



MULTI-SERVICE CENTER

HELP. HOPE. CHANGE.



True Stories

2020 FALL/WINTER NEWSLETTER

COMMUNITY HELPING COMMUNITY



PRESENTED BY



SHELTER
RESOURCES, INC.



Thursday, October 15, 2020
Streaming Live from Noon to 1pm
mschelps.org/mschelps2020
[@mschelps on Facebook or YouTube](#)

Honorary Chair: King County Councilmember
Dave Upthegrove

Help, Hope, Change Awardee: Jeanne Burbidge

Keynote Speaker: Caylin Moore

Caylin Moore grew up, amidst poverty and gangs, to become a Rhodes Scholar and aspiring professor seeking to reform the way we think about and respond to gang membership, education, and urban poverty.

Additional Sponsors



FEDERAL WAY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



KAISER PERMANENTE®



COLDWELL BANKER
DANFORTH



Loveridge Hunt & Co.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS



SOUNDTRANSIT



Sprague Israel Giles
INSURANCE

Allied Residential | Banner Bank | DaVita

Federal Way Mirror/Sound Publishing | Jacobson Jarvis & Co. | Laurus Financial Services

Molina Healthcare of Washington | National Equity Fund

PACESETTERS

Shannel Ball
Donna & David Berger
Claire & Chris Berry
Janelle & Dan Bogart
Robin Corak
Trish Crocker
Cindy & Dan Ducich
René & Ric Ewing
Teleda Holmes
Sarah McNiesh
Suzy & Martin Petrich
Reidmann Enterprises
Amanda Santo
Evelyn Takei & Clint Smith
Beverly & Wayne Triplett
Andy Wangstad
Cindy & Bob Wroblewski

AMBASSADORS

Shannel Ball
Dave Berger
Chris Berry
Len Brannen
Robin Corak
Trish Crocker
Cindy Ducich
Hannah Ferguson
Susan Hinshaw
Teleda Holmes
Dennis Hulse
Pat Jennings
Cydney Moore
James Rose
Amanda Santo
Andy Wangstad

**Lists current as of time of printing.*

SAVE THE DATE!

2020 Crab Feed & Auction, Saturday, June 5, 2021

CONTACT US

For services

253.838.6810 | WA Relay 711

www.mschelps.org

To volunteer

253.835.7678, ext. 105

www.mschelps.org

To donate

253.835.7678, ext. 104

www.mschelps.org

Published by **Multi-Service Center**

Writer/Editor: Sarah McNiesh

Images of MSC customers are used with their permission;
where images were not available, stock photos were used.

MSC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

René Ewing, President
Joe Atkinson,
Vice President
Chris Berry, Treasurer
Teleda Holmes,
Co-Secretary
Bob Wroblewski,
Co-Secretary
Katrina