



## **Can you help us achieve our lofty goal of owning our own building?**

Gg's House feels it is the right time and that we have found the right building! We just need the funding for the purchase of the building. We are currently looking into grants, fundraisers and have been exploring all different avenues we can think of.

Due to the amazing support of a donor who started a building fund for Gg's House about 4 years ago and us being good stewards with the financial donations that come into the General Fund. We have raised \$23000.00 towards a new building so far.

### **Why do we need our own Building?**

We are in desperate need of more space, we outgrew our current location years ago. We are seeing needs in our community that we could fill by owning a bigger building. Such as mentoring individuals in life skills, community classes/workshop, a space for people to come do arts and crafts and even a warming and cooling center. All these visions and plans have been sitting in a notebook and the minds of our volunteers for several years.

Amazing how we thought some of these visions would come to being when we moved from Gaston to Forest Grove. Soon we realized that these visions and plans would need to wait. As Covid-19 hit right after we moved to Forest Grove. We saw a need for food, clothing and other stuff as other organization shut down. Gg's House stepped up and we never closed completely during Covid as people still were in need. And we had to change and redo our plans to makes sure basic needs were being meet

Over the last year Gg's House has looked at different buildings that came on the market for sale and dreamed but knew it wasn't the right time or location and were not ready to take on the responsibility of owning a building.

So, we are asking YOU to help us purchase this building which will allow Gg's House to provide help to the community in more ways. We will be thankful for a donation of a \$1 to ????. We will keep names of who helped us buy the building and make a board that will be put up at the new building.

**THANK YOU FROM OUR HEARTS!**



If we are asking for your financial assistance we feel you have a right to understand our operating costs, how many we help. Turn the page to find out more.

## The Nuts & Bolts of Gg's House Operations



Our basic operating expenses to keep Gg's House running for the year, includes: Rent, Utilities, Gasoline for the Box Truck, Internet, Garbage, Supplies, Insurance and Yearly Fees and Taxes nonprofits pay. With all those bills our expenses are usually between \$4,000 and \$5,000 a month.

As you see there are no salaries listed, none of our volunteers or board members or even our Director takes a salary. Our volunteers work between 10-30 hours a week with no real breaks as we always try to answer a knock on our door or answer the phone.

Our Director and some of our board members work after hours and from home to keep up with organizing, projects and paperwork. We kept track of their hours for a month or two and they work on average 50+ hours a week.

To be an open book. Gg's House does order pizza for the volunteers working once in awhile, give them an item or 2 and let them take food. This is a tiny thank you for all that they do.

Our income at Gg's House is totally dependent on financial support from donations to pay for our operating expenses. Which can be stressful for our treasurer if financial donations don't come in but they always seem to appear and our treasurer keeps us grounded.

Gg's House does have dedicated funds such as Outreach, Holiday, Emergency, Youth , Building etc. These funds pay for Gg's House events, individual needs, to buy items for Gg's House to give out .The dedicated funds are not to be used for our operating expenses..

Gg's House also helps other organizations at no charge that are funded by grants, state or county. Do they donate anything to us? No. But Gg's house mission is to help everyone that comes to our door without all the questions or red tape.

On average we help 100-250 individuals and give 2000 pounds of food away to local food banks and families per week.



## Gg's House Fundraisers!!

As the article on the front stated that Gg's House is going to start having fundraisers for the building fund. Here is the first one that our volunteers have chosen to start with. This fundraiser will continue all year.

### **2023 Building Fund**

To purchase a building every \$1.00 matters just like every puzzle piece matters.

How this fundraiser works is every puzzle piece will have a # on it (which represents a dollar amount.) To claim the puzzle piece or pieces you want. First contact Gg's House to see if the piece or pieces you want are still available. Second donate the amount to Gg's House . Once your donation is verified the piece (s) are claimed and yours. Third is having the fun of deciding what name or word you would like to go on your piece (s) and your name will enter into a drawing for each piece you claimed .

At random times during the year we will be pulling names from a jar of the names of individuals who have claimed piece( s) and they'll win a gift basket, so the more puzzle pieces you claim, the more chances you have to win.

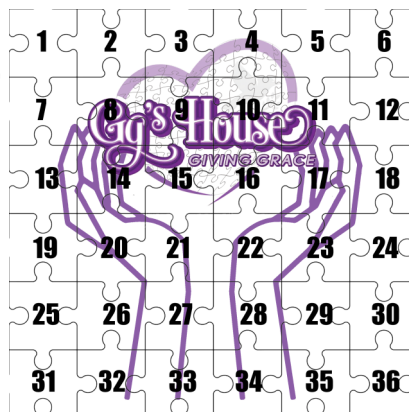
### **Examples of how this works:**

1. A group of friends wants # 2023 to honor a friend they lost in 2023. They call Gg's House to verify that the #2023 isn't taken and bring the donation of \$2,023.00 to Gg's House. They decide to put Our Friend Forever and his last name on the puzzle piece. They receive one entry into the drawing .

2. A Friend says she wants #'s 2 & 5 but she procrastinated and didn't claim those #'s . When she does bring in the donation to Gg's House weeks later #2 and # 5 are already claimed by someone else as we are not saving #'s . She is kind of upset but she decides to claim #15 and #30 instead she donates the \$45.00 . She has her child's name put on #15 and her husband and her name on #30. As her son is 15 year old and it be her 30th Anniversary this year. Her name will be entered into the drawing twice.

After all the pieces are claimed we will have a plaque or banner made with the puzzle pieces with the names or words on each piece. This plague or banner will be hung in a prominent place once we achieve purchase of a new building.

Example of design:  
the final design will have 2023  
puzzle pieces too pick from.



