How do you apply for a job or fill out a rental application without a photo ID?

Having a valid piece of identification (ID) is a necessity that many of us take for granted. For many adults, the responsibilities of renewing one’s driver’s license or filling in a Social Security number for a job application are often overlooked as some of the many miniscule chores they must do as an integrated member of society.

“A lack of ID and the difficulty in obtaining ID is truly an issue for our clients that we see each day at the Share Day Center,” said Jillian Daleiden, director of Share Outreach.

So, what are you supposed to do if you’re among the estimated millions of U.S. citizens* who don’t have a photo ID issued by a state, or other proof of your identity, such as a birth certificate?

Several systemic barriers often prevent these individuals from having a valid ID. Without a stable place to call “home,” someone who is experiencing homelessness faces obstacles both in obtaining and keeping ID safe. A person may not have the means to complete forms such as birth certificates for several reasons, such as not having the necessary parental information, difficulties with reading and writing, or the transportation necessary to travel to the local office of the department of motor vehicles. Money may also be a barrier; in the state of Washington, there is a $54 fee to replace a state-issued ID card.

And for those frequently moving from one location to the next, there may not be the social connections to obtain a guarantor necessary to vouch for their identity. Moreover, even if they do get through this process, there is the additional issue of not having a permanent address where their ID can be mailed to them.

“Being homeless is tough enough. Being homeless without ID is sometimes an insurmountable situation. Our clients must face a system that can be intimidating and difficult,” said Katie Louis, director of Share House.

If you lose any or all three of these A-list pieces of ID—birth certificate, Social Security card or driver’s license—getting them back is a circular problem; you often need one of more of these documents in order to replace the other. (continued on page 2)

* A 2006 national survey conducted by the Brennan Center found that as many as 11% of American, or more than 21 million people, don’t have a government-issues photo ID, with elderly, minority populations or low-income individuals being least likely to possess ID.

Welcome Heather Walker!

Join us in welcoming our new Volunteer & Community Resources Coordinator Heather Walker.

While she has been with us for most a few months, she has a long history of involvement with Share:

“I first got involved with Share during high school when my dad and I would volunteer at Share Homestead by preparing and serving meals. Since then, I’ve volunteered through other opportunities such as the annual holiday party, the Summer Meals Program and serving meals at Share Orchards Inn. I love the services and programs Share offers and am excited to be a part of the team!”

If you’d like to learn about volunteer opportunities or how to coordinate a drive for needed items, contact Heather at 360-952-8312 or hwalker@sharevancouver.org.
The fight against identity theft and illegal immigration are two drivers behind tightening regulations that make getting ID, or replacing it, difficult. “We’re a society that not only depends on but demands you prove who you are,” says Katie. The invisibility that results from not being able to verify one’s identity can lead to barriers in accessing crucial services, such as the health care system.

A lack of ID is a symptom rather than a cause of homelessness. In other words, conditions of homelessness such as lacking secure housing and not having a job and dealing with the everyday realities of extreme poverty, make it difficult to keep and obtain pieces of ID.

There is some good news in the state of Washington. A measure in the state Legislature, Senate Bill 5664, aims to eliminate barriers to ID for homeless people. If passed, the Department of Commerce and the Department of Licensing would be required to create a program to provide homeless individuals with a free ID card, also known as the identicard. To be eligible for this free card, applicants would have to meet the definition of a sheltered or unsheltered homeless person, reside in Washington state and not have a valid state-issued identicard or driver’s license.

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For a list of management staff:  
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2019

Oct. 6: Soup’s On! “Back to the Future”  
Oct. 19: Neighborhood Clean Up at Navigation Center  
Nov. 5: 50% Cashback Day at Warehouse ‘23—Make a Reservation for Lunch or Dinner  
Dec. 3: Giving Tuesday—Please Consider a Donation  
Dec. 19: Holiday Luncheon for Single Adults Who are Experiencing Homelessness—Volunteers Needed!

