Talkin’ Trash Program Honored with Innovation Award + Grant for a New Truck

Share’s Talkin’ Trash program has a fun name, a cute mascot (see page 2) and continues to be recognized by our community as both an innovative and successful initiative.

In September, we were honored to be recognized by the Nonprofit Network of Southwest Washington for ‘Excellence in Innovation’ for our Talkin’ Trash program. Jillian Daleiden, Share Outreach Director, accepted the award and talked about the program which provides wages & benefits while participants—who are homeless or who have been homeless—work toward housing. Plus it cleans up our community: 146 tons of trash picked up in 2018!

For those unfamiliar with the program, its crew includes six community cleaners, on-call cleaners, and one supervisor, each of whom has formerly or is currently experiencing homelessness. The crew works 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday to Friday cleaning up litter and waste throughout the City. Community Cleaners also receive housing search assistance, general case management, and job and life skill training throughout their time in the program.

The Talkin’ Trash program gets an additional boost from volunteers who have come out for Neighborhood Clean-ups, the most recent on November 16. Along with dozens of community volunteers, we cleaned up areas in Harney Heights, Fourth Plain Village, and Rose Village neighborhoods. More neighborhood cleanups will be scheduled in 2020—follow us on facebook.com/ShareVancouver for those dates.

And there’s more good news: The Firstenburg Foundation recently awarded Share a $55,000 grant to purchase a new truck for the Talkin’ Trash program. (Continued on next page).

#GivingTuesday Made Happy Feet!

Thank you to everyone who donated so generously on Dec. 3 for #GivingTuesday! We were delighted to raise $7,600+ to buy new shoes for our clients: toddlers, school-aged children, teens, adult women and men, and seniors.

Many of our clients have just one or two pairs of wearable shoes—so new pairs are one of the most requested items by our clients.

For instance, we may get a request for a size 13 steel toe work boot or a toddler’s size 2 tennis shoe or a size 9 easy-on/easy-off orthopedic shoe. The requests are as varied as the diversity of our clients.

When we don’t have the shoes that are needed on the shelves, these funds will give us the ability to purchase exactly what is needed.

If you didn’t have a chance to give, donations to support our Happy Feet campaign can still be made at sharevancouver.org throughout the month of December.
Talkin’ Trash continued ...

“Our new truck will not only ensure the continued success of the Talkin’ Trash program, but will increase the program’s efficiency and expand it to serve other areas of Vancouver,” said Diane McWithey, executive director.

A 2019 2500 Tradesman Dodge Ram pickup with an eight-foot-long bed has been purchased. With this larger truck bed, the Talkin’s Trash crew members will be able to transport more trash in fewer trips, which will allow for additional time to operate in more areas each day and service locations that have been on a waitlist to participate in the program. The extended cab will also allow more crew members to travel together to sites.

The Talkin’ Trash program previously drove a used half-ton, short-bed pickup purchased from the City of Vancouver. Truck repairs of more than $6,000 had become too extensive and costly to continue the program’s operation without a new vehicle.

Hungry Neighbors
Need Your Help!

Volunteer to prepare & serve meals or to clean & wash dishes for Share Hot Meals

Over 40 years, our Hot Meals program has relied on the generosity of numerous faith-based and community groups to prepare and serve meals. Many of our current groups include seniors, some who have volunteered for more than 20 years, who are unable to continue donating their time. We have an increased need for a new base of volunteers to support our Hot Meals program and hope that our generous community will step up to answer our call for help.

Visit sharevancouver.org to complete our on-line Volunteer Application.

Questions? Contact Molly Evjen at mevjen@sharevancouver.org.
Volunteer of the Year: Marc Veneroso

Marc’s heart for volunteer service was cultivated by his family when he was a child. He was always looking for service opportunities in his community. Marc retired four years ago, after 37 years as a bridge engineer for the government. For several years, he volunteered as a tutor for an adult education class helping people get their GEDs. He’s also volunteered with the Winter Hospitality Overflow for eight years, averaging 12 shifts each season. Five years ago, he began volunteering at Share House with the Unitarian Universalist Church. After the Share House kitchen remodel last summer, one of our long-term volunteers, Mickey Robertson, became ill. For years, she had volunteered every Monday and Friday for 8 hour shifts in our kitchen. Marc began coming in on Mondays to help Mickey and, as her health declined, he stepped in to fill her shoes.

