

It's Our First Family Volunteer Night of 2018!



Our first family volunteer night of 2018 is tonight, January 2 from 6:00-8:00 pm, and there's still space! Our family volunteer night offers mentoring opportunities for families with children (i.e. with at least one child 16 or younger) to volunteer together. Activities include packaging bulk food items, sorting cans, stocking shelves in our food pantry, or in warmer weather working in our community garden.

Future family volunteer nights for this year are scheduled for:

- February 6, 2018
- March 6, 2018
- April 3, 2018
- May 1, 2018
- September 4, 2018
- October 9, 2018
- November 6, 2018

To reserve your family's place at any or all of our volunteer nights, or to learn more, contact Marc Czorni, volunteer and events coordinator, at 503-246-1663, ext. 2117 or at MCzorni@nhpdx.org.

Need a New Idea for Date Night? Come to Our Next Progressive Dinner



Monday, February 12, 6:00 pm

If you're curious about what goes on behind the scenes at Neighborhood House, we'd love to have you join us for our next Progressive Dinner. Over the course of the evening you'll get in-depth knowledge about Neighborhood House's work, enjoy a delicious three-course meal, and hear from three of our program leads. And, if you haven't yet had a chance to meet our fantastic new executive director, Chris Chabouch, this is the perfect opportunity.

This event is free, but space is limited, so please RSVP as soon as possible. To reserve your spot, email us or call us at 503-246-1663, x2117.

SW HOPE Begins February 11th



Our annual SW HOPE: Feed the Hungry campaign launches on February 11th, and we have lots of ways for everyone to get involved!

Every year, 40+ faith and other community partners band together to feed our hungry neighbors by collecting food and funds in support of Neighborhood House's Emergency Food Box program. We'll have a number of fun events over the next few months, so keep an eye out!

Dine Out to Donate @ Salvador Molly's

Monday, Feb. 19, 2018, starting at 4:00 pm, 1623 SW Sunset Blvd. 20% of sales will benefit SW HOPE.

Corrected Date: Empty Bowls 2018

Friday, April 6, 2018, starting at 5:00 pm at the Multnomah Arts Center

(Note: The date was listed incorrectly as 2/29/18 in our print newsletter.)

Mark your calendar for one of our most SW HOPE 2018 events, the Empty Bowls Soup Dinner. Purchase beautiful, locally-crafted pottery in support of our programs while enjoying a delicious soup dinner.

[Donate Now](#)

[Like us on Facebook](#)



Building a More Inclusive Portland in 2018



A very happy 2018 to all our friends and neighbors! While 2017 was a tumultuous year, we ended on a high note. As of December 31st, we've raised \$225,556 in donations through our Partnership Campaign and the Willamette Week Give!Guide! Now, we're determined to hit the ground running in 2018—and with your help, we can start strong by meeting our Partnership Campaign goal of \$200,000 by January 31st.

Just \$50 purchases 200 pounds of food for our neighbors in need, while \$1,000 means a month of housing and support services for a homeless family. Donate today and help us create a better, more inclusive Portland this year. Here's how you can help:

- **Donate online** at www.nhpd.org or by mail. This is a quick and easy way to support the programs you care about! We accept cash, checks, or credit card donations.
- **Sign up through our website** to make recurring PowerHouse donations (monthly, quarterly, or whatever works for you) to provide much-needed, ongoing support to essential Neighborhood House programs in the months and years ahead.

We are so thankful for your continued support as we strive to build a more equitable community in 2018.

[Donate Now](#)

Meet Marc, Our New Volunteer & Events Coordinator



After an epic search, we've found our new volunteer and events coordinator, Marc Czorni. Marc is a Pittsburgh, PA native, who most recently worked with Friends of Trees' Neighborhood Trees Outreach Team. Before that, he served two terms as a Confluence AmeriCorps member with the Bureau of Environmental Services' Tree Program, helping to build the program's capacity to reach and connect with underserved Portland communities.

In his free time, Marc can be found foraging for wild mushrooms, hiking, and camping with his girlfriend and her dog, Tommie. Marc will be your source for volunteer opportunities, fun events, and community outreach going forward, so don't hesitate to reach out! You can contact him at 503-246-1663, extension 2117 or at MCzorni@nhpdx.org.

Rebuilding After Violence and Loss: Natalie's Story



Natalie, a member of the Yakama Nation, was the proud mother of two young children—and a victim of domestic violence. When she gathered the strength to leave her abusive partner, she found herself a single mom. With mounting bills and nowhere to live, she turned to Neighborhood House.

As a domestic violence survivor, Natalie was given priority for Section 8 housing, and she soon found a temporary home at Neighborhood House's 19th Avenue Apartments as part of our Transitional Housing program. Then, her young son, who was disabled, passed away.

Terri Trooper, 19th Avenue's family advocate, connected Natalie to a powerful support network. Natalie received grief counseling while her daughter attended school through our Head Start program. The family also received food assistance through the Emergency Food Box Program.

While it was an incredibly challenging time, Natalie pushed through and looked to the future. With the help of 19th Avenue staff, she accessed a job training program, allowing her to complete her chiropractic assistant certification. Going forward, she aspires to a career as an X-ray technician. All the while, Terri and other staff provided consistent support, searching for permanent housing for Natalie and her daughter. Eventually, they found an apartment in Eugene that accepted her Section 8 voucher, and the family moved in last month.

Thank You to Our Willamette Week Give!Guide Sponsors and Donors



A huge thank you to everyone who donated to Neighborhood House through the Willamette Week Give!Guide 2017. We raised \$32,158, all of which will go towards our 2018 Partnership Campaign total. As always, it is an honor to be featured—and to share the Give!Guide with so many other wonderful local nonprofits, all working to solve our community's most pressing issues.

Hayhurst Connect Educates and Enriches



Neighborhood House's Hayhurst Connect After-School Program starts up again today, after a rejuvenating winter break. Neighborhood House began the popular program three years ago in response to the influx of low-income students from Stephens Creek Crossing, a 122-unit affordable housing complex in SW Portland. A partnership between Portland Public Schools, the Portland Children's Levy, and Neighborhood House, the program aimed to ensure a smooth, supportive onboarding process for the new students, while fostering academic success and personal connections. Following a successful first year, it became a permanent program at Hayhurst Elementary.

Taught by Hayhurst teachers, the 40-student program breaks attendees into groups of 10, allowing for a small-group learning experience, with plenty of individual attention. Staff provide intensive after-school academic support twice a week, in math, reading, writing, and technology, as well as a third day of enrichment activities. These range from acting classes to nature excursions, always with a focus on dynamic and creative learning.

In addition to receiving academic assistance, Hayhurst Connect students build valuable leadership skills. Whenever a student demonstrates strong, fair leadership, he or she receives Connect Bucks, which can be spent at the program's bi-annual family night. These fun evenings are particularly meaningful for low-income families, who often have trouble attending typical school gatherings or feel out of place. Connect is there to ensure that everyone feels welcome.