2020

April 9: Volunteer Appreciation BBQ  
April 12-18: Volunteer Appreciation Week  
April 25: Share Annual Gala “There’s No Business Like Share Business”  
June 1-5: Hunger Appeal  
June 4: Backpack Volunteer Breakfast  
June 4: We Share Annual Meeting (Tentative Date)  
June 20: Neighborhood Clean Up at Navigation Center  
Sept. 17: Give More 24—Donate online: givemore24.org  
Oct. 4: Soup’s On! “Harry Potter & the Cauldron of Soup”  
Oct. 17: Neighborhood Clean Up at Navigation Center  
Dec. 1: Giving Tuesday—Please Consider a Donation  
Dec. 17: Holiday Luncheon for Single Adults Who are Experiencing Homelessness—Volunteers Needed!
Summer Meals = Smiles & Books

This year 200+ volunteers contributed 2,100 hours of time to serve a grand total of 18,066 meals. We are truly grateful to all who dedicated their time, talent and compassion to ensure that children at risk of hunger had access to free, nutritious meals—you truly made a difference!

Children who received meals were asked to draw a picture of what the meals meant to them—one of those very adorable, heart-warming drawings is shown at right.

New this year, staff members from the Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries visited many of our meals sites to hand out books and lead craft activities.

“I’m happy to say that our staff were able to bring summer reading to kids at about 14 of your sites throughout Vancouver. We were so delighted to share books, journals and activities to hundreds of kids through this work. My personal favorite was trying to dodge straw rockets we had built at Springfield Meadows!” said Kelsey Hudson, Student & Youth Partnership Coordinator.

Mom always said it’s not polite to talk about money.

Now that you have reached an age with the financial resources to make a difference, you want to talk to someone about how to take care of the people you care about as well as the causes in which you believe.

Through your estate plan, you can become part of Share’s efforts toward making our community home. Make a tax-smart decision that has a positive and lasting impact on the lives of individuals and families who face hunger, are homeless or struggle to find affordable housing.

To learn more, visit sharevancouver.org (click on ‘Donations’ then ‘Share the Future Legacy Program’) or contact Diane McWithey at dmcwithey@sharevancouver.org.
There are so many ways to help men, women and children this holiday season. Take a look at all the ways to give, then contact Share staff to get started!

**FOOD BOXES**

Fill a food box to provide a Thanksgiving meal for a family of 4-6 people. Our goal is to provide a box for 150 households. A list of needed items is available at sharevancouver.org.

**CONTACT:** Molly Evjen  
(360) 952-8228 or mevjen@sharevancouver.org

**ADOPT-A-FAMILY OR SINGLE**

Make a difference for a family this holiday season. Purchase gifts and clothing for low-income families or singles in our ASPIRE program who receive rent subsidies, and other families who qualify for assistance. Average cost is between $75 to $100 per adopted family member.

**CONTACT:** Becky Graff  
360-952-8223 or officemgr@sharevancouver.org

**WISH LIST**

Donate new gift items! From shoes to winter coats (all sizes, for men, women & children) to kitchen items and small household appliances to board games and sports equipment—and don’t forget gift cards! A full list is available at sharevancouver.org.

**CONTACT:** Heather Walker  
360-952-8312 or hwalker@sharevancouver.org
WISH TAGS

Wish Tags are great opportunity for community members to ensure that more than 1,000 local individuals and families receive gifts through Share’s Holiday Cheer Program. Your gifts will be shared with families in our shelters and supportive housing programs, as well as single adults in Clark County who are experiencing homelessness and unaccompanied youth in the Vancouver and Evergreen Public Schools.

Share will provide hang-able tags with suggested gift items for different age groups. You can display the tags as ornaments on your Christmas tree or menorah in a common space, pin them on a board, or do something new and creative with them to inspire the holiday spirit.

CONTACT: Heather Walker
360-952-8312 or hwalker@sharevancouver.org

VOLUNTEER

Make the holidays special for over 1,000 individuals by volunteering to sort donations, pack gifts for families, or by helping at our holiday party for single adults who are experiencing homelessness. This is the busiest time in our donation warehouse, and we couldn’t keep up with the season of giving without your help! Please submit your volunteer application online at sharevancouver.org.

CONTACT: Molly Evjen
(360) 952-8228 or mevjen@sharevancouver.org

GRATEFUL to our community that ensures more than 1,000 local individuals & families receive gifts this holiday season
Meet Debbie Andrews and Nigel Cundy, two of our dedicated volunteers, who offered to share about their experiences volunteering at Share. Debbie and I have been supporters of Share and its various programs for many years. Recently, since retiring from our jobs as a registered nurse, for Debbie, and in sales and marketing management for myself, we have had the opportunity to become further engaged through volunteering. In addition to attending Soup’s On (going way back to the days when it was held in the cafeteria at Skyview High School), we have helped out at the various Christmas programs, at Share Orchards Inn and as Share Ambassadors for various fundraising drives. We were thinking about how we could offer consistent and practical outreach assistance other than by monetary donation and, after orientation and a trial shift, we found that the Share Day Center offers us the opportunity to do just that.

