



The Outreach



A Newsletter from Siuslaw Outreach Services

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Upcoming Events and Activities;

Siuslaw Open Sept. 10th



"Like" us and "Share" us on your FACEBOOK page to keep up with all the current happenings at SOS. We plan to update our page with news and pictures of our upcoming renovations! Look for us at **Siuslaw Outreach Services** on FACEBOOK. (yes we changed the name)

Celebrating 30 Years Of Service

The history of the first years of Siuslaw Outreach Services is still not complete. We are hoping that the news of this important milestone will bring some added pieces to the puzzle from those who helped get it started. We think the history of our organization is important, and we are very appreciative of the efforts of all who have helped starting way back in 1986.

We do know that Cordann W. Anderson signed the original Articles of Incorporation on the 15th of September, 1986. Back then the name was the Siuslaw Area Women's Center and the primary mission was to provide advocacy to victims of domestic violence. Over the years many other kinds of services were added and the

name was eventually changed to reflect this expansion. Many community-minded volunteers helped in a variety of ways, including serving on the board of directors. Following are some of the key events, using the best information we have been able to find.

1986 Articles of Incorporation filed. Women's Empowerment Group started with a grant from the West Lane Community

Foundation

1987 Board of Directors is formed

1988 Emergency shelter services provided

1989 After-hours pager acquired

(continues on page 6)



Community members march against Domestic Violence

Linda's Story

(The name in this story has been changed to protect the client's privacy)

A woman with several children from eastern Oregon came to our shelter from another shelter. She had been in a long term relationship that has been very abusive for many years. The family has moved many times in the past but has always been found

by the abuser. Our family reports that this time is very different than in the past. The family reports the staff is very supportive and knows what it means to help someone restart with a new life. All children were placed in school within days, a new home was found in a matter of weeks, DHS was able to provide medical cards, food stamps and a domestic violence grant. With the kindness of so many within the com-

munity all household needs were given. SOS and community partners provided clothing, beds and legal aid was also gained to assist in keeping this family safe in the future. The mother told us, "This time around all of our needs have been met so we do not feel as if we have to go back to survive. Thank you to our new community for all the kindness, support, you have made a difference in our lives."

Make a difference while you shop

It can be fun and easy to give. Just go shopping!

Fred Meyer

Community Rewards and AmazonSmile match a portion of your spending and



send a check to SOS. Just go to www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards and link

SOS to your Rewards Card using number **86049**. When you shop online with Amazon, make sure you click on the AmazonSmile logo and select Siuslaw Outreach Services as the

organization to receive benefits. Neither of these will cost the shopper anything



Looking for that special someone



SOS is looking for someone who wants to make a difference in their community and in the lives of those in need. Volunteering at SOS requires compassion, patience, and a desire to help others. If this sounds like you, well then, we need you.

Siuslaw Outreach Services recently gathered their volunteers for training and information.

This faithful group of volunteers donates their time by answering the crisis line, greeting clients at the front desk, and organizing donated clothing and household items.

Volunteers describe their experiences working at SOS as rewarding and often life changing. Consider offering your time! SOS is currently recruiting volunteers for several positions. All training is provided and interested community members can find out more information by calling Siuslaw Outreach Services volunteer coordinator at 541-997-2816. Or drop an email to lori@florescesos.org

FCA Gives to help homeless



Admin Assistant Leah James accepting the donation from the students.

The Fellowship Of Christian Athletes chapter at Siuslaw High School recently held a drive to obtain winter clothing and cash dedicated to helping the homeless in our area. The drive brought several blankets, coats, socks and stocking caps. The student athletes also raise \$50 cash through donations from other students at Siuslaw High School. FCA is a student lead club at SHS with 15 students participating.



SOS DANCES WITH SEA LIONS

At the 2016 Board Retreat, it was decided that we would sponsor one of the 20 sea lions which benefit the Friends of the Events Center. SOS has been the recipient of donations on our behalf so many times over the years, and this was an opportunity to say "thank you" to the community which has been so supportive to our organization. It was also a way of celebrating our 30th anniversary. Many SOS board members attended the "Dancing With Sea Lions" event held at the FEC on April 8th, and were able to meet the artist. The artwork depicts a variety of scenes with children, one of the reasons this artist was selected. Our sea lion is located at the east end of the boardwalk.



