

2009 Governor's Volunteer Awards

Narrative

1. *Describe how the nominee addressed a critical community need and/or strengthened Oregon communities.*

Tom and Bonnie Jacquemin are addressing a critical community need and strengthening Oregon communities by facilitating support group meetings for adults, as well as other volunteer activities, at Community Action's Hillsboro Family Shelter. The impact of their contribution has been enormous, although difficult to measure.

Since 1974, Community Action Organization has owned and operated the Hillsboro Family Shelter, 210 SE 12th St., in Hillsboro. The shelter is an essential component of Community Action's Housing & Homeless Services program, as well as Washington County's network of shelters for homeless families.

Tom Jacquemin is a Certified Parent Trainer, as well as a retired school counselor in the Sherwood School District. Working in concert with his wife Bonnie Jacquemin, Tom has assisted families at Community Action's Hillsboro Family Shelter since fall 2004.

Tom would be unable to facilitate the support group meetings without the support of his wife, Bonnie. During the meetings, Bonnie provides care for children whose parents attend the group meetings. Without Bonnie's support, the support group meetings would not take place because the cost of paying for support group facilitation and/or childcare would be prohibitive.

Tom and Bonnie's assistance to families is critical to the success of homeless families emerging from Community Action's shelter program. By fulfilling this critical community need, Tom and Bonnie Jacquemin are strengthening Oregon communities.

2. *Describe how the nominee's service resulted in significant improvements with measurable outcomes for an organization or community.*

Tom Jacquemin's service to homeless families provides them with urgent opportunities to express and share feelings about the state of crisis they are living through. Without these opportunities, residents' frustrations and emotions might find less productive or even damaging outlets.

Residents at Community Action's Hillsboro Family Shelter are able to speak freely during support group meetings, providing mutual support for their circumstances. What residents say in the meetings stays in the

meetings, although Tom makes it clear that he would be required to report criminal behavior.

Tom obtains translators for deaf as well as non-English speaking residents. He also includes teens in groups with their parents, and occasionally facilitates groups including participants whose emotions are at times "extreme," as well as others who have "issues with authority figures."

Funding for programs to assist homeless families does not allow for in-depth tracking and analysis of shelter families' success or failure after leaving shelter. Tom's skill as a group facilitator acquired over years of practice undoubtedly makes a positive difference in the lives of sheltered families. It is well-known that people enduring trauma and crisis benefit significantly through opportunities to express their thoughts and emotions during and after crisis. Families receiving support group opportunities would seem more likely to succeed.

The outcome of these weekly support group meetings could be measured by: comparisons with families moving out of shelters where support groups do not exist; comparisons with families at other shelters that were unable to overcome their housing instability; and/or comparisons with sheltered families that were unable to remain viable during or after their crisis of housing instability.

3. *Describe how the nominee collaborated with others, leveraged community resources and/or employed a unique approach to solving problems.*

Tom and Bonnie Jacquemin have had an ongoing commitment to teach members of their church about homelessness. Through their teaching they have encouraged other church members to volunteer at the family shelter. For example, Tom initiated and led a project to build two 8'x4' outdoor garden boxes. He requested and received donations of building materials for the project from local suppliers, including lumber and hardware. When donations from one supplier came up short and two others declined to contribute, Tom donated funds to pay the difference. He recruited church members to build and install the garden boxes, providing opportunities for families to plant flowers and vegetables, stimulating their hope for the future, and providing fun activities for sheltered children, as well as their families.

Tom is also a photographer (his work was featured this spring in a show at the Influence Gallery in Hillsboro) and has contributed his photographic skills and services to families at the shelter. On several occasions he has photographed parties for residents, and created senior portraits for graduating high school seniors participating in shelter

programs. These are services that homeless families would not otherwise have been able to afford. Tom's volunteer efforts leverage community resources and employ unique approaches to providing solutions to some of the challenges shelter residents face.

4. *Describe how the nominee's service reflected a dedicated and sustained commitment of time and effort.*

Tom and Bonnie Jacquemin have demonstrated a personal and sustained commitment to assisting homeless families.

