



Blanchet
House
& Farm



Chef Antoine Golden.

LABOR DAY HOT DOGS

383 hot dogs and four vegan dogs were served for dinner on Labor Day thanks to your generous donations. We asked supporters to bring Blanchet buns and you delivered!

IN THE CAFE

"It's Labor Day so people are doing hot dogs, hamburgers and we thought we could do that too," Jon Seibert, Director of Programs said. "We are open on holidays because people still need food."

Chef Antoine Golden also made homemade potato salad. Our guests were very grateful. One young man was overcome with gratitude for the hospitality and hugged a volunteer!

A little kindness means so much to people struggling.



Guests enjoying lunch in Blanchet House's free cafe.

Day Spaces Are Needed Now More Than Ever

BY SCOTT KERMAN

With Portland's new camping ban in effect, nonprofits like Blanchet House that provide daytime services are seeing an influx of clients, as people are now required to be mobile during the day.

SERVICE NEWS

The new law requires people experiencing homelessness to pack up their belongings by 8 a.m. A violation can result in a \$100 fine and/or 30 days in jail.

More people are seeking the warmth of our cafe. We served an unbelievable 53% more meals in Sept. 2023 than in Sept. 2022! We also receive more calls and inquiries about joining our residential programs. We can house up to 45 men at Blanchet House.

Because of this, we're allowing diners to bring in more of their belongings. Allowing pets, small carts, bikes, suitcases, and other personal property helps guests enjoy meals without fear of their things being stolen. We know that the few possessions they have are critical for surviving the night outdoors.

Why else are day spaces like our low-barrier cafe needed, especially now?

1. We serve people experiencing dire poverty, not just people who are unsheltered. Our services help people make ends meet, enjoy community, and provide a kitchen that many low-income rooming houses lack.
2. Our peer support specialists help guests sign up for housing, disability, and can refer them to shelters.
3. We're serving people in marginalized groups who due to discrimination are

often the last to secure stable shelter. This includes our BIPOC and LGBTQ+ communities, people with untreated mental illness, or those awaiting detox.

4. We provide critical services like food, clothing, hygiene products, and hope to keep people moving forward.

The more we can do to stabilize people living homeless, the more successful we'll be in placing them in housing. When you donate to Blanchet House you are providing so much more than food. You're offering support for a better future!



MEET OUR GUESTS

What do you want people know about you?

"I'm a good man. I try to help people," says Ray. "What happens to me isn't just my story, it's the whole community's story. My success will be because of community support. Thank you from my heart."

Ray was happy after receiving this fun shirt from our clothing closet.



Kevin stands outside Blanchet House's cafe where he saved a life.

Resident Saves Diner's Life

It seems that most residents staying with us at Blanchet House and Blanchet Farm have a unique background and surprising skills.

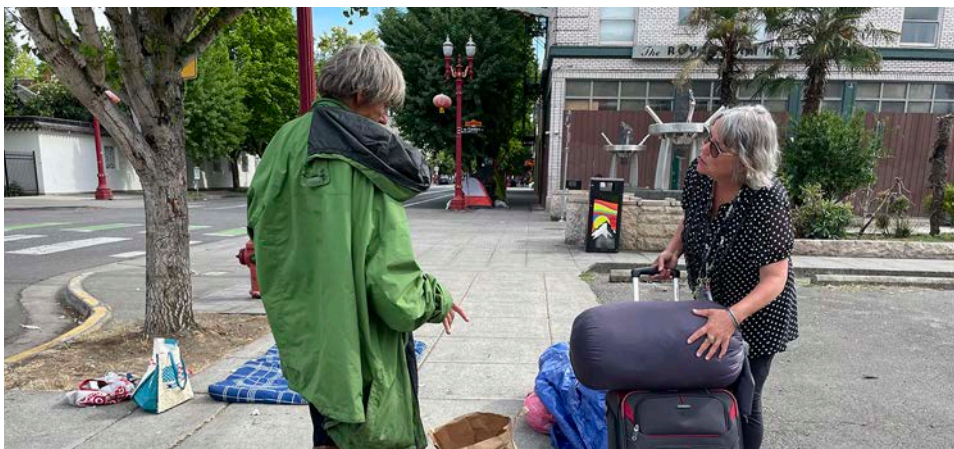
RESIDENT NEWS

Kevin (above) is one of those special souls. He watched cafe staff try to save a man's life with Narcan from his window one day. The man had overdosed and stopped breathing. As a former nurse, Kevin knew that the stranger needed to have his head adjusted so he could start breathing again. Kevin ran outside to do just that and the man became conscious. He saved a stranger's life.

"I'm drawn to helping where I can. Just because I'm not a nurse anymore doesn't mean my skills have gone away," Kevin told us. "I've learned what my real purpose is being here. I've always been in the health field and I want to stay in it and figure out how. Being here has really given me a lot of hope for my future."

Kevin came to stay with us after finding himself homeless due to health challenges. His positive presence has influenced many of us. Thank you.

Donations makes our residential programs possible. We need your support to give men like Kevin a second chance.



Jennifer Ransdell helps "L" with a sleeping bag, rolling suitcase, and food.

Untreated Mental Health Hurts

Pictured above is Jennifer Ransdell, cafe manager, bringing a guest a sleeping bag and rolling suitcase. "L" sadly was released to the street from a hospital with only the clothes on her back. She showed us her papers with a diagnosis of schizophrenia and a prescription she didn't trust. Blanchet's sidewalk has become her home, the only place she feels safe.