“Mondays at Share House are full of heavy work; it is the day that donations picked up over the weekend are sorted. This includes produce, meat, dairy and dry food products, usually weighing in at a couple of thousand pounds a week.

“We dispose of products that are out of date or not suitable for serving to people. This is no small feat, but Marc was willing to take on the task. He comes in every Monday, weighs and records the donations and sorts items that we share with a food pantry. He also organizes our pantry, sometimes staying to help serve lunch through our Hot Meals program when we are short of staff,” shared Holley Walhood.

“Marc makes Share House and the world a better place not only because of his volunteer service but because of the positive energy he exudes and the example he sets of what we all should be doing to help our fellow humans.”

Marc shared this upon receiving the award: “I’m honored. I don’t think of it as a significant contribution that I’m making, but apparently Share does. When I see how much Share does, it’s not just the men’s shelter, it’s not just the kitchen and serving, it’s so much more. And to be able to contribute to that, knowing how much need—and unfortunately growing need—there is in the community, that definitely is a big deal. Whatever good comes to the community, good comes to Share, I’m glad for what I can do to support that.”

Give a little or a lot, any amount makes a difference!

“It is my privilege to give to Share on a monthly basis as my life has been blessed beyond my expectations. While growing up in a family with seven children, we experienced food insecurity and shelter for our family was tenuous and at one point non-existent. If I can help just one family with my humble contribution, I have responded to the call to help others.”

—Wendee Shuell, monthly donor since 2015

Through reliable monthly donations, Share can help empower our community in a sustainable way. Your sustained investment can add up to lasting change, making our community home. Sign up to become a Monthly Shareholder today at sharevancouver.org. Consider having your donation come directly from your checking account & eliminate the need to update us when your card expires.
Rapid Rehousing Success for Local Family

It's often said a person is only “one paycheck away” from a significant change in lifestyle—most notably, the loss of the place they call home. For hundreds of local individuals and families, the rising costs of affordable housing is making the uncertainty of keeping their home a daily reality.

This reality, unfortunately, came true for Christina, a single mother of a nine-year-old, who was not able to afford the rising cost of housing in Clark County. She found a place with family for her son, Christian, so that he would not have to experience homelessness. Christina struggled to hold down a job while not having a consistent place to call home.

Fortunately, she contacted the Council for the Homeless and was found eligible for Share ASPIRE's Rapid Rehousing. This meant that Christina would receive a rental subsidy, making her rent affordable, and be able to access case management, giving her extra support when she truly needed it.

After finding an apartment, Christina was also quickly able to find full-time employment. Plus, her case manager, Lindsey, connected her with valuable resources to reduce her monthly expenses; she also receives monthly bus passes in order to get to work, energy assistance to help with utilities, and has created a monthly budget to keep a tight rein on expenses.

Today, Christina is delighted to have an apartment to share with Christian, a place they can call home together. Christian is enrolled in the neighborhood school, through which they receive additional food and daily living resources, and they have built a stable foundation for their future.

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
Tickets on sale January 5: sharevancouver.org
Start shopping for that red carpet-worthy outfit!
Sponsorship opportunities are available!
Contact Kim Hash at khash@sharevancouver.org

Saturday, April 25
5:00 p.m.
at Hilton Hotel Vancouver

'RACE' FOR ONE (OR MORE) OF OUR...
Best Dressed Duos!

Last year’s Best Dressed competition was such a success that we have brought it back for 2020—with a twist! We will 'nominate' 10 duos to compete for Best Dressed. Each duo will select a Broadway musical for their theme. In addition to fundraising on behalf of Share prior to the event, each duo will perform at the gala—and we guarantee they’ll be worth the price of attendance!

Our ‘nominees’ will be announced in January and community members can ‘vote’ in honor of their favorite nominee or nominees from February 1 through April 25 by making a donation at sharevancouver.org. Gala attendees can ‘vote’ at the event using a special ballot and by using bid numbers to donate.

