



## ■ Rent Well: Self-awareness, Self-advocacy & Educational Empowerment

Affordable housing continues to be a crisis in our community. Last year, rents in Vancouver increased 1.7 percent. Vancouver's median one-bedroom rent is currently \$1,400 per month and a median two-bedroom rent is \$1,650; both numbers are higher than in comparable cities nationwide.

However, rising rents are not the only barrier facing individuals and families in search of housing. For those who have experienced homelessness, they may have added barriers including low-income, substance abuse, criminal records, mental illness, foreclosure and past evictions.

But there is good news and it's called the Rent Well Program, a 15-hour tenant education program taught by certified instructors in Oregon and Washington. The course is typically taught in three to six weeks and covers key information and skills for becoming a responsible, successful, and stable tenant. Since Share began overseeing the Rent Well program in Clark County in 2011, 1,279 people have graduated.

*"One of the most powerful outcomes of the Rent Well class is something that*



*can be experienced and not necessarily measured. The increased self-awareness, self-advocacy and educational empowerment that can be felt in the classroom is life-changing for our students and our community as a whole,"*

shared Jennifer Mitchell,

Tenant Education Coordinator. *"The Rent Well class is crucial in continuing to educate our*

*community members, especially those with housing barriers, on their rights and responsibilities as tenants. This increased knowledge empowers people to overcome these housing barriers and continue to push for policy and law changes allowing for individuals and families to access safe and affordable housing."*

In 2018 alone, 87 people graduated. Regarding those graduation statistics, Jennifer added: *"Two of the 2018 graduates who attempted the class could not initially complete it, but came back later in the year to graduate, which I believe speaks to how beneficial students view the class."*

Participants can also create a personalized Housing Portfolio tailored to their housing needs and have access to the Landlord Incentive Fund upon course graduation. This fund can be used as an extra incentive for landlords to rent to individuals. (Continued on page 2)

## ■ Vancouver Housing Authority to Remodel Family Shelters

Since 1996, individuals and groups have donated their time, energy and funds to help make each of the rooms at our two family shelters feel more like home for families and single women experiencing homelessness. Starting in June, the Vancouver Housing Authority (VHA) is taking on that responsibility and so much more.

VHA will remodel both family shelters, maximizing space to increase efficiency for daily activities and to accommodate more families. They will purchase bed bug-free beds and other furniture needed to maintain a safe and clean shelter, as well as regularly provide new coats of paint, inside and out. **We are grateful to VHA for this generous gift!**

**And we still need you!** Over the years, many donors have adopted rooms to make these buildings feel welcoming to so many people in crisis. You can continue to help by donating bedding, wall pictures, lamps, rugs, etc.

For more details, contact Molly Evjen at [volunteers@sharevancouver.org](mailto:volunteers@sharevancouver.org).



*Thank you to Charter Communications who recently adopted four rooms, providing new bedding, dressers, storage bins, lamps, alarm clocks and garbage bins.*



## ■ Rent Well (Cont.)

The Incentive provides landlords in Clark County with up to \$1,000 of financial coverage if the graduate vacates the unit within 12 months from the move-in date as noted on the Lease/Rental Agreement and leaves unpaid rent or damages beyond what their security deposit will cover.

The Rent Well program continues to expand to reach those in need. “In February, staff brought Rent Well classes to Larch Mountain Correctional Facility to work with men who are expected to be exiting incarceration in the next few months and provide them information about their rights and responsibilities as a tenant,” said Amy Reynolds, Deputy Director.

For more information, contact Jennifer Mitchell at 360-952-8204 or [rentwell@sharevancouver.org](mailto:rentwell@sharevancouver.org).



### Share Board Directors

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For a list of management staff:  
[sharevancouver.org](http://sharevancouver.org)

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40TH ANNIVERSARY RELEASE

DAVIDSON & ASSOCIATES INSURANCE Presents

**BACK TO THE FUTURE**

WASHINGTON 1985  
SHARE 19

How far back you goin'?

