

www.sheltered.org

P.O. Box 242 Vancouver, WA 98666 (360) 737-0300

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And the house which I build is great: for great is our God above all gods.

2 Chronicles 2:5 (KJV)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The Next Chapter Begins	1
Photo Timeline	2
From The Director	2
How Will It Be Used?	4
What Will You Find Inside	4

Connections Fdition!



The Tod and Maxine McClaskey **Family Resource Center**

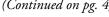
The Next Chapter Begins

Can you visualize what it will look like when families can use the new Tod and Maxine McClaskey Family Resource Center? Imagine for a moment the squeals of delight as little ones will race back and forth across the new gym floor, playing tag or just being children. Today, the families in our shelter "recreate" in the evenings in one of the two shared common areas on the second or third floor of the shelter. Each common area measures 20ft, x 64ft, and accommodates up to 108 residents, 50-60% of them children under the age of 17 years. In just a matter of weeks, the families will have a NEW space in which to recreate, a 4,250 sq. ft. (50ft. x 85ft.) gymnasium. Our families have so much to look forward to!

"It has been super exciting to watch this building go up," says Executive Director Renee Stevens. "The new McClaskey building is going to open up space for our families and classrooms for community partner organizations to join in our services. We have faith that God has a great plan for this new building, much of which will unfold in due time. It is nothing short of amazing to be a part of this chapter of Open House history."

THE HISTORY: A BIGGER PLAN

A vision for the center goes back decades. Open House Ministries founder Joanne Kendall recalls many who people supported and prayed for the ministry such as local business owners Shirley and Randy Radtke, and Pat and Leland Neal. One day when Randy and Leland were at the shelter volunteering (Continued on pg. 4)





In early 2014 the land and building were purchased. Open House staff assisted the boarding house residents with relocation. In December of the same year, the old boarding house building was razed. With a grant from the Community Foundation for Southwest Washington, the preparation for the new Family Resource Center, a three-story, 16,700 square foot building was underway.











In the late spring of 2017, friends of Open House gathered on the northeast corner of the Open House Ministries campus to break ground. Construction commenced on June 6, 2017 under the supervision of the Open House Ministries Building Committee with the oversight of Jack Harroun, Project Foreman and Jack Foyt, Project Manager.











The Capital Campaign for the \$3.35 million structures was guided by the Project Oversight Committee along with the assistance of a private consulting firm, Westby Associates. With significant contributions from Joanne Kendall and Steve and Jan Oliva, the campaign was underway. The facility was named in recognition of a \$750,000 grant award from the Tod and Maxine McClaskey Foundation. With additional major gifts from the Murdock Charitable Trust, the Firstenburg Foundation, Allen and Saundra Kirkwood, Steve and Jo Marie Hansen, Joe Pauletto, the Community Foundation for Southwest Washington and local private philanthropists, by Christmas, 2017 the Project Oversight Committee was able to announce that funding for the construction of the building was 100% committed.





THANK YOU FROM THE DIRECTOR

"We are so blessed that so many have contributed to the project. Many individuals and companies have donated their prayers and services to the construction. Significant in-kind contributions from our subcontractors have allowed us to build twice the building at a fraction of the cost. Thanks



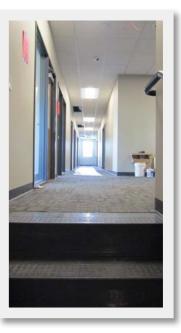
to an amazing giving community, this building will open fully funded." ~ Renee Stevens



Therefore now let it please thee to bless the house of thy servant, that it may continue for ever before thee: for thou, O Lord God, hast spoken it: and with thy blessing let the house of thy servant be blessed for ever.

2nd Samuel 7:29 (KJV)





together on a project, Randy told Leland, "God gave me a vision that one day Open House Ministries will occupy the entire city block." Director Renee remembers that years ago residents jokingly nicknamed the space around Open House "The God Block".

The dream for a new center took form in 2013 during a strategic planning process of the Board of Directors and leadership. At that time a run-down boarding house occupied the corner lot behind the shelter at the intersection of West 13th and Ingalls Street. Its transient population had a reputation for often carrying on activity at cross purposes to the clean and sober environment at the Open House shelter. The leadership asked, "What if Open House were to purchase the property and replace the old structure with a new one?"

The fact is, with multiple registered sex offenders within a six-block radius and tent city less than three blocks from the shelter, there is no "safe" place for families and children to recreate or play. How could we better serve our families as the need continues to grow? The answer was clear: build a resource center for families with additional classroom, meeting and office space to make better use of the existing campus facilities.

"HOW WILL IT BE USED?"

Director Renee explains, "Our Building Committee, composed of a number of professionals who volunteered their services for this project, was deliberate about how to plan an efficient and costeffective building. We are super excited about two aspects that this new building brings. First, our offices that have been housed in the family shelter building will move to the new McClaskey building. Converting those rooms back to the originally permitted apartments will allow us to increase capacity to serve as much as 25% more families in the shelter." She continues, "Secondly, we will now have the ability to expand our programs because we literally have the space to do so. We are in open discussion with community partners who have established programs that complement our current programs. Open House wants to bring them on campus for residents and other families in our neighborhood."

A LOOK INSIDE: WHAT YOU WILL FIND

On the first floor is the reception area, and down the north hall are several offices, and a conference room. The west end of the hall will house a new satellite location for Lighthouse Community Credit Union. On the south side, adjacent to the shelter you will find the great room/gymnasium and commercial kitchen. The second floor is the location of offices and conference/classrooms. The third level is a large open space, perfect for the expansion of youth programs.

Project Manager: Open House Ministries Building Committee

Architect: Lisa Slater, Slater Architecture

Project Foreman: Jack Harroun

Project Manager/Board Liaison: Jack Foyt

Is your church or organization interested in booking a tour of the new facility? Please visit our website to request a tour, or contact Claudia Merritt for more information at 360-737-0300, claudia@sheltered.org.

