

CROSSWALK IN A CRUNCH



how you helped keep
the teen shelter open—
and what you can do now

As you may have heard, Crosswalk teen shelter recently and abruptly lost more than \$100,000 in federal funding (nearly one-third of our annual budget). We made drastic cuts—several layoffs, slashing budgets for food, recreation, prescriptions, bus passes and other non-emergency services. And we asked for your help.

You made it possible to avoid closing the shelter on weekend days. Donors including Sterling Savings Bank, AmericanWest Bank, Washington Trust Bank, Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center, Kiemle & Hagood, a dozen service clubs and churches

CROSS WALK

continued on page 3

Veterans' Homes Transformed two-day Home Depot blitz improves sites



On Sept. 19th and 20th, more than 65 volunteers descended on our two homes for formerly homeless veterans—the Rest & Recoup house and Eagles' Rest—for a two-day blitz to weatherize both houses and complete a variety of interior and exterior improvements. It was all made possible by a \$30,000 Home Depot grant and hundreds of volunteer hours donated by Team Depot, The Home Depot® associate-led volunteer force.

The effort was part of The Home Depot® Foundation's 2nd annual "Celebration of Service," transforming the homes and lives of veterans across the country during the days between Sept. 11 and Veterans Day.

At the Rest & Recoup house, in addition to providing new energy-efficient windows, doors, venting and a new hot water heater, volunteers repaired steps on the back deck, installed new carpeting and new dishwasher, microwave, mailbox and exterior lighting.

In addition to touching up stains and trims inside and outside, they put new lighting, storage and work space in the garage, rebuilt storage shelves in the kitchen and brought new storage furniture for the bedrooms and garage. As if that wasn't enough, they also put all new dry wall, tile and paint in the bathroom and donated a variety of tools for the vets to use out in the garage.

"It is amazing how much better the place looks!" says Jon Carollo, director of our programs for veterans. "By the time the volunteers were done, it literally looked like a brand new house."

They made just as big a difference at Eagles' Rest, which also received new energy-efficient doors and windows. During the event volunteers installed new window treatments, painted the living room, bathrooms and railings.

They also created a brand new office space for the vets, complete with computers, desks, lamps, chairs and a new coat of paint for the room. Volunteers also replaced exterior lighting,

continued on page 3

Did You Know?

Each year we happily participate in the Christmas Bureau—coordinated by Volunteers of America and Catholic Charities and funded by the Spokesman-Review's Christmas Fund—provides food vouchers for families and books and toys for children, along with heartfelt cheer and comfort. The Christmas Bureau has been brightening the holidays for families in need since 1954.

From Thanksgiving to Christmas, individuals and businesses can make monetary contributions to the Spokesman-Review's Christmas Fund to support these efforts. Funds are used to purchase new books and toys for children and to provide vouchers redeemable at local grocery stores.

In 2011, more than 35,000 adults and children received assistance including more than 17,000 new toys and 11,000 grocery vouchers.

The 2012 Christmas Bureau will run Dec. 12-21 (excluding Sunday, Dec. 16) from 10am to 2:30pm each day with the help of more than 100 volunteers each day. The Bureau is located at the Spokane county Fair/Expo Center (404 N. Havana St.)

To learn more about receiving help, call the Christmas Bureau Hotline at 509.459.5453. Donations can be sent to The Spokesman-Review Christmas Fund, PO Box 516, Spokane, WA 99210.

CROSSWALK IN A CRUNCH, CONT.

and 70 individual donors pieced together nearly \$50,000 to keep our most crucial services like shelter and schooling up and running with the least damage to the vulnerable kids who rely on our shelter and its services.

However, crucial services are still on the chopping block. We still need \$50,000 to keep offering comprehensive services—from education and employment assistance to mental health treatment and art therapy—that go farther than just getting a kid in from the cold.

Your support allows us to offer services that keep kids off the streets for the rest of their lives—something we've been doing since 1985 and hope, with your help, to continue for many years to come.

We are deeply grateful for your ongoing support and know that this holiday season, as you give and receive, you will remember the nearly 1,000 youth that Crosswalk serves each year. Every dollar helps us reach our goal.

To make a donation, volunteer or get more information on how you can ask your legislators to fund kids' shelters, call Kay Murano at 509.624.2378 ext. 104.



When Crosswalk lost nearly one third of its annual funding in October, you stepped up to help keep the shelter open on weekend days.

Now we need your help to restore drastically cut budgets for crucial non-emergency services like food, recreation, birth certificates, prescriptions, bus passes and other supports for our kids.



Thank you to all our celebrity models, including President of the 2013 Lilac Festival Association, Christine Leva (above).

Thank you event supporters!

Thanks again to everyone who supported our fall fundraising events—these events gather crucial support and funding for Hope House women's shelter in Spokane and Crosswalk North Idaho in Coeur d'Alene.

The 14th annual Lake City Blues Benefit raised support and dollars for Crosswalk North Idaho (formerly Project Safe Place). We appreciate the hard work of Carl Speer and the Inland Empire Blues Society in organizing this annual event. Thanks also go to Steve Saunders and everyone at O'Shay's Irish Pub & Eatery, our many auction donors, and to our great bands—Cryin' Shame and Laffin' Bones.