At first, it was a bit bewildering: on our first day there, as newbies, our questions to each other were: What could we do to help these folk meet their goals and improve their conditions? What skills and experience, other than careers that involved daily contact with many people from different walks of life, did we possess that made us feel we could “make a difference”? We soon realized, through the training and through personal interaction with the Share staff, that this was not really our goal as volunteers at the Day Center. The goal of the volunteer is to help the Share staff provide a safe and compassionate place where homeless individuals and families could be welcomed and offered services to make their day just a little better. Be it helping someone do their laundry, charging their cell phone, providing a clean towel and toiletries for their shower, clothing items if available, or a cup of coffee and a snack, a little goes a long way for those who have practically nothing.

As many of our fellow volunteers at the various Share locations and programs already realize, showing up on a regular basis at the Day Center has meant that many of the clients know our faces and names by now and vice versa. Familiarity develops into trust and trust into further conversations with staff on the many services Share offers for the important next steps. Both Debbie and I feel very fortunate to be included in the family of Share volunteers!

If you would like to volunteer to help clients at the Share Day Center—or if you are interested in learning about all volunteer opportunities at Share—please contact Molly Evjen at mevjen@sharevancouver.org.

We need towels!

With an average of 99 clients visiting the Share Day Center each day, we use a lot of towels.

You can help by donating new bath towels. Donations can be dropped off at the Share Fromhold Service Center, 2306 NE Andresen Road, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Don’t have time to shop? You can still help by making a donation online at sharevancouver.org and noting that your donation is to purchase towels.
Donor Spotlight: Vancouver Grocery Outlet

Vancouver Grocery Outlet, located at 5800 NE Fourth Plain Blvd., has been a dedicated supporter for the past four years. We asked owners/operators Carlos Rodriguez-Vega and Ken Cole to share, in their own words, the importance of helping Share and those facing hunger.

As long-time Vancouver residents, we’ve been aware of the growing problem of hunger and homelessness in our community. However, it wasn’t until we had the opportunity to take over the Vancouver Grocery Outlet store four years ago that we learned about the great work Share does to help lift up those in need.

Grocery Outlet’s mission of Touching Lives for the Better is fully aligned with Share’s efforts to improve the lives of individuals and families struggling with hunger, homelessness, and under employment. At our store, we see first-hand how these challenges affect our neighbors and even our own employees. As new business owners, we were eager to partner with positive organizations that are making a difference in our community.

Share stood out in terms of its successful track record of addressing a critical community need. It also excels in terms of its dedicated leadership and outreach teams and the passion of its volunteer base. The story of Share’s efforts and the critical needs it addresses also resonates with our customers.

Financial support for Share during our ‘Independence from Hunger’ summer food drive continues to grow each year, culminating in more than $10,000 in total giving this past summer. It’s heart warming to know how generous our community can be when the cause is so important.

No family should go to bed hungry, and no child should have to worry about where their next meal is coming from, so it was an honor to support Share’s Backpack program benefitting the youngest and most vulnerable in our community.

It feels like our business is making a difference thanks to the generosity of our customers and our employees, but also thanks to the valuable partnership we have with Share.

Save the Date: Share’s Annual Gala
Includes Dinner, Table Wine, Silent Auction & Raffle
$125 per person | $1,250 Table of 10
$1,500 Sponsor Table
Register online: sharevancouver.org
Start shopping for that red carpet-worthy outfit!
Sponsorship opportunities are available!
Contact Kim Hash at khash@sharevancouver.org

Employees from Vancouver Grocery Outlet presented staff and volunteers from Share with a check from the 2019 Independence from Hunger drive.
Annual Drive to Meet Basic Needs ... Including Wee Ones!

Three items that are ever present needs are new underwear, diapers, and socks. Throughout the month of October, we are asking for:

- new underwear (all sizes for men, women and children) We ask that you keep in mind that a range of sizes is needed, from small to 3XL.
- diapers (sizes 5 & 6 plus pull-ups)
- new athletic-style socks (men, women and children)

Donations can be brought to any Share shelter or the Share Fromhold Service Center (Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.).

Host a ‘Seats & Feets’ drive! Organize a drive at your office, church or service organization. We can provide you with a blue Share barrel in which to collect your donations. To get started, contact Heather Walker at hwalker@sharevancouver.org.