Artist Kassy Keppol poses with her creation sponsored by SOS

Staff Addition



Katherine Larsell

Introducing Katherine Larsell, our part-time Shelter Support Advocate. Katherine has extensive experience working with families and children, and provides support to families in one of our shelter services. Katherine will be an integral part to helping families and more specifically cope and recover from the affects of domestic violence.

We are so pleased to have her as a part of the SOS team.

SOS helps SHS Seniors prepare for the future

Recently, Housing Assistance Manager Bob Teter, spoke to Mr. O'Mara's Economics Class about the "ins and outs" of renting. The lesson focused on how to prepare for renting, looking for rentals, utility costs, understanding leases, maintain good



Bob Teter explains the parts of a lease agreement

relations with landlords and more. The class also covered dealing with roommates as well as issues that may arise when subletting. Mr. Teter also covered saving money for contingencies such as; loss of income due to lay off, illness or injury. The class began with an open ended question, "How much money do you need to rent?" Some students guessed but a majority had no idea. When told what the costs could add up to when you calculate first, last, deposit and utility deposits their eyes got big and mouths dropped open. After the class, students were left with a much better understanding of their financial responsibilities and needs. After the class, one student asked, "Mr. O'mara, Do you have this guy come every year?" The teacher, "No, this is the first time." She responded, "You should, I had no clue it takes all that."

FUUF Donates To SOS

David Dumas, a member of Florence Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, presented Siuslaw Outreach Services Executive Director David Wiegan with checks totaling \$2,730. This represents donations for January through March of 2016. FUUF picks a different nonprofit organization to support each quarter.

"We are once again very thankful for this extremely generous donation," said David Wiegan. "FUUF has been supportive of SOS and its programs for many years. We know it also supports a number of other very worthwhile causes in our community."



David Dumas & SOS Executive Director David Wiegan

SOS BOARD OF DIRECTORS



SOS staff teaches tenant rights and responsibilities to SHS Senior Economics Class

2015 Statistics

Clients Served with Emergency Vouchers, clothing and/or Rent Assistance (unduplicated).....	2350
Males.....	1093
Females.....	1251
Children under 17.....	709
Seniors (62 and older).....	168
Disabled.....	540
Homeless Individuals.....	407
Veterans.....	60
Low Income Households Receiving Housing Assistance..	182
Clients Receiving Domestic Violence Advocacy Services	164
Clients Receiving Sexual Assault Advocacy Services.....	33
Clients Receiving Energy Assistance (L.I.H.E.A.P.).....	845
Participants in Self Sufficiency Classes and Workshops.....	125
Total Walk-in Visits.....	7201
Sheltered Nights For DV/SA Survivors.....	518
DV/SA Survivors Participating In Support Groups.....	33
Response To After Hours Calls From Police/Hospital...33	
Total Number Of Trained Volunteers.....	27
Total Number Of Volunteer Hours.....	11764
ESTIMATED TOTAL NUMBER OF CLIENTS SERVED (unduplicated).....2902	



SOS Crisis Line Needs You!

SOS is looking for committed volunteers to staff our Focus 4 Crisis Line. Please contact our Volunteer Coordinator for more information by calling 541-997-2816 ext. 14 or stop by to see Lori at SOS.

Siuslaw Outreach Service Mission Statement

Siuslaw Outreach Services is a non-profit organization dedicated to assist individuals and families in leading safe, dignified and secure lives by offering a range of services from basic needs to self-empowerment.



To become a financial supporter of SOS, donations can be made by check or:



HOW YOU CAN HELP

We are always looking for **volunteers** for: Front Desk Reception, Donation Sorters, Fund-raising and Crisis Line. Stop by or call Lori at 541-997-2816, Ext. 14

Cash Donations are always welcome!

SOS Endowment Fund

Items Needed: Clothing, Sleeping Bags, Tents, Shoes, Socks, Boots, Blankets and Small Household Items

For more information on how you can help or get involved please contact SOS staff at 541-997-2816



SIUSLAW OUTREACH SERVICES

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