

Marie Mills Center, Inc.



1800 Front Street, Tillamook, OR 97141

Spring 2021



A Big Shout Out to Our Staff



A **“big thank you”** to Marie Mills Center staff that have worked diligently and with much dedication in serving those in our program during a time of pandemic and many uncertainties. Staff in agencies like ours are considered essential staff providing care and services to a most vulnerable population, while also carrying a huge personal load they must manage because of the pandemic’s impact on their personal lives. Often, Marie Mills Center staff will say they continue forward during these times because they care about the people we serve. This is the **definition of heroism and dedication**. We are very proud of our staff, we appreciate them, and to each of them we say,



Want to be a part of our team? We have room for you! **Visit our website www.mariemillscenter.com and fill out an application.** Check out our jobs on Facebook and send us your resume, or come in to the office on Front Street and pick up an application in person!



Light At The End Of The Tunnel

Hopefully, we are seeing **light at the end of that proverbial tunnel**. With Covid this past year we have seen significant reductions of Day Support Activity Services (DSA) and Employment Services to assure the well-being of those served. Statistics indicate that individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are at a significantly higher risk because of Covid. Many individuals we serve have involved medical issues putting them even further at risk. In our County we have been able to reopen some DSA services on a limited basis based upon our county’s risk rating. As the level drops we have been able to increase services, but as it rose we then had to scale back again. It has been challenging to say the least. We have been able to do a number of **limited one-on-one services** for some in our various day programs. In the past several months **those served and many employees received vaccinations**. We look forward to getting back to normal as do our staff, and those we serve.



Holiday Happenings!

Major events for Marie Mills Center have been impacted by the pandemic. Unfortunately, our Annual Community Halloween Party this past fall was canceled. Our other big community event, the annual Christmas event did occur in a modified format and became a *drive*

through Christmas event. Gifts were purchased to be given to anyone with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Tillamook County. Because we did not know who was coming we had a varied selection of fun printed towels, lunch boxes, and adult coloring supplies. Invitations were sent out for a "Drive Thru" event where we decorated the parking lot with lots of large "blow up" decorations, and we had goodies to give to everyone in the car! Santa hang out with us to greet everyone as the came through. Many *thanks to individuals in our community for contributions enabling Christmas gifts for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.*





Marie Mills Foundation Update



The **Marie Mills Foundation** continues to strive towards their goal of generating support and funding for Marie Mills Center.

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 the following supporters: *Paul & Susan Adcock, Vic Affolter, Albright & Kittell, Norma Anderson in Memory of Tom Thompson, Tracy & Bill Arthur, Linda & Harry Backeberg in Memory of Jill Carter and Jim Daugherty, Ron & Muriel Beeler, Dr. Helen Benscheidt in Honor of Ron Rush, Mark & Susan Benscheidt in Honor of Dr. Helen Benscheidt, Bub & Dolly Boquist, Darlene Braden, Barb Burdick, Sue & Jeff Carr in Memory of their son Jeff, City Sanitary Service, Coast Printing & Stationary, Steve & Linda Darling in Memory of Mollie Nuppenau, David & Corrine Dumas in Memory of their son Tyler, Estate of Gwen Roemisch Walker, Mel Faughender, Ruth & Rudy Fenk, Bryan Gibson, Helen Gienger, Judy & Hank Gollon in Memory of their daughter Richelle, Drs. Constance & Randall Green, Colleen Hagerty in*

Honor of LeiLani Jepson, Tonya Hobbs in Memory of her father Tom Thompson, Trudy & Larry Hobzai in Memory of Uldine Anderson, Phyllis Holmes, Pat & Pearl Ireton, Gladys Jacobsen in Memory of Daisy Roemisch, Wayne & Kathy Jacobsen in Honor of their daughter Kristine, Sharon Kaszycki, Pat Kehr in Memory of Chris Hooley, Debbie Kelly, Tara Kottre in Honor of Jackie Kottre and in Memory of Harold Kottre, Bob & Laurie Lamb in Honor of Ron Rush, Sharon Light-hill in Memory of Mollie Nuppenau, William & Virgie Lorenz, William & Anna Mah, Jim Martin, Loretta McFarland in Memory of Wayne & Randy McFarland, Mike Fitzsimonds Insurance, Ed & Wilma Myers, Bob Ouzounian, Mario & Alma Pastega Family Foundation, Bill Pratt in Memory of his brother James "Jimmy" Pratt, Carlo & Roger Raymond in Honor of Dr. Helen Benscheidt, Walt & Marilyn Rigterink, Rockaway Lions Club, Simpson & Roesoner, Dick & Leanne Spence, Jack & Elaine Streeter, Carol Thompson in Memory of Daisy Roemisch & in Memory of her husband Tom, Tillamook Chiropractic Clinic, Tillamook County United Way, Tillamook Moose Lodge, Tillamook Veterinary Hospital, Tom & Betty Waud, Waud's Funeral Home, Bob & Elva Weeks in Memory of Mollie Nuppenau, Jeanette Werner, Brian & Julie White in Memory of Marcus Balmer, Mahlon & Pat Wirfts.

