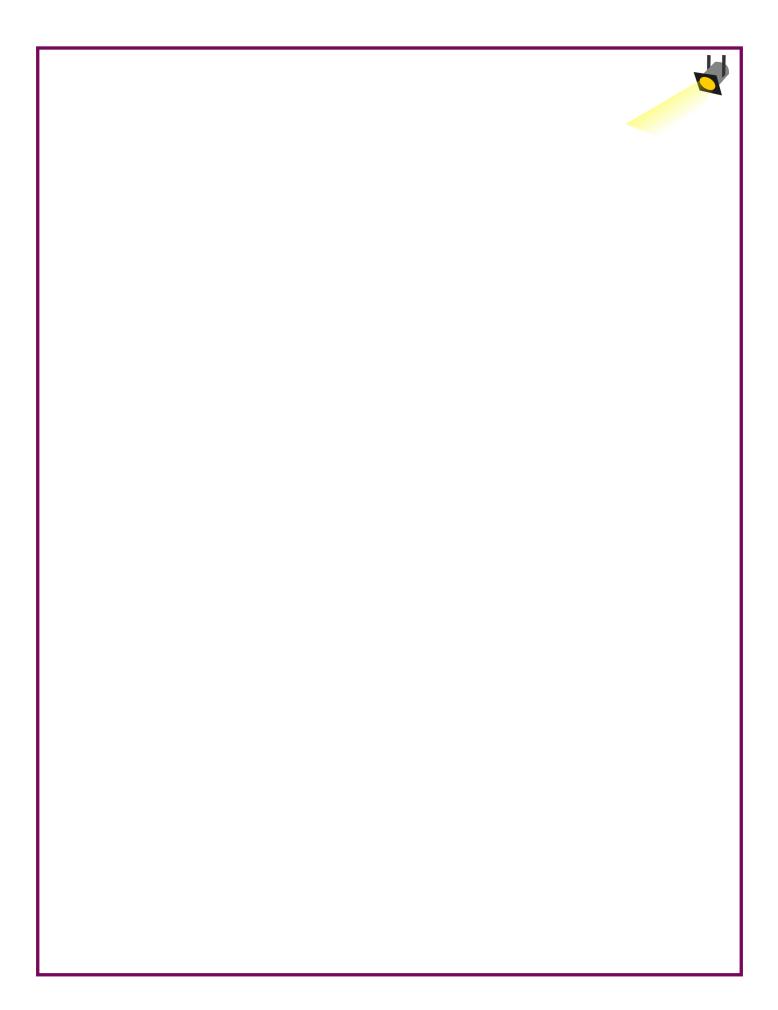
Question: Why do I only get _____.I asked for this_____ and that____.and ____. At Gg's we believe that we are here to over a hand up or get you through until your next payday. We don't always have a lot of a certain item. We do our best to share as there are many people in need, so you might only get 1 kitchen appliance, 1 blanket, 1 roll of TP, etc

Blessing: Our wonderful financial donors. bills. Some of these donors we are privileged to know others we have never meet or spoken to. Without this support we couldn't pay our bills and continue what we do at Gg's House.

We would love to hear questions from you!

Please send us questions to ggshouse@yahoo.com. Subject line Newsletter Questions

We will do our best to answer any and all questions.





Gg's House New Hours

We are hopeful that our new hours will help us serve more people. We will try these hours until January and see if it works, if not we will revisit them.

Please let us know what you think.

Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00am-2:00pm Wednesdays & Fridays 12:00pm-6:00pm

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Find us on Facebook Gg's House

Love Story:

Lately we have seen clients that come to our door ready and willing to help us unload a donation from someone else that has pulled up to donate items, to helping our volunteer flatten cardboard to offering to help unload a truck. This last week we had about 5 different clients (a homeless, 2 families, a single gentleman and a mentor came to our door at the same time. While they were waiting and writing lists of what they needed. I heard them talking with each other, sharing the tablet and pen to make their lists and no one was impatient as we got orders ready as we could, not necessarily in the order they came in as some needed more that others. As each order came out the held the door open so our volunteer could get the box or cart out. They also helped one another load their items in their car if they needed help. It was great for us at Gg's House to see and hear the sense of community. It was refreshing!

"And do not forget to do good and share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased" -Heb 13v16.