Supporters of the Hope House Celebrity Fashion Show once again raised vital dollars and awareness for our women's shelter. We are grateful for the support of our sponsors AmericanWest Bank, Pathology Associates Medical Laboratories, Red Lion Hotels Corporation, Safeway, Kalispel Tribe & Northern Quest Casino, Inland Imaging and Wheatland Bank. Thank you to all our celebrity models, fashion providers, stylists and auction donors. Please help us thank our supporters by visiting their websites and businesses. You can find a full list of donors at www.voaspokane.org/FashionShow2012.

And of course we'd like to thank everyone who attended these two events. Your support means the world to us and to the homeless women at Hope House and at-risk youth at Crosswalk North Idaho. Neither program could survive without you.

Home Depot helps our homeless veterans (continued from pg.1)

installed a new mailbox and storm door and created a new storage system in the downstairs closet.

“Everyone went above and beyond,” says Carollo. “When they completed the work earlier than planned, they announced they were going to paint the house! A supervisor from the Home Depot paint department took color samples and brought back matching paint. Next thing I know, they’ve painted the entire exterior of the house and trim.” The work completed will benefit roughly 36 veterans each year by providing a safe, comfortable transitional house where veterans can identify and address their barriers to health, permanent housing and independence.

“The enthusiasm of the group was wonderful,” continues Carollo. “It was an amazing event. We just can’t say enough what a tremendous gift to the veterans this effort was!”





**Volunteers
of America®**

**EASTERN WASHINGTON
& NORTHERN IDAHO**

525 W SECOND AVE
SPOKANE, WA 99201

**IT'S NOT TOO
LATE TO HELP!**

2012 HOLIDAY WISH LIST

Looking to spread some holiday cheer? For more information or to arrange drop off or pickup contact Kay Murano at 509.624.2378 ext. 104.



MEN & WOMEN

*Emergency Services—Hope House
Permanent Supportive Housing—Veteran's Housing*

- Pajamas, robes & slippers (XL-XXL)
- Jeans, flannel shirts, sweatshirts & sweaters (esp. LG-XXL)
- Men's work boots
- Gloves, stocking hats & coats
- Household items (alarm clocks, dishes, furniture, microwaves, pots/pans, shower curtains, silverware, towels, twin sheets, vacuums, etc.)
- Bus passes
- Gift certificates (clothing, crafts, food, haircuts, movies, etc.)
- Cameras, albums & frames
- Watches & jewelry
- Toiletries (deodorant, feminine hygiene, razors, toothbrushes, etc.) & make-up
- Craft, model-making, sewing & quilting materials
- Backpacks
- Postage stamps & stationary
- Socks & underwear (briefs, bras, thermals)

TEENAGERS

*Alexandria's House—Aston-Bleck Apts—
Crosswalk—Crosswalk North Idaho—Flaherty
House—Independent Living*

- Underwear & socks
- Winter coats (esp. XL-XXL), gloves & stocking caps
- Jeans, hooded sweatshirts, flannel shirts & tops (esp. XL-XXL)
- Games & activities (basketballs, board games, footballs, hacky sacks, playing cards, skateboards, tech decks, etc.)
- Electronics (hand-held video games, Mp3 players, etc.)
- Toiletries (esp. deodorant, toothbrushes & chapstick), grooming kits, make-up
- Arts & craft supplies (beading, drawing, photography, scrapbooking, sewing, etc.)
- Boots & winter shoes
- Bicycle helmets, lights & locks
- Twin bedding & bath towels
- Tool kits
- Gift certificates (books, clothes, food, movies, music, etc.)

FAMILIES

Emergency Services

- Bath & kitchen towels
- Cleaning, laundry & kitchen supplies
- Family games & grocery gift cards
- Sweatshirts, sweatpants (esp. M-XXL)
- White tube socks
- Men's white t-shirts (esp. M-XXL)

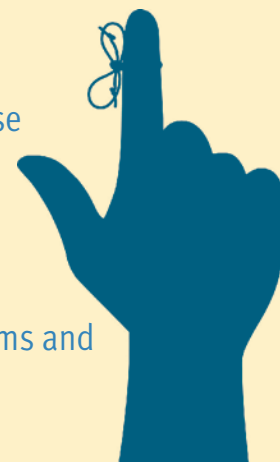
BABIES & TODDLERS

Alexandria's House—Aston-Bleck Apts—Crosswalk

- Baby Bjorns, backpacks, slings & diaper bags
- Toys (ages 0-4)
- Diapers (all sizes)
- Gift certificates (books, groceries, pictures with Santa, toy store, etc.)
- Strollers & new car seats
- Food grinders
- Baby bottles, dishes & sippy cups
- Bath supplies (bubble bath, shampoo, toys, etc.)
- Cameras, albums, frames & scrapbook supplies

REMEMBER...a little help *goes a long way!*

- \$25 gives a night of shelter to a woman at Hope House
- \$50 provides 33 two-hour bus passes
- \$150 pays for a month of electricity at Flaherty House
- \$250 ensures a week of nutritious food for six moms and six babies/toddlers at Alexandria's House



WORKING WONDERS

IS A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA OF EASTERN WASHINGTON & NORTHERN IDAHO. ALL NEWS AND ARTICLES ARE PRESENTED STRICTLY FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES. PLEASE SEND ARTICLE SUGGESTIONS, CONTRIBUTIONS OR MAILING ADDRESS CHANGES TO:

SARAH HOWARD
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA

525 W SECOND AVENUE
SPOKANE, WA 99201
showard@voaspokane.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO DOWNLOAD OUR COMPLETE HOLIDAY WISH LIST VISIT WWW.VOASPOKANE.ORG OR CONTACT KAY MURANO AT 509.624.2378 X 104