~Thank You All For Your Kindness~

Tom Waud Retires from Foundation Board

Tom Waud recently announced his retirement from the Marie Mills Foundation Board of Directors. His history with Marie Mills Center goes back to the original formation of Marie Mills Center in 1970 where he served as board chair for many years. *Tom was a founding member of the Marie Mills Foundation.* His contributions over the years to Marie Mills, the Foundation, and those with disabilities were numerous. He will be missed, but he is a part of our DNA. In recognition of Tom's lifetime of service *the Foundation board designated Tom as its first Board Member Emeritus.*

Thank you Tom for everything!



Tom Connaughton Joins Foundation Board

The Foundation is pleased to announce that **Tom Connaughton will be joining its board** filling Tom Waud's position. He is a long time Tillamook resident and owner

of Diamond Art Jewelers who recently retired.

Welcome aboard Tom!



Recent Job Placements at Fred Meyer



Many partnerships occur for successful placements of individuals with disabilities into competitive jobs in our community. A key partnership is with local businesses providing these opportunities of employment. ***Much thanks to Fred Meyer*** for recently hiring a couple of individuals receiving services through our program. One of these individuals is ***Polly McQuigg*** who works in their clothing department. Congratulations to Polly and her co-worker for their new jobs! ***If you or your business is looking to employ someone with disabilities give Marie Mills Center call.*** We can assist with placing individuals into your job while providing support to both that individual and your business throughout the employment process. For further information ***contact Sue Sanderdson at 503-842-2539 x 1600.***



Some of the other businesses in Tillamook County that are currently employing people we serve are the Tillamook Creamery, Tillamook Family Counseling Center, Kitty's Food & Spirits, Tillamook RV, and Prestige Senior Living Five Rivers. Thank you to all who provide this opportunity for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Tillamook County.



New Bus Received



Marie Mills Center recently got ***a new bus*** through grant support from the ***Public Transit Division, the Marie Mills Foundation, and the Bob Riggert Family Foundation.*** Marie Mills Center travels nearly one hundred thousand miles a year serving those with disabilities. Our old bus was getting a lot of miles on it and getting "tired", making this new bus most welcomed. A huge thank you to the above for helping make this happen. Also, ***a huge "thank you" to those of you whom support the Marie Mills Foundation.***



Online Donation Ability Coming Soon

Many of the supporters of Marie Mills Center and the Marie Mills Foundation have asked if we had the ability to do online donations. We are happy to say that ***we are in process of making this a reality.*** We are updating the Ma-

rie Mills Center website to allow safe and secure online donations to the Foundation for the convenience of our supporters. Please ***visit our website at www.mariemills-center.com*** and check out these new options as they occur.

Employees of the Month



August 2020
David Anderson



September 2020
Gabe Welch



October 2020
Andrew Weston



January 2021
Tara Bench



February 2021
Whitney McCraw



March 2021
Barry Moffett



Mary Rose Reynolds is one of our very hard working Supported Living Program Coordinators, she came into this position last January. She hit the ground running and hasn't stopped yet. Mary Rose started working in our group homes a couple of years ago and chose to take the coordinator position when it came open.

We have added several new staff in our residential programs and in our admin office. Welcome aboard Sharyl, Sue & Rhianna!



Enjoying Our Outings



Mark Your Calendar

MMCI Picnic
Cancelled

TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED:
Watch Facebook for updates

Open House
Marie Mills Center
October 22nd
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Halloween Party & Dance
Location: Swiss Hall
October 30th
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Christmas Dinner
Swiss Hall
December 10th
Noon - 2 pm

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	Assistant Director	Residential Director
Ron Rush	Cindy Green	Barb Lawrence

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