**ABOUT 40 YEARS.**

40 years 1979-2019  
Share  
Making our community home

Coming October 6  
to ilani Casino Resort

Become a sponsor! [devdir@sharevancouver.org](mailto:devdir@sharevancouver.org)

[www.sharevancouver.org](http://www.sharevancouver.org)



## ■ Making Our Community Home

Share had its beginnings in 1979 when a group of caring people came together with the common goal of caring for the homeless and hungry in the Vancouver area. These individuals made a commitment to helping men and women in need, those who are often unseen or forgotten, and those who are someone's daughter, grandfather, neighbor, cousin or friend.

As we celebrate our 40th anniversary, Share maintains that commitment by remaining at the forefront to improve the lives of individuals and families who face hunger, are homeless or struggle to find affordable housing. Our start was humble, with just one shelter for single men and a daily, free hot meal. Today, we provide a spectrum of services—from the Outreach team on the streets and the Day Center at the Vancouver Navigation Center, to emergency shelters and free nutritious meals, to the Backpack program feeding hungry children and subsidized housing for low-income individuals and families, to a matched savings program and permanent housing, and so much more.

We've grown tremendously over the past 40 years, through visionary leadership that has allowed our organization to sustainably grow, evolving our programs based on the needs of our community. While we have been a fierce advocate for change, we haven't done it on our own. Healthy communities thrive through partnership. By connecting multiple systems and movements, and bringing more players and voices to the table, Share has fostered and created a brighter and healthier future for generations to come.

It is with that in mind that we look forward to celebrating this milestone with gratitude in our hearts. We keep working, every day. We can build a better future for everyone and we will do it together.

Thank you for 40 years of *making our community home*.

In celebration of our 40th anniversary, we are creating a physical timeline, through words and photos, to recognize Share's history and honor the staff, board directors, volunteers, donors and community partners who have joined us in our mission to serve the hungry, homeless and low-income of our community. The timeline will be on display at our 2019 fundraising events and at the Share Fromhold Service Center starting in May.



Celebrate our 40th  
by becoming a... *Monthly*  
**Shareholder**



Your **sustaining gift** of \$15, \$25, **\$40**, \$100  
or more **makes a big difference** for those in need!

**Sign up on-line today: [sharevancouver.org](http://sharevancouver.org)**

## ■ Volunteer Spotlight: David Parker

David Parker has been involved with Share for 15 years, starting when he joined the board. *"A couple things came together that brought me to Share's board. I was in Leadership Clark County and looking to become more involved in the community. Our family friend and fellow IBEW member, Dean Sutherland, was leaving the Share board. At the time, Share encouraged retiring members to recruit a replacement and Dean recommended me—so I joined."*

During his board tenure, Dave was active on the active on the golf tournament committee and served terms as both the Internal and External Vice President. He and his wife, Becky, were regular attendees at fundraising events, financial supporters of appeal campaigns, and advocated on behalf of Share's mission.

In fact, Becky became a volunteer in her own right through the Backpack Program, plus chaired the Soup's On committee for five years. This led to Becky being hired as the Hunger Response Assistant Director, a position she held for three and half years, before accepting a job with Evergreen Public Schools.

Most recently, Dave was instrumental recruiting volunteers with the skills needed in the remodel of the warehouse at the Share Fromhold Service Center. *"The shelving project was a continuation from when we installed the pallet racking while Becky was at Share. I was able to recruit volunteers from the carpenters and IBEW unions and others with a request at a Labor Roundtable meeting."*

The remodel helped to create a safer and more robust warehouse to manage donations from our generous



community. This allows us to send items out more efficiently to clients in our shelters and programs, plus maintained critical space for the operation of Share's Backpack Program.

Dave shared, *"I want to acknowledge Becky who supported my interest in volunteering time to Share while we had two young children. Also, to my employer EC Electric who allowed me the time needed to attend meetings. EC and my union IBEW local 48 have both been, and continue to be, supportive sponsors at Share events, for which I am very proud."*

## ■ Giving Strategy: Make a Gift of Interest in Your Home

Lacey\* is a retiree. Her husband passed away a few years ago. When he was alive, the couple were regular volunteers for the Backpack program. Her husband was a child during the depression and vividly remembered experiencing hunger. The Backpack program resonated with him, as he wanted to help ensure that children have food to eat over the weekend. Lacey has continued to volunteer since her husband passed. She desires to give money in addition to the time she donates. Lacey lives predominantly on a pension and social security. Her home is paid for, she has long term care insurance and she has a savings account for emergencies. She would love to be an influencer to those around her and to give towards a campaign that personally means a great deal to her and to her late husband.

