



The Giving House

At Gg's House we believe that every child deserves a special Christmas! With that in mind, we are planning a Christmas Party with Santa on December 19, 2020.

To make this party happen we are asking the communities of Western Washington County to donate new unwrapped gifts for children 0-18years of age.

The gift of a new toy or other item, something most children take for granted, will mean so much to a child in need. Our goal is to let those children know that someone cares and that they have not been forgotten during the holiday season.

Not in the mood to shop but would still like to help, a monetary donation is always appreciated and it will be used to directly help a child.

We have set up gift donation boxes at the following locations or you can mail your donations to P.O. Box 3 Gaston, OR 97119

Gg's House...2835 19th Avenue Space 700, Forest Grove, OR 97116

Black Dog... 2835 19th Avenue Space 900, Forest Grove, OR 97116

Heaton & Company...1927 Pacific Avenue, Forest Grove, OR 97116

John L. Scott Market Center of Forest Grove... 1936 Pacific Ave, Forest Grove, OR 97116

John L. Scott Market Center of Hillsboro... 855 NE 25th Ave, Hillsboro, OR 97124

Western Iron Works... 102 Onion Lane, Gaston OR 97119

The final pickup of these boxes will be somewhere around December 12th so we can prepare for our party with Santa, who we are lucky enough to have join us

Remember to complete a registration form...

Registration Deadline is December 7, 2020.

The Party will be held at:

Crossroad Church
1531 Pacific Avenue
Forest Grove, OR 97116
Saturday December 19th 10am-2pm

Because of COVID we will be scheduling appointment times. Once we have your registration we will be contacting you with your time to attend our party.

If you want more information please contact us by texting or calling (503) 707-7404, email gghouse@yahoo.com. or on Facebook





We have been very busy

In the previous newsletter we gave you an update on how we continued to help those in need during the COVID pandemic. In addition to families struggling due to COVID, the WILDFIRES hit Oregon and Gg's House had the resources to help.

The day after the fires hit we had fire victims come to Gg's House who had lost virtually everything. They were able to leave with clothing, coats, bedding, personal hygiene products, food, tents and much more. During the wildfires we were able to help by sending car loads of items to evacuation centers, keeping our doors open later to fill requests coming in and comforting those who just needed to talk about losing everything that was dear to them.

Our wonderful community dropped off donations of blankets, diapers, hygiene products, water, and so much more. Because of generous donations, we were able to get items into the hands of those needing them the most.

We want to give a huge THANK YOU to everyone who donated such needed supplies and who helped drive items to the evacuation centers and other places.

After the fires calmed down, we had teachers and parents reaching out to us for school supplies. We were able to send pickup loads of supplies to schools in Portland and our local teachers were able to get car loads of supplies too. Parents also were able to get supplies they needed as well as encouragement from our volunteers

Our food pantry has been bursting at the seams with donations. We now have a total of 6 donated refrigerators/ freezers and have been supplying over stuffed food boxes daily. An average food box will contain meat, can foods, dry goods, fruit and vegetables, bread and desserts. We never know what food will be donated, so our boxes are different each and every day.

One restriction of COVID is not accepting items (and other services have actually closed)So, Gg's House has seen a significant increase in donated items. These items were taking up too much of our limited space making it hard for our volunteers to inventory incoming donated items and fill outgoing requested items. Gg's House has had to rent additional storage space. The additional storage helps us sort and store seasonal items we don't currently need at Gg's House, but will in future.

We continue to evolve as the need of our communities change. We are still taking appointments while keeping social distancing guidelines in place.



Volunteer Corner

We really appreciate our wonderful volunteers here at Gg's House. Because of COVID we have unfortunately been limited to our core volunteers.

They have been instrumental in helping us keep up with the high demands of the last few HECTIC months. They show up daily with a smile and a "Get to work" attitude. Loading, unloading, sorting and putting away donated items, filling orders, hauling cardboard, and any task asked of them. Gg's House is able to do what we do, because of God, our wonderful volunteers and donors.

If you would like to be a piece of our forever growing puzzle, there are ways to support us. One way is to become a monthly sponsor like one generous individual who is contributing a portion of our monthly storage rental fee. You can pick what you would like to sponsor, and we will put your monthly donation to good use. Other ways to become a valuable piece of our puzzle are listed below.