Design by: Graphic Playhouse  
[www.graphicplayhouse.com](http://www.graphicplayhouse.com)

## Other Fundraisers Gg's House

Our volunteers are planning and getting excited about other fundraisers that will be held through out the year. Some of them that are in the process of being planned are:

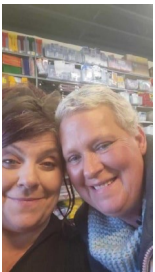
Cans & Bottles Drive

50/50 Bingo Night

Come Meet Your Neighbor (Spaghetti Feed)

Christmas Evening

Please watch our Facebook page for more details during the coming year. If you would like to volunteer at an event or know of a space we could use. Please email [ggshouse@yahoo.com](mailto:ggshouse@yahoo.com) or call 503-359-3871.



## Love Story

### **Brenda's Journey**

We asked Brenda if she'd be willing to share her journey from being a homeless person who came to Gg's House for help to getting housed and clean to becoming an volunteer at Gg's House. She graciously agreed, so here is her story.

The first time I met Angel was about 4 years ago. I was homeless and living in Forest Grove under the bridge off of Highway 47. Angel and her husband Steve would bring me and others food, blankets, clothes, and other items that allowed me to be able to stay where I was. I had a couple phone portable chargers and Angel would say bring the dead chargers and we will recharge them for you.

When Gg's House moved to Forest Grove. I walked up there and asked her if she had any sharpie pen and cardboard to make a homeless sign. Angel asked me if I was into crafts and I said yes. Angel and I thought of something for me to make and sell to make money instead of standing with a sign asking for money. She came up with the idea of making wreaths with silk flowers, ribbon, and little things to put the wreaths .Angel loaded me up on everything I needed to make wreaths. I would sit outside Gg's House and work on wreaths. I love making them and I still do make them but they didn't sell well - who wants something from a homeless person?

I moved out of the area and I would still come back to Gg's House. The year 2021 I was given a voucher through Washington County for housing that they would pay my rent and money to get into a place and the following year I moved into my own apartment in Tualatin!



Before Tualatin when I was still homeless, I was living in a girlfriend's back yard in my tent and over time my tent had black mold in it. I took that out and got another tent as I was coughing a lot. I went and saw my regular doctor and she said that my lungs sound fine but she ordered a CT scan of my chest. She thought maybe I had black mold in my chest.

On March 17th, 2022, I had the CT scan done and they saw something on my left breast. They had me get my mammogram (where they check your boobies) and an ultrasound (all done on the same day, March 17th).

After those tests, my boyfriend at the time was sitting waiting for the doctor and he came in and said "Yes Brenda, you have breast cancer". After I found out about the cancer I stopped by my very good friends at Gg's House! I told Angel that I have cancer she said whatever I need she will help me out!

A month later the doctor thought the cancer was only in the milk duct area, he went in and then he removed 3 lymph nodes. One tested positive for more cancer, the doctor called me at 8pm the night he found out and asked me what I wanted him to do. Something inside of me said just take the whole breast off and so a few weeks later he went in and removed the whole breast and that cancer covered the whole breast and chest wall. That meant I had 3rd stage breast cancer. (Bad News!) I went through chemo and radiation which were bad. I'm still living with the effects of both. I had the other breast removed, even though it was clear of cancer!

After my treatments I moved to Tualatin and stayed there for almost a year, but I still got on the bus and went to Forest Grove to Gg's House to have them load me up on stuff to do my wreaths. I got to know the volunteers at GG's House and they became good friends of mine. I want to move to Forest Grove, could they help me? They said yes. Tina took on the task of looking everywhere until she found a good place for me. I decided the wonderful place that helped me and I love so much is a place that I wanted to Volunteer. Where I can give back to everyone.

Plus I really love Angel. What an amazing woman she is and maybe one day I will be Angel and run my own place. Angel does so much for everyone no matter what color you are or what you need. If she doesn't have what you need she will find a way to get it for you. Everything at Gg's House is donated. I am so very happy and loved that Gg's House helps me and others who are in need, especially Angel. Now it's time for me to give back to them!

I love Gg's House!



## 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.

We accept donations during regular hours. 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

### Diana Grossarth

Diana has been a board member since 2019. Diana has been our liaison between Gg's House and Old Town Closet, she was the greeter at our food bank when it was at Crossroad Church, editor of Gg's House Newsletter and has did many other things to help Gg's House as her busy schedule would allow.



Diana and her husband with their dogs are moving soon to Idaho. We wanted to highlight Diana for all she has given to Gg's House and that above all we value her friendship and wish her happiness in her next adventure.

We will miss you Diana!



### Gg's House Summer Events Recap

This summer Gg's House was given several opportunities to do outreach programs. Which helped Gg's House get out into the community. This helped us giveaway items to members of communities, connect with people and other organizations and businesses.

We were invited to set up at Gaston Saturday Marketplace twice. We were able to give away clothing, seeds, gardening supplies and much more. At the Gaston Marketplace we had cotton candy and a laundry soap making demonstration, where people learned to make laundry soap and take some home. We also helped the Vendor's with the use of "Gg's Bucks" for that day only as a donor asked us to support small businesses.

Gg's House was invited for the 2nd year in a row to attend the Bank's Races and have an information table and hold a 50/50 raffle as a fundraiser. We spoke to many people and enjoyed the evening.

Gg's House was invited to the National Night Out in Gaston. There Gg's had a booth with items to give away for free as well as cotton candy. It was a fun evening visiting with friends, clients and the community of Gaston.

Thanks to all the organizers of these events that invited Gg's House to participate. If you would like Gg's House to be part of your event, just give us a call and if our schedules allows Gg's House will try to be there.





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Check out our website to learn more about what Gg's House is up to: