Marie Mills Center, Inc.

Spring 2022



Grant & Sandy—A Very Special Love for Each Other

Grant and Sandy are longtime icons in the Marie Mills Center Residential Program. Grant came to Marie Mills Center in 1986 and Sandy in 1994. It was not long before people saw there was something special and genuine between the two of them. If you asked Sandy what she thinks about Grant she will say "he is nice to me and is my guy." Grant loves to hold hands with Sandy, play cards, and go for car rides with her. If you ask him what he thinks of Sandy he will give you a big smile and gently hold her hand. They love watching TV together and with their housemates at our Nestucca House Group Home where they both live. Most touching about Sandy is her sensitivity towards Grant. Sadly, over a year ago, Grant's brother passed away and Sandy told Grant "you got me honey I'm here for you." Sandy loves it at Nestucca House as does Grant. Sandy will always let us know if something is not working right. We appreciate her extra set of eyes. Maria Ben-



edict, House Manager at that home remarks that *they are always happy together* and never upset with each other. She also said that if Grant forgets to tell Sandy good night she will go to his room and knock on his door to remind him about saying good night. Maria smiles when she talks about Grant and Sandy saying that each morning when they see each other, it is like their very first time together.

Hiring Crunch–Looking for a Few Good Men & Women



Most of you are aware of the difficulties employers are facing in finding employees in our current climate. Marie Mills Center is no different. We have a number of position openings. To find out more, look for us on Facebook, apply online at www.mariemillscenter.com, stop in at 1800 Front Street to read job descriptions and pick up an application or you can call 503-842-2539 and we will get you in contact with the person handling the hiring for the job you are interested in. We are offering a hiring bonus and a great benefit package. Go online or come in and see us today!

Employment Services Updates—Nice Job Hazel!

Our Employment Services Program continues to work cohesively with community businesses creating opportunities for individuals to be hired as long-term employees. Congratulations Hazel Werner and a big thank

you to Fred Meyer! Hazel was hired at Fred Meyer in August of 2021. She has been a valuable employee for Fred Meyer as one of their friendly Front End Associates/Cashier. Hazel trained and learned her codes and protocols with enthusiasm. She enjoys working at this location and has increased her hours because of her persistence in the workplace. We recognize her achievements and will continue to support Hazel as needed. *If you see this smiling face when you are shopping-let her know what a nice job she is doing!*

Marie Mills center has placed many individuals into competitive jobs over the years. This has been a win-win situation for those individuals and their employers. The most important aspect with job placement is that Marie Mills Center is there to support that individual on the job and the employer.

If you have a job that needs filled give Sue Sanderson a call at 503-842-2539 x 1600 or email sue@mariemills center.com and let us help you out with finding a great employee!

Marie Mills Foundation Funded Projects

The *annual distribution to Marie Mills Center* was used to replace old windows on the west side of our Front Street Facility, to fund a transition to a new automated work time and attendance program, to fund repairs to our Madrona House storage building, *and most importantly*, *it funded in*- centive wage increases for our direct care staff during a very difficult year when we, like other employers faced workforce challenges because of the pandemic. Much thanks to those supporters of the Foundation who have made this possible!

Donations Made Easy

If you are interested in donating to the Marie Mills Foundation we have made it really simple. If you have a PayPal account and a smart phone or tablet, this link will take you directly to our donation page and we will be notified of your kindness.





Donor Recognition—Thank You!

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

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 website at www.mariemillscenter.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, Norma Anderson in memory of Tom Thompson, Jo & Don Averill, Linda & Harry Backeberg in memory of Jill Carter, Ron & Muriel Beeler in memory of Loretta Landolt, Bill Bennet in memory of Dee Wester, Dr. Helen Benscheidt in memory of Claire Peterson, Mark & Susan Benscheidt in honor of Helen Benscheidt, Linda & Larry Beyer in memory of Loretta Landolt, Elizabeth Britt, Katy Cain in memory of Jim Snyder, Sue & Jeff Carr in memory of Jeffery Carr Jr., Coast Printing & Stationary, Mel Faughender, Ruth & Rudy Fenk, Judy & Hank Gollon in memory of

