

Marie Mills Center, Inc.



1800 Front Street, Tillamook, OR 97141

Fall 2017

We would like to take a moment to thank each of you for supporting our efforts throughout the years. We are blessed to have a community that is so caring; it warms our hearts to see all of the positive reactions we get from those we serve and those we call friends!



A Look Back In Time

Dr. Helen Benschmidt, a founder of Marie Mills Center, sent us this old photo taken in 1969 causing us to pause and reflect proudly on our history, and how we got to where we are today. **The formation of Marie Mills Center in 1969 was inspired by Helen's niece - Marie Mills who had a disability.** In 1969 community-based services for the intellectually and developmentally disabled was in its infancy stage with most services for these individuals being provided through institutions. Back then there was little if any funding available to get these individuals into community programs that were forming, and there were no road maps on how to do it. **Through Helen's family, others, and Marie's inspiration the Marie Mills Center was formed.** It was not easy, but with dedication anything was possible. The startup of Marie



Helen Benschmidt & Brad Barclay at the BBQ
Can you identify anyone in the background?

Mills Center in 1969 occurred with nine individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities served by volunteer staff, some which were our founders. Because of these founders, **today Marie Mills Center serves nearly 90 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities** through a variety of services. In discussing the early history of Marie Mills Center with Helen she remarked "**several of us had barbecue fundraisers at our houses and invited friends to come and share and contribute. Many times we would make \$100. Of course all of these friends knew about our endeavor**". This photo from 1969 is from one of those barbecue fundraisers. Marie Mills Center thanks its founders for their hard work and dedication which allowed seeds to be planted that have benefited so many over the years.



May We Help You?

Marie Mills Center has a willing and able work force. We provide janitorial services, subcontract labor, confidential record destruction, and individual job placements. **If you have a need, give us a call! We will discuss how Marie Mills Center can help you meet that need.**

For further information contact

Cindy Green

503-842-2539 x 1400





Our Year In Review

2016/2017 was a very busy year. We serve a population increasing in age and medical needs. **Medical support for those in our programs has become a priority** over the years. In the past year, we took individuals served to a total of **386 medical appointments**. In the past five years alone, individuals were taken to a total of 1,940 medical appointments.



We serve individuals through three different programs. Our **Day Support Activity program** provides non-employment services which includes helping individuals access their community, individuals with intense support needs and individuals who have retired from working.

The National and State **emphasis on Employment Services** has resulted in tremendous change for community-based providers over the past several years. Our Employment Services program consists of **Employment Path services** which served **37 individuals** in 2016/2017. These services are preparatory to competitive employment services. In this program **Job Discovery Services** occur helping the individual decide on their desired type of employment. Once that is accomplished we seek out a position and ultimately **placement into competitive employment**. In the past year we **placed 5 individuals into competitive employment** and by year's end we were providing job coaching support to **14 individuals in competitive employment**.

Our Residential Services program includes our **Nes-tucca House and Madrona House group homes and a Supported Living program**. The ultimate goal for individuals in group homes is to move into more integrated and independent settings with assistance from our Supported Living program. **In 2016/2017 we served a total of 45 individuals** in our residential programs.

The Madrona House group home is currently home to 10 individuals. We have developed a **plan to down-size it to 8 individuals**, moving two individuals into our newly formed Trask House. This home will be a staffed apartment setting. These changes promise to better serve those within our program and be more cost effective than our present structure.

Within the field today, **employee retention** is the most serious issue facing providers and is only amplified when one considers a rapidly changing field with increased provider and staff responsibilities. **We are extremely fortunate to have the employees we have** and the relative stability compared to other providers in the State who have experienced over 70% turnover annually. **Our staff perform admirably in their roles. They are heroes that tirelessly support those we serve.**



Tillamook County United Way

Marie Mills Center encourages support of the Annual

Tillamook County United Way Drive in October, November & December

The Tillamook County United Way's Vision for a Better Community includes:

- Caring for Kids
- Promoting Self-Sufficiency
- Strengthening Families
- Promoting Health and Wellness
- Assisting People in Crisis

On average, **the United Way touches 16,000 lives in Tillamook County**. Giving through the United Way allows your donation to become a helping hand to someone right here in our community!

Visit the Tillamook County United Way at www.tillamookcountyunitedway.org



Marie Mills Foundation Update



The Marie Mills Foundation is a separate 501 (c) 3 organization that continues to strive towards their goal of generating support and funding for the future of Marie Mills Center. It was an active year for the Foundation receiving \$92,190 in contribution and estate gifts. The annual contribution that was made to the Center was used to help purchase a new van for the janitorial program.

If you would like to find out more about the Marie Mills Foundation please contact Ron Rush at 503-842-2539 x 1200 or visit our web site at www.mariemills-center.com. Also by remembering the Foundation in your estate planning you can help assure the future of Marie Mills Center and its services to the intellectually and developmentally disabled in Tillamook County.

The Marie Mills Foundation and the Marie Mills Center would like to express a heartfelt thank you to those who are helping them to continue to move forward in meeting their goals:

Catholic Daughters of the Americas; Debbie Kelly (monthly donation); Gregg Snyder; The Women's Club of Manzanita-North County; Tillamook High School Charity Drive; Albright & Kittell; Ron & Muriel Beeler; Dr. Helen Benscheidt in Memory of Margaret Winslow, Harriet M. Sweeney & Bob Hart; Steve & Linda Darling in Honor of Mollie Nuppenau; Capt. David & Mary DeCook; Cecilia Dwigans; Ruth & Rudy Fenk; Bryan Gibson; Charles & Susan Hurliman; Lauren Lamb; William & Virgie Lorenz; William Mah; Dr. Roy & Claire Peterson; Bill Pratt in Memory of James Pratt; Walt & Marilyn Rigterink; Dr Brian & Sheryl Seaholm; Tillamook Chiropractic Clinic; Tillamook County United Way; Mahlon & Pat Wirfs; Chris & Dave Alteneder in Memory of Evelyn Milner; Judy & Hank Gollon; Eddie & Judy Murray; ARC of Tillamook County; Tillamook Kiwanis Club

~Thank You All For Your Kindness~



Lots Happening of Late



It has been a busy few months for us at Marie Mills Center taking advantage of the nice summer weather to accomplish several planned larger projects.