Before they began volunteering at Community Action's Hillsboro Family Shelter, the Jacquemins volunteered to assist homeless individuals at a day shelter near Hillsboro. Their weekly facilitation of support group meetings at Community Action's Hillsboro Family Shelter during the past 5 years has been a model of dedication and sustained volunteer commitment. At their own expense, Tom and Bonnie frequently bring coffee and pastries for support group meetings, and occasionally bring dinner for residents. Tom describes his volunteer work at the shelter as "a calling." "That's what I'm here for," he says.

Patrick Rogers, Community Action's Housing and Homeless Services Program Manager, said shelter staff have been inspired by Tom and Bonnie's "profound humility." We anticipate that Tom and Bonnie will continue to volunteer at the shelter, as long as they are able to sustain their personal commitment.

* * *





Notes

Tom Jacquemin, home phone: 503.640.9408

Bonnie - - after school program with Bridget, at local church;

Safe Haven for Youth? - - Bonnie has a passion for helping the youngsters - -

Not as much since Leah - - Bonnie has felt that she's needed a break - -

Cooking - passion for cooking, with help from Bible Study friends, then they came and had dinner with them - - "it was a great time, it was wonderful."

For Tom - Volunteering has been a personal calling; counseling lets him get to know people personally ... feels good about doing what he can for others.

"That's what I'm here for." And Bonnie feels exactly the same way.

Bonnie did not help with the garden boxes, but helped plan - loves to garden. Little kids and food are her passion.

Says great things about staff, "They are just so passionate about helping."

Always on Tuesday mornings - last an hour - 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

copy article & pat

What are Bonnie's qualifications?

603, 610, 9408

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It's important for families to be able to voice their frustration w/ state of affairs + problems impact on families. In power families choices of questioning of situation, no \$ value possible. professional services.

A lot of what Tom does could not happen w/o Bonnie, who provides Child Care

meeting of 5 yrs. - group therapy where residents can speak openly - independent of state - "mutual support group" w/o focusing on kids - who are in Child care w/ Bonnie followed pat from Open Doors.

Degree of involvement prominent

Pat will write letter to Tom + Bonnie

Tom has brought new to Church - raised beds, purchased materials, installed it. - has brought his church in photographs - has taken photos of parties - brings coffee + baked goods meetings - professional portraits of High School seniors
Danner

continuously donate household items of families.

completely empathetic + non judgement.

They bring dinner - never 2ghob

Tom also offers his time 1:1 w/ families. Individualized.

El Pastor
Tom Bowie organizing
Congregation that never 2ghob

July 5, 2007

Great photos available.

To: Hillsboro Area Lumber/Building Supply Companies

Purpose: obtain supplies for Homeless Shelter Raised garden bed for homeless residents.

Information about me: Tom Jacquemin, 1447 SE 51st Avenue, Hillsboro, Oregon (503-640-9408) retired school counselor, currently volunteer for homeless men as counselor.

Shelter: The Family Shelter is called: Community Action Homeless Services

Director: Pat Rogers (503-640-3263)
1001 SW Baseline
Hillsboro, Oregon
97123

Tax free ID# 93-0554941

Supplies requested for two 8'x4' garden raised beds:

10 8'x4'x4' posts
20 2x8x8' pressure treated boards
200 screws 2 1/2 or 3" galvanized or stainless
Visqueen 48'x2'

You are welcome to contact me or Community Action (Pat Rogers director) at the above numbers. I am a photographer and will be happy to supply you with photos of the project.

Sincerely,

Tom Jacquemin

Cc: Home Depot

~~Parr Lumber~~

~~Loews~~

50-70%
of wood

Notes

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Hillsboro Family Shelter—

Community Action has been sheltering people since 1975. Now located in the historic Shute House (pictured on the cover) at 210 SE 12th Street in Hillsboro, Community Action's family shelter was the first of its kind in Washington County.

Families may stay in the shelter for up to five weeks. During that time, staff help residents meet housing goals and plan for long-term self-reliance.

Community Action offers parenting and health education classes, support groups, and school advocacy for children.

"Community Action really helped my family. I don't know where we would be without them. The staff at the shelter encouraged me to apply for jobs, helped build my confidence, and showed me hope for a better tomorrow."

—Linda, former shelter resident



Families come to the shelter for a variety of reasons. Without a support network, a family has no one to turn to in an emergency. A family may become homeless due to unexpected loss of income from an illness, divorce, or layoff. Other factors include lack of affordable housing, inadequate income, limited job skills or experience, domestic violence, substance abuse, or mental health issues.