We have quite a few guests like "L" who suffer with untreated mental illness. Their severe illness won't allow them

to accept help and they are excluded from shelters because of their behaviors. Their families have often walked all avenues to help them. So becoming homeless is the fate of many.

They are so alone and sleeping in horrific conditions.

Building trust with people who've experienced so much trauma takes time. Our caring staff works day by day to do just that so we can help end suffering.

Your support makes our services and hospitality possible.



Katy Fackler caring for the beehives at Blanchet Farm.

GIVE!GUIDE 2023

We're participating in Give Guide again this year! Willamette Week, a local newspaper, hosts Give Guide as a fun way to support local charities like Blanchet House & Farm. Donations given via Give Guide's website enter you to receive special gifts like:

- A bag of Stumptown coffee
- A 12oz jar of Ground Up cinnamon snicker doodle nut butter
- Wood cutting boards hand crafted at Blanchet Farm

PLUS: This year, we're offering donors an exclusive event with master beekeeper Katy Fackler at Blanchet Farm. This event will include a farm tour, guest speakers, and a tasting of honey harvested from our hives.



Scan the QR code with your smart phone to view all Give!Guide gifts and the dates to enter.

JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST

Scan the QR code to enter your email address.

You can also call us to sign up over the phone at 503-241-4340.



We will never share or sell your information with anyone outside of our organization.



A man wears gloves for shoes.

MEN'S SHOE DRIVE

A man sleeping outside our building was seen wearing gloves for shoes. We looked in our clothing closet for a pair to offer him but were out of large sizes for men. We seem to always be in need of sizes 10-12.

We're asking supporters to please purchase a new pair of men's athletic shoes or donate gently used shoes. It's important that shoes not be torn or have worn away soles because it is our mission to restore dignity to the people we serve--head to toe.

Drop Off

Mon-Sat, 8-10:30 a.m. or 1:30-4 p.m.

Ship To

310 NW Glisan St., Portland, OR, 97209



Dr. Mack with a furry friend at a free clinic in Blanchet House's parking lot.

FREE PET CARE

The incredible veterinarian Dr. Robert Mack, volunteers every month to help the pets of people experiencing homelessness and poverty. He hosts a free animal care clinic in our parking lot during lunch.

SERVICE NEWS

With the Oregon Humane Society where he's a board member, Dr. Mack provides free vaccines, flea and tick treatments, leashes, and food. He can also refer animals with higher care needs to free clinics for treatment.



Executive Director Scott Kerman visits the dormitory under construction at Blanchet Farm, August 2023. Photo by Michelle Lagos.

Rebuilding Blanchet Farm

We are excited to share that construction on a new dormitory and facility has begun at Blanchet Farm! It's been a long time coming. The facilities were worn out, in disrepair, and desperately needed to be rebuilt.

FARM NEWS

Blanchet Farm was opened in 1962 as a place of refuge and recovery for people struggling with addiction and other challenges. The farm's rural recovery program has been incredibly successful in helping people better their lives. But we need your help to complete the construction.

Building a Future

On May 31, 2023 we broke ground on a 14,000 square foot mix-use facility that will benefit the entire community. The new dormitory will provide a pathway for up to 24 men to overcome addiction and homelessness.

It will also include:

- Offices for social ventures to support the nonprofit mission of the farm.
- Space for case management to help residents access mental and physical health care, employment, and housing.
- An energy efficient kitchen and larger dining area.
- Areas for the outside community to attend AA and NA meetings.
- Room for children and families to reconnect.

Clean Energy Efficiency

The new facility will operate using clean solar energy thanks to a grant from Portland General Electric's 2022 Renewable Development Fund. The Renewable Development Fund, which awards grants for clean energy projects in the community, is fully funded by PGE's Green Future customers.



Help Us Rebuild Blanchet Farm!

For more information on the Building Pathways Home campaign, visit the website by scanning the QR code.

Call 503-241-4340 | Email ksouth@blanchethouse.org



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A Meal. A Home. A Future.



We Serve the Lost and Missing

Our free cafe has become a hub for people lost and those looking for them. Recently we found a flier (pictured) taped to the window.

It read:

**Missing Jamie Lee
Please Call Home
God Bless You!!**

We receive countless emails, calls, and messages asking if we've seen a missing loved one. We welcome families to stand outside the cafe to see if their loved one comes or goes but we respect our guests'

privacy while they are inside dining with us.

It's very sad for families and friends.

This summer a mom and dad drove from Idaho looking for their son. The next day a woman came in tears looking for her husband who had relapsed. They all said thanks for offering services to their loved ones. If you can, please donate today so we can provide refuge for people suffering. Their loved ones thank you too.

ON THE
STREET



"I'd rather sleep outside than in a shelter. I've had too many bad experiences there," said K., a meal guest living in a tent nearby. Her HOPE ring caught our eye.

K. is looking for a room with a bathroom but can't work. Our peer support staff are helping K. sign up for disability and get on to housing lists. She will need our daily support for meals and clothing while she waits.

K.'s not the first woman, and won't be the last, we've supported during a difficult time. We received this message on Facebook from the daughter of a woman who dined with us.



Amanda Sandeen

Blanchet house kept my biological mom alive while she waited 18 year for her disability claim to be approved. She's since been living safely and independently in her own home. Thank you for all you do 🙏💕