Follow us at facebook.com/ShareVancouver to meet our fabulous nominees as they are announced!
We are pleased to inform you that you are invited to The Cauldron of Soup Competition on Sunday, 11th October, 2020.

To ensure all our cauldrons are fully stocked, be sure to send your owl early to reserve your seats. Tickets will be on-sale August 1, 2020.

We encourage you to show your pride by donning your best Hogwarts’ robes, house colors and paraphernalia.

Our ‘cauldrons’ will be prepared by: Beaches Restaurant & Bar, Bleu Door Bakery, Elements Restaurant, Frontier Public House, The Hammond Kitchen & Craft Bar, Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center, Line at Lure at Ilani Casino Resort, New Seasons Market, Nom Nom Restaurant & Grill, Say Ciao!, Sixth Avenue Bistro and WildFin American Grill

Icing on the Cake!

Are you at least 70 ½?

If so, you can now make tax-free gifts directly from your IRA. Your gift to Share will never count as income, but will always make a difference to families and individuals in our community.

Now that’s icing on the cake!

To get started, contact your IRA plan administrator and then Diane McWithey at Share at 360-952-8216 or dmcwithey@sharevancouver.org.

Sponsorships are available from ‘Sorcerer’s Stone’ Supporting Sponsor at $7,500 to ‘Choose Your House’ Table Sponsors at $1,000—10 each available for Gryffindor, Slytherin, Hufflepuff & Ravenclaw. With 800 guests, this is Share’s most popular event—claim your table soon to ensure your house preference!

Contact Kim Hash at khash@sharevancouver.org
More than 840 guests and 90 volunteers attended Soup’s On! Celebrity Chefs Compete for Share on Sun., Oct. 6 at ilani Casino Resort. The event was presented by Davidson & Associates Insurance and supported by Columbia Credit Union, Fred Meyer, Pacific Premier Bank and Vancouver Grocery Outlet.

A major highlight of the event was the awards for best soup with the coveted Golden La-dle People’s Choice Award for Soup-er Chef awarded to Tim Conklin of Line & Lure at ilani Casino Resort for his Smoked Steelhead Chowder. The Presenting Sponsor’s Choice for Best Soup by Davidson & Associates Insurance was presented to Marian Adams-Manuel of Frontier Public House for her Curried Pumpkin Bisque. The Chef’s Choice Award for Best Soup was presented to Brandon Carmon of Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center for his Green Chile Chicken Enchilada.

A total of 12 local celebrity chefs participated in the ‘Chef Battle,’ with guests sampling each soup and casting a ballot. Representatives from Davidson & Associates Insurance cast a vote for the Presenting Sponsor’s Choice and each chef cast a vote for the Chef’s Choice. Additional restaurants included Beaches Restaurant & Bar, New Seasons Market, Nom Nom Restaurant & Grill, Pacific House, Sixth Avenue Bistro, 3 Sheets at the Harbor, Tommy O’s Pacific Rim Grill, Warehouse ‘23 and WildFin American Grill.

Each guest took home an artisan soup bowl created by local artists Pat Brame, Nick Molatore, Honna Sheffield and Chris Brodigan.

The evening’s program also included the presentation of the 2019 Emily Marshall Volunteer of the Year Award to Marc Veneroso and the 2019 Community Partnership Award to Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church.

Finally, an enormous thank you to all of this year’s sponsors, who are listed on the opposite page!
Thank You to These Generous Sponsors!

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There are so many ways to Share this holiday season.

At Share, our work is done with compassion, care and commitment, and fulfilling our commitment includes help from you. Your donation today could help to feed a local family or individual or help move them into an apartment or house.

Your $250 donation could provide 200 warm, nutritious meals to neighbors.

Your $100 donation could provide two days of shelter and food for a parent with two children.

Your $50 donation could provide 10 children—and their families—with a weekly bag of healthy, protein-rich food during the school year.

Spread out your annual gift by becoming a Monthly ShareHolder!

To everyone who has already donated so generously—thank you!

If you haven’t yet had a chance to give, please visit sharevancouver.org to donate today and help make our community home.