Her financial planner suggests that she discuss the idea of an irrevocable gift of a remainder interest of her home with both her CPA and her attorney. She is able to promise a large gift to the Backpack program which inspires some of the other volunteers to donate as well. Lacey gets to live in her house and she benefits from a large income tax deduction which increases her ability to put a bit more away in her emergency savings fund. After she passes, the house is sold and all or part of the proceeds will go directly to her favorite cause.

If you want to give a large gift to Share, but most of your personal wealth is tied up in your home or farm, you might want to consider an irrevocable gift of a remainder interest of your property. With this option you can live in your home the rest of your life. After you pass, all (or a portion) of the sale of your home is given to Share. Since you made an irrevocable agreement years earlier, you enjoyed a significant reduction in taxes as well as the extra cash flow.

To discuss gifts to Share, contact Diane McWithey, Executive Director, at (360) 952-8216.

Let your legacy  
**LEAVE A LEGACY**



The impact of a final gift  
in your will could go  
further than you think



A gift  
in your will



The meals, shelter & housing  
that you could provide



The men, women &  
children you can help



Making our community  
home for future generations



# Thanks for your part in my journey.

## 2018 Annual Report

Women's Housing and Transition, which provides 18 beds for homeless women & is open year-round during evening hours, successfully saw

**19%**

of clients move into permanent housing, which is higher than the national average of 14%



Share's Backpack Program provided

**1,680** kids with 60,480 packs, plus

690+ kids served at our 25 Fresh Food Pantries. Our Summer Meals Program served 22,590 meals at 20+ locations



Share ASPIRE, which provides short to long-term housing, rental subsidies, and case management has maintained a **81%** success rate in graduates who do not access housing services again



Talkin' Trash Program, a hired team of people who are or who have been homeless collected **146** tons of trash from parks & neighborhoods

— Giving is not just about making a donation, it's about *making a difference.* —

**10,000**  
Low-income & homeless clients



**2,884** Volunteers  
**28,302** Volunteer Hours

**1,768** Financial Donors  
**2,238** In-kind Donors

**73** Staff  
Full-time employees

For more positive outcomes from 2018: [sharevancouver.org](http://sharevancouver.org)

### TOTAL Revenue\* **\$10,299,545**

Government Grants	\$6,854,035
Interest & Dividends	\$2,310
Private Donations	\$544,329
In-Kind Donations	\$812,912
Fundraising: Events	\$551,082
Fundraising: Appeal Campaigns	\$503,790
Private Foundation Grants	\$744,655
Student Employment Reimb.	\$13,540
Rents & Miscellaneous Reimb.	\$272,890

### TOTAL Expenses\* **\$9,661,634**

Shelter System	\$1,909,141
Hunger Response Programs	\$1,048,885
Street Outreach Program	\$1,853,389
Housing Programs	\$2,980,887
Financial Programs	\$203,104
Fundraising: Events	\$245,415
Fundraising: Appeal Campaigns	\$40,049
Fundraising: Marketing & Dev.	\$353,585
Administration	\$1,027,180

\* Revenues & expenses are unaudited; depreciation expenses not included

Riverview  
COMMUNITY BANK



Presents

*Glitz! Glam!*  
**RED  
CARPET**

Share Red Ruby  
**40<sup>th</sup>**  
Celebration

Supported by



Jo Marie &  
Steve Hansen

*Saturday, April 27*



5:00 p.m.  
Hilton Hotel Vancouver

Includes dinner, table wine, silent  
auction & raffle, plus **entertainment  
& After Party with Andy Stokes!**

The best excuse ever to buy that  
fabulous dress or tux!

\$125 per person  
\$1,250 Table of 10  
\$1,500 Sponsor Table

Register online: [sharevancouver.org](http://sharevancouver.org)



At our Gala, we will  
celebrate our 40th  
anniversary milestone  
with gratitude in our  
hearts, honoring these  
individuals and  
organizations who have  
made a lasting impact  
on the vision of our  
organization.