of George Hurliman, Gladys Jabosen in memory of Loretta Landolt and other. JK Computer Consulting in honor of Max & Ruth Lehman, Tim Josi, Tara Kottre in memory of Harold & honor of Jackie Kottre, Kukui House, Bob & Laurie Lamb, John & Kerma Lamkin, Kathleen Lommen in memory of Loretta Landolt, Loren Parks Foundation, William & Virgie Lorenz, William & Anna Mah, Jim Martin, Judy Mohr in memory of Joelle Mohr, Ed & Wilma Myers, Bob Ouzounian, Leann & Holly Parker in honor of Judy & Henry Gollon, Port Storage, Frants Poulsen in memory of Ruby Alice McCrary, Poulsen, James Power, Walt & Marilyn Rigterink, Barbara & Salu Rodriquez, Anne Seeger in memory of Bill Schenck, Stimson Lumber Co., Jack & Elaine Streeter, The Samuel S. Johnson Foundation, Tillamook Family Counseling Center, Tillamook Chiropractic, Tillamook Moose Lodge, Tillamook Veterinary Hospital, Michelle Trent, Linda Walker in memory of Maxine Richter, Brenda Wallace & Mark Wittwer in memory of David Coon, Tom & Betty Waud, Waud's Funeral Home, Bob & Elva Weeks, Bob and Cindy Weitman, Brian & Julie White in memory of Marcus Balmer, Sally & Rory Willis in memory of

Janice Rieger, Green Tree Dental, Dr.s Constance & Randal Green, Tonya Hobbs in memory of Tom Thompson, Phyllis Holmes, Brad & Donna Hubbard, Joan Hurliman in memory



Claire Peterson, Stephanie Willis in memory of George Hurliman, Leigh Wilson in honor of Helen's 99th birthday & for Dr. Don Olson, Mahlon & Pat Wirfs, Zwald Transport, Inc.

Thank You!

Santa Paid Us A Visit!

On December 17th Santa made a quick visit to help distribute gifts to individuals who came through our "Drive Thru Christmas" event.



Remembering Harold "Kenny" Randall



In the summer of 1985 *Harold "Kenny" Randall* started in the Marie Mills Center program. For many years Kenny worked on our Tillamook Country Smoker crew and later with our Janitorial Crews doing everything from cleaning to landscaping. He also worked for TFCC cleaning offices since 2015. Kenny lived on his own receiving supports from our Supported Living Program. *Kenny's smile is something that we will all remember forever!* Kenny loved to give greeting cards to friends and family and he also spent countless hours creating beautiful velvet art pictures which he loved to give as gifts as well. If you were fortunate enough to have known him, you had a friend for life!

Kim Is Starting A New Adventure



Kim Stockwell will be *leaving Marie Mills Center on June 3rd*. She will be moving from the area with her family. Kim has been with us since graduating high school in 1990 and we wish her only the very best in her future endeavors. It is always hard to see a long time employee leave. *Kim has lots of exciting things in her future* with a new house, a new area to live, and becoming a grandmother in the near future. *We thank her for her dedication and service to Marie Mills Center over the many years that she "grew up with us."* She contributed greatly to Marie Mills Center, the technology we use, and through her organizational knowledge. *Thank you Kim!*

Let's Welcome Our New Office Manager & Administrative Aide



Rene Straessle came to Marie Mills Center in late fall 2021 as our new Office Manager/ Bookkeeper. Rene has many years of experience in

the bookkeeping field and is learning lots of new things about services for the IDD/DD population. Rene was born and raised in Tillamook and has raised her family here as well.

Covid Update

During the pandemic **we had several** outbreaks with the most recent occurring this past fall. Fortunately, everyone affected had full recoveries and are doing well. This pandemic has been a major challenge. We continue to be vigilant, taking necessary precautions to assure the health and safety of our individuals and our staff. We would also like to welcome **Desiree**

Brotherton as our new Administrative Aide. Desiree is also a long time Tillamook girl and a former employee who started back with us in February 2022. With all of the changes happening in our admin office



please be patient as find our new groove. We are also looking for an Administrative Assistant to fill out the new administrative team. If this could be you,

please visit www.mariemillscenter.com.

We have acquired much PPE (personal protective equipment) and testing kits, but It is our hope that we never have to use them again. While things appear to be getting better, because of the nature of our services and the vulnerable population we serve, the state still has special Covid related restrictions that we must follow.



Marie Mills Center, Inc. Management Team

> Ron Rush, Executive Director

Cindy Green, Assistant Director

Barbara Lawrence, Residential Director

Rene Straessle, Office Manager

Marie Mills Center, Inc. Board of Directors

Suzanne Weber Patsy Weber Bob Weitman Susan Pulliam Mike Hanback Kyra Williams Linda Beyer Vacant Kim Lyon Valerie Hill Vacant Erin Skaar Jim Huffman Linda Walker Luke Stahle

Marie Mills Foundation Board of Directors

Tracy Arthur Tom Connaughton Dean McKibbin Linda Kay Widmer Ken Bell Dr. Helen Benscheidt Judy Gollon Tammy King-Crossley Ron Gienger Jerry Bristow Darryl Carter George Wilson Linda Walker Ron Rush Bob Weitman

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 x 1200 to arrange a time Visit Us At: www.mariemillscenter.com or find us on Facebook