Ommunity NOTO NO

Winter 1997

Special Thanks

Thank you
for all
you've done,
Helping us to
find new life,
Always there
to help,
Never giving
up on us,
Knowing we
could make it.

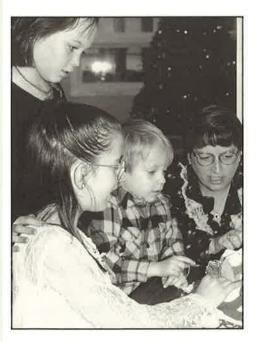
You are
wonderful and
obviously
appreciated for
understanding
how to help us
meet our needs!

Linda VanDerVeen

ONNECTIONS A Quarterly Publication of Community Action Organization

Happy New Year!

hanks to your organization this will be our second very merry Christmas! There is no way to say how much Community Action Organization has done for us throughout the years we've been together. Without the guidance and support provided by our case manager, Martha Westfall, and CAO we could never achieve all that we have. Life now holds for us hope



Linda with Jessica, Amber, and James

and the promise of finally being self-sufficient. Progress that seemed impossible before is now an everyday adventure.

Almost two years ago our family was fractured by the effects of my addiction and the trouble that came with it. We didn't know how to live like "normal" people. Although I'm still not sure what normal is, we are interacting in healthier ways both within our family and with others. I am attending school full-time and am honored to be doing my cooperative education with CAO. My own experience with CAO contributed a great deal to my decision to work in transitional social services after I complete college.

Christmas is a time of remembering friends and being thankful. We hope that in some way we can express to you how very much your services mean in our lives. You are wonderful, valuable, and needed. We hope next year brings you many good experiences and opportunities.

With many thanks – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Linda VanDerVeen

Community Connections

CAO salutes our treasure

We are pleased to introduce CAO's Community Treasure for 1996, Kristin Noël Ludwig. In November, Kristin was honored, along with other "Community Treasures," at a luncheon sponsored by Portland General Electric and Technical Assistance for Community Services. The annual award recognizes those who "do more than they have to."

Kristin has worked for CAO for over 13 years, first as a Head Start teacher and now as our Farmworker Access Specialist. She provides information and referral and direct emergency assistance, and works closely with other service providers to coordinate services to farmworkers.

There is love and respect behind everything Kristin does. Her deep commitment shows in her paid work at Community Action as well as her many volunteer activities. She is equally comfortable helping a family find a bed, chairing a committee, editing the Spanish-language edition of the Forest Grove News-Times, or hustling up donations for a community organizing event.

Kristin's many talents and enthusiasm truly make her a community — and Community Action—treasure!

Community Connections is the quarterly newsletter of Community Action Organization, 1001 SW Baseline St., Hillsboro, OR 97123, and is published by the Development Office and Yvette Dyer, volunteer.

Community Action Organization is a private, non-profit corporation providing a wide variety of services to the needy in Washington County, Oregon. For further information:

> Administration: 648-6646 Client Services Department: Hillsboro 648-0829 Tigard 639-0495 (Neighborshare)

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Cindy Hirst Board Chair

Message from the Board Chair and Executive Director

"We sincerely hope

that 1997 brings

you much peace

and joy."



ith the holidays behind us, wonderful memories linger on of the many acts of kindness and generosity that we witnessed throughout the season.

The truckloads of toys, food and gifts donated by the community assured the magic of Christmas for many children who otherwise would have gone with-

out. The numerous families and groups who reached out and adopted low income households to share the joy of the season through their giving of gifts, food and caring. The many individuals and businesses who donated generously to our operations and emergency funds to assure that services continue throughout the year.

It is that Spirit of the Season that brings out the very best in all of us. It reminds us of how much we all need one another to maintain community and a sense of place and security for everyone. May the Spirit of the Holiday season live on long after the trees and the lights are put away.

> May every child, family and elderly person know their community cares and will reach out to others, regardless of the season.

We sincerely wish that 1997 brings you peace and joy. Thank you for all that you do.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Hirst Board Chair

Gewalizm New Jerralynn Ness Executive Director

Wine Raffle Winners

On December 13th at 4:00 PM, Marj Vuylsteke, Co-Owner of Oak Knoll Wineries, drew three lucky tickets for Community Action's 2nd Annual Wine Raffle. Each winner will receive 12 cases of premium wine from the Washington County Winery Association. The winners are: Dr. and Mrs. George Caspar of Portland, Bob May of Sheridan and Jim Teeter of Portland. The participating wineries are: Oak Knoll, Laurel Ridge, Tualatin, Montinore, Ponzi and Cooper Mountain.

Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets. All proceeds go to benefit the work of Community Action Organization.

MARDIGRAS '97

You're Invited to the 11th Annual Mardi Gras



Saturday, February 8 7:00 p.m. - midnight



pre-event dinner: 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Montgomery Park, 2701 NW Vaughn Street, Portland

T's almost time again for Community Action's Mardi Gras Ball. It's the 11th annual fundraiser, and will be better than ever this year. Montgomery Park will take on the feel of New Orleans at Mardi Gras time, heightened by the sounds of dixieland music by Riverboat Jazz.

There's something for everyone. Want to dance? There will be a varied assortment of danceable music spanning five decades performed by Pressure Point, a premier Portland band. Or is gambling what you're up for? Wild Bill's Casino will be back with blackjack, roulette, and

craps. Costumes are encouraged, and there will be a contest to reward the most creative and courageous among the guests. As ever, there will be psychics, face painters, souvenirs and a silent auction with items for every budget. There will be a no-host bar and a complimentary buffet of delicious hors d'oeuvres and desserts.

Dick Stenson, CEO of Tuality Healthcare, is the honorary chair of the event. Dick and his wife, Doreen, will reign over the Ball as King and Queen and judge the costume contest.

Send tickets to:			
Name:			Phone: ()
Address:street			
street	city		state zip
I want to purchase:			
# Tickets to the Ball	@ \$25	= \$	=====
# Pre-Event Dinner tickets	@ \$100	= \$	_
# Sponsor Tables	@ \$1000	= \$	(includes a table for 10 at the pre-event dinner
Method of payment:			with a placard bearing your company name)
☐ check enclosed ☐ MasterCar	rd 🗆 Visa		
Name as it appears on credit card:			
card #	expirat	ion date:	
All proceeds benefit the work of Community	•		month/year

Community Connections

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