Housing Stabilization—

- **Emergency Services**

Community Action's homeless shelter provides emergency food boxes every night between 5:30–8:30pm and all day on weekends for individuals and families in need.

- **Information & Referral**

Resources and assistance with housing questions and concerns are available to those experiencing a housing crisis. Advocates help identify available services and offer support as families navigate the often-confusing service system. Community Action also oversees the waiting list for all three shelters in Washington County.

- **Ready to Rent**

Participants learn about responsibilities as tenants, including tenant/landlord laws, and begin taking steps to find housing in this six-week class.

- **Long-Term Support Services**

Long-term support services are provided to formerly homeless families and individuals facing housing barriers. Advocates work to help resolve challenges in acquiring and maintaining stable housing.

- **Transitional Housing – Hopespring**

Eligible participants may qualify for Hopespring, a partnership of several local agencies. The program provides extensive support services and various educational classes for single women and their children who have been affected by domestic violence or substance abuse.

- **Rental Assistance**

Short term rental assistance is offered to families and individuals to help with emergency housing needs. Community Action also helps cover move-in costs for families who need to relocate.

Children's Services—

Homelessness can be a very stressful experience for the whole family, especially children. Community Action provides several services to meet their specific needs during this difficult time.



"The support I've received from Community Action has transformed my life and given my son and me hope for the future."

—Susan, Michael's mother

- **Homeless Education Program**

In partnership with the Hillsboro School District, Community Action provides assistance with enrollment, school supplies, transportation, record transfers, and links families to resources for housing, health, and school nutrition programs. Parents and schools also receive information about the rights of homeless students and the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Act.

- **ACES After-School Activities**

Free after-school activities are offered to children living in Hillsboro shelters or eligible students attending area schools.

- **Child Care for Shelter Residents**

Child care is provided on-site for shelter residents participating in support groups, meetings, and parenting classes.

Housing & Homeless Services

Hillsboro Family Shelter

- Safe, secure, temporary housing for up to five weeks
- Individualized case management including goal setting, linkage to resources, and advocacy
- Health classes provided by Washington County Health Department
- Parenting support classes
- Food, clothing, transportation, and other basic needs assistance
- Men and Women's support groups

Children's Programs*

- Head Start for preschoolers
- Homeless education services in collaboration with the Hillsboro School District

Housing Stabilization Program*

- Information and referral connecting those in need with social services
- Homeless prevention/rent assistance
- Transitional housing and on-going long-term case management
- Community planning for homeless services
- Ready to Rent classes
- Mediation with landlords

* You do not have to be a shelter resident to participate in these programs.

Our Promise

*Community Action changes peoples lives,
embodies the spirit of hope,
improves communities & makes America
a better place to live.*

*We care about the entire community
and are dedicated to helping individuals
help themselves & each other.*

Housing & Homeless Services Family Shelter

210 SE 12th Street
Hillsboro, OR 97123
503.640.3263
(fax) 503.640.4811

Community Action

1001 SW Baseline Street
Hillsboro, OR 97123
503.648.6646

Community Action does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, creed, national origin, marital status, age, sexual orientation, or disability. All Community Action sites are accessible to the disabled. Please contact us if you require special accommodations.

Community Action is funded in part by the Department of Housing and Urban Development via the Washington County Community Development Block Grant Program.

To order more brochures, call 503.693.3252.



www.communityaction4u.org

3/2008

Housing & Homeless Services

Todos los servicios disponibles
en español



2009 Governor's Volunteer Awards

The **GOVERNOR'S VOLUNTEER AWARDS** recognize individuals and organizations for their dedication, commitment and determination in promoting and supporting volunteerism throughout Oregon. This recognition inspires others to make a positive difference and strengthens Oregon Communities. Recipients will be honored by Governor Ted Kulongoski at an Awards Luncheon on Friday, October 2, 2009 at the Salem Conference Center. Additional information can be found at www.oregonvolunteers.org.

ELIGIBILITY

Any individual, organization, group, family, business, labor union, or faith-based organization actively engaged in voluntary service benefiting the community and/or state can be nominated. Organizations or groups must have been operational for at least two years to be eligible. Self nominations will be accepted.

NOMINATION INFORMATION

Complete Nomination Packets Must Include:

- Nomination Form** (1 page)
- Narrative:** In no more than four (4) single-sided 8.5"x 11" pages (single spaced, 12 point font), address ALL four (4) of the following narrative questions about the nominee.
 1. Describe how the nominee addressed a critical community need and/or strengthened Oregon communities.
 2. Describe how the nominee's service resulted in significant improvements with measurable outcomes for an organization or community.
 3. Describe how the nominee collaborated with others, leveraged community resources and/or employed a unique approach to solving problems.
 4. Describe how the nominee's service reflected a dedicated and sustained commitment of time and effort.
- Letter of Support** (from someone other than the Nominator)
- Additional Materials:** Include at least one (1) and up to four (4), one-sided pages of support materials no larger than 8.5"x11". This can include additional information or letters of support, photos, testimonials, news clippings, pamphlets, etc. Pages in excess of four (4) will not be considered. No CD's, DVD's, audio tapes or other media will be accepted.

SUBMITTING NOMINATION PACKETS (Nomination Form, Narrative, Letter of Support, Additional Materials):

(Choose Only One Method-Faxes Will Not Be Accepted)

Postal Mail: The complete nomination packet **MUST** be postmarked by May 18th

Send To: Oregon Volunteers/GVA
PO Box 751-CSC
Portland, OR 97207

Delivery: The complete nomination packet **MUST** be delivered to the Oregon Volunteers Office by 4:00pm May 18th

Deliver To: 633 SW Montgomery Suite 210 (PSU-Koinonia House-2nd Floor)
Portland, OR 97207

E-mail: E-mail all nomination packet documents (clear scans are acceptable) as attachments to GVA@oregonvolunteers.org by 4:00pm on May 18th.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Separate nomination packets may be submitted for as many nominees as desired. Nominating multiple volunteers in the same role, in the same organization will not increase the likelihood of an award.
- Please tell the nominee that they have been nominated for the Governor's Volunteer Awards.
- Decisions of Oregon Volunteers! are final. Award recipients will be notified in mid-August. Awardees will be invited to the Governor's Volunteer Awards Luncheon on Friday, October 2, 2009
- All submitted nominations and supporting documents become the property of Oregon Volunteers! and will not be returned.
- Oregon Volunteers! cannot respond to queries regarding the status of a specific nomination, due to the large volume of nominations.
- Nominations that do not include a nomination form, narrative with all four (4) questions addressed, a letter of support from someone other than the nominator and at least one (1) additional material, will not be considered.
- Frequently asked questions and tips are available on our website. www.oregonvolunteers.org

The 2009 GOVERNOR'S VOLUNTEER AWARDS are organized and presented by Oregon Volunteers, the Commission for Voluntary Action and Service. We promote and support AmeriCorps, volunteerism and civic engagement to strengthen Oregon communities.



PH (503) 725-5903
FX (503) 725-8335
TF (888) 353-4483
www.oregonvolunteers.org

P.O. Box 751-CSC
Portland, OR 97207
633 SW Montgomery Suite 210
Portland, OR 97201

August 17, 2009

Scott Schlegel
1001 SW Baseline St.
Hillsboro, OR 97123

Dear Scott,

Thank you for nominating Thomas Joel Jacquemin for the 2009 Governor's Volunteer Awards. We received many outstanding nominations and the decisions were very difficult to make. Unfortunately, this nomination was not among those selected as a regional or statewide winner.

The Governor's Volunteer Awards recognize individuals and organizations for their dedication, commitment and determination in promoting and supporting volunteerism throughout Oregon with the purpose of inspiring individuals to make a positive difference and strengthening Oregon communities.

Both regional and statewide winners will be recognized at the Governor's Volunteer Awards Luncheon in Salem on Friday, October 2, 2009. We hope that you will be able to join us as we celebrate Oregon's volunteers. Registration information will be available on our website www.oregonvolunteers.org in the next few weeks. Please call us toll-free at 1-888-353-4483 with any questions.

The time and energy you invested in completing a nomination is greatly appreciated. We are proud to honor such wonderful examples of service and dedication and hope you would consider submitting another nomination next year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kate Budd", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Kate Budd
Volunteerism Coordinator
Oregon Volunteers!