*Bill & Gene Keuchmann*

We honor Bill post-humously for  
his vital role as an  
early board member and  
Bill and Gene as one of our  
Founding 40 Members

*Clark County*

Vanessa Gaston will accept  
an award in honor of the  
Royal Arms, the first shelter  
for homeless men

*John McDonagh*

John's assumed the mantle of  
board president during a  
time of rapid growth,  
transitioning the board from a  
working group to policy making

*Council for the Homeless*

Kate Budd will accept an  
award on behalf of the  
Council for their 30 years of  
leadership and advocacy  
to end homelessness

## Who Will Win the Award for *Best Dressed!*

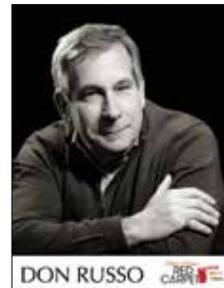
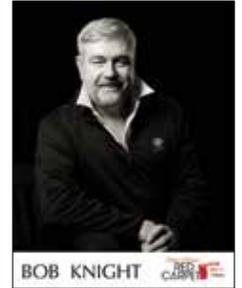


Photo credit & special thanks to *Kate Singh* our Photographer to the Stars!

We were delighted to find 11 wonderful community leaders willing to walk the cat-walk in their Oscar-worthy outfit at our Gala to compete for the *Best Dressed* award.

Visit [sharevancouver.org](http://sharevancouver.org) to 'vote' by making a donation in honor of your favorite nominee—plus, read all the nominees bios, which are humorous, inspiring and well worth the read. Encourage your friends to 'vote' as well. Gala attendees can also 'vote' at the event.

### *To Marie & Steve Hansen*

Jo Marie & Steve stepped forward to provide a critical match to Share's Capital Campaign to open the Share Fromhold Service Center

### *Winter Hospitality Overflow Program*

Honoring the congregations of St. Andrew and St. Paul Lutheran churches for their commitment to helping those in need during winter's coldest months

### *Marty Rifkin & Kate Jones*

KMR Group Foundation has repeatedly demonstrated their determination to improve equity and quality of life through matching funds and grants to Share

### *Clark County Food Bank*

Alan Hamilton will accept an award in honor of the tremendous partnership that supports our Backpack and Hot Meals Programs



Share  
*Prestigious Achievement*  
Awards



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**We need your help! Unfortunately, our multi-year matching challenge with CenturyLink will not be available this year.** To keep our Hunger Response Programs operating at current levels, donations are needed now more than ever.

Mark your calendars to make a donation to **Share's Hunger Appeal June 3 to 7** to support our **Fresh Food Pantries, Backpack, Summer Meals and Hot Meals Programs.**

**FOR LOW-INCOME FAMILIES, HUNGER CAN MEAN DIFFERENT THINGS.**

Maybe there is **no food in the house** and no money to buy any.  
 Maybe there's food, but **not enough to last** through the end of the month, so parents skip meals, or **kids get smaller portions** than they need.

**HUNGER** lives next **DOOR**



**1 in 8** Washingtonians relies on SNAP\* (foodstamps)  
**1/2 of all people on SNAP are kids**



**42%** of families who rely on food programs are **working families**—at least one adult in the house works full-time, part-time or multiple jobs

A family of 4 facing hunger may be in need of **36 more meals a month** because they don't have money to buy enough food



Source: Center on Budget & Policy Priorities, State of Washington

**Organize a Food Drive for Our Annual Hunger Appeal**

Donations of non-perishable food items are vital to the operation of our Backpack, Summer Meals and Hot Meals programs which collectively serve more than 180,150 nutritious meals each year.

Our goal is to raise 10,000 pounds of food this year. You can help by organizing a food drive—at your office, school, church or neighborhood—in May or June in conjunction with our annual hunger appeal campaign.

We can provide you with a list of most needed food items, such as shelf-stable proteins (peanut butter, canned or easy-open meats [chicken, tuna fish, ham, etc.], canned chili and high-protein soup), as well as cereal, pasta, canned fruits, boxed dinners, granola bars and more.

To organize a food drive, please contact Molly Evjen at [volunteers@sharevancouver.org](mailto:volunteers@sharevancouver.org) or (360) 952-8312.