We completed the Nestucca House generator project which resulted in a 30,000 watt generator being installed. This project will

enable individuals to shelter in place during times of lost power due to emergency situations, which often happen in Tillamook County. With this project being completed both residential facilities now have this capacity. We have replaced all interior and exterior lighting at all of our facilities through the Tillamook PUD Commercial Lighting program. Previous lighting was antiquated and insufficient. New lighting is LED and much more energy efficient. We also completed the parking lot replacement at our Front Street facility. The previous cement parking lot was cracked and posed trip hazards.



Summer Time Fun Picnic



On August 26th we all gathered at Kilchis Park to enjoy the sunshine and each other's company and celebrate the conclusion of our busy summer season.

While some came to enjoy the hamburgers and hotdogs, others come ready to try their hand at winning one of our many games. **Again, we would like to express our appreciation to the Widmer family and David Adler for their support with the BBQ and grilling!**

This year was full of helpers from across the program as well as their spouses lending a hand. Thank you to each and every one of you who helped make this year an enjoyable event!

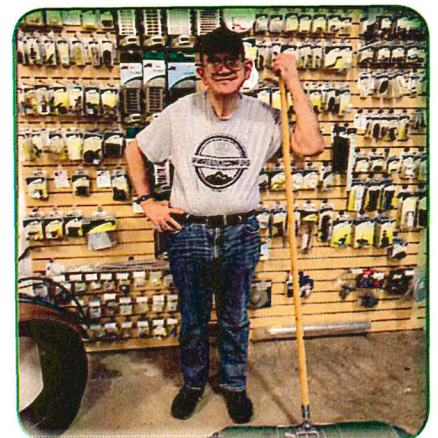


Gerald's New Job

Gerald Hood was hired by Tillamook RV Repair as their new **Janitor**. He will be working 3 shifts per week keeping their building clean for customers and his co-workers. Gerald has been working in conjunction with Vocational Rehabilitation and Marie Mills Center since May to find a job. When the Employment Specialist, **Sue Sanderson**, heard about the business's needs from a MMCI employee who knows the owner, **Mike Borough**, she made contact and was able to assist Gerald in obtaining the job.

Gerald has had many years of experience as a janitor on the MMCI janitorial crew, most recently he has been

volunteering for the Oregon Food Bank doing some cleaning for them. He is excited to have this opportunity to get back into the community workforce. **Mike is also excited to have Gerald as a part of their team.**



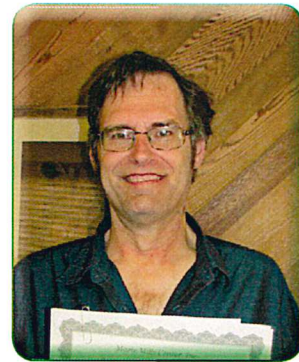
Employees of the Month



April 2017
Daisy Roemsich



May 2017
Mary Armstrong



June 2017
Ken Randall



July 2017
Gerald Hood



August 2017
Sophie Noa



Board Members

At its annual meeting in July Marie Mills Center welcomed three new board members.



Pictured from left to right;
Jim Huffman is a Tillamook ESD Speech Therapist, **Kyra Williams** is Chief Financial Officer at Tillamook Bay Community College, and **Kim Lyon** is the Tillamook ESD Service Center Administrator.

Judy Gollon was selected as Board Chair replacing **Jill Carter** who served as Board Chair for over 20 years. Jill assumed the position of Vice Chair. We thank Jill for all of her years of dedicated service.



Also, at the annual meeting the board expressed sincere thanks for **Mollie Nuppenau's** service as a Marie Mills Center board member. **Mollie is retiring** from board service after 37 years of service and was selected as Marie Mills Center's first honorary board member.



Karaoke & Ice Cream!



Mark Your Calendar

Open House
Marie Mills Center
October 27th
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Halloween Party & Dance
October 28th
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Swiss Hall

Christmas Dinner
December 8th
12:00 - 1:30 PM
Swiss Hall

Staff Christmas Party
December 9th
6:00 - 9:00 PM
Swiss Hall

Visit Marie Mills Center

We invite you to tour Marie Mills Center. You will observe individuals at work and see our programs in action. Call Ron Rush at (503)842-2539 ext. 1200 or visit us on the web at www.mariemillscenter.com

Executive Director Ron Rush	Assistant Director Cindy Green	Residential Director Barb McDonald
---------------------------------------	--	--

Marie Mills Center, Inc.

Board of Directors

Judy Gollon
Jill Carter
Bob Weitman
Susan Pulliam
Mike Hanback
Kyra Williams
Linda Beyer
Helen Gienger
Kim Lyon
Valerie Hagan
Jim Martin
David Yamamoto
Jim Huffman
Dave Hollandsworth
Terry Wright

Marie Mills Foundation, Inc.

Board of Directors

Tom Waud
Jill Carter
Bob Weitman
Linda Kay Marshall
Ken Bell
Helen Benschmidt
Frank Bohanan
Tammy King-Crossley
Mollie Nuppenau
Ron Rush
Tom Thompson
George Wilson
Leigh Mills Wilson