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
Bath Towels
Batteries
Diapers
Kitchen Towels
Pots & Pans
Shampoo & Conditioner
Silverware
Toothbrushes & Toothpaste

Bandages
Bar Soap (travel size & regular)
Clear Storage Totes
Dish Soap
Laundry Soap
Sanitary Feminine Products
Shower Curtains & Rings
Sleeping Bags
Wash Clothes

Contact Gg's House for more details.



Volunteer Spotlight

We will occasionally put the spotlight on one of our amazing volunteers.

The first volunteer we want to shine the SPOTLIGHT on is Maxine. She has been a volunteer since Angel and Steve began “The Lighthouse” in their garage. She has been there through all the moves and she continues to come and volunteer at Gg’s House with her no nonsense, get it done attitude, and her support.

You will find Maxine in her chair sorting, marking and testing items. She is a very hard worker who is hardly ever idle. If we are not quick at providing a new task when she finishes one, she’ll dive right in to our ever growing sock bin and start mating socks until she is asked to do another task. We appreciate you, Maxine.



*Thank You Maxine
for all you do for
Gg’s House!!*

A Special Love Story

We will typically only have one “Love Story” in each newsletter, but the following warrants a “Special Addition”.....

After Jacquelyn passed, her mother honored us with the donation of some of her daughters’ precious belongings. In typical fashion, Angel made her mother feel so much love and support, that she not only shared a part of her beautiful daughter’s belongings, but also Jacquelyn’s inspiring story:



Jacquelyn Marie Leader

JUNE 21, 1987 – SEPTEMBER 4, 2020

After a lifetime of chronic illness, Jacky’s heart couldn't fight the pain and the system any longer. The world lost a shining star. She wanted to be normal but it was impossible because she was extraordinary.

Jacky spent her life making the world a better place. She was fluent in ASL and was on the Dean's List. She filled our home with beautiful pottery, and healthy food. She started sewing when she heard that girls in Africa were missing school because they needed personal hygiene products. She made and sent 50 pads to Mighty Girls. Her friends saw what she was doing and insisted that they, too, needed her quality, unique pads. Her business, Leader Seaming, (which she referred to as her ‘baby’) blossomed and grew into reusable bags of all types and sizes. She felt she was making an ecological difference one bag at a time and all the while being 99% waste free.

Her business supported her love of quilting. She was self taught and knew no fear when it came to mixing bright colors and patterns. She created a method of English Paper Piecing which allows sewists to quilt without hand stitching. Her talent attracted several fabric companies and she became their design consultant and social media influencer.

The entire time she was creating art, she was collecting friends from all over the world. She was a very active member of Quilting Unites Us, being everyone’s cheerleader and mentor. She sprinkled love like fairy dust.

Jacky loved her family most of all. She is survived by her parents, Mark & Gayl Leader, her brother, Michael, whom she fiercely loved, and his wife Kristina. Jacky’s niece and nephews were the light of her life. Marcus, Charlotte and Mitchell will forever miss their sweet Aunt Jacky. Like everyone whose life she touched, they will be better people for having loved her. Jacky was always accompanied on her ventures by her fur friends, Casey Jo and Emma Joy. There is rarely a picture of her quilts that doesn’t include one of her quilt inspectors. Jacky has left us with many words of wisdom; she wanted us to love others without judgment, try new things, and eat healthy. Most of all, remember that neon is a neutral color.



The Giving House

GG's House
PO Box 3
Gaston, OR 97119
503-707-7404
ggshouse@yahoo.com

ADDRESS LABEL

Love Story:

We have so many love stories every month that we decided to share one in each newsletter. Every story is different, but every story has a common message....Angel truly cares and respects EVERY single person we help at Gg's House. One example is personal to me and shows just how much respect Angel treats each and every person. We lost my father in August and my stepmom wanted to donate his things to Gg's House. I checked with Angel letting her know I wasn't sure we'd want to accept some of the items. Her immediate response was "Not a problem. We will take it all and if we can't use everything, we will just take care of it after she leaves".

This is how she treats anyone in that sad situation... with respect, allowing our guests to have a positive experience in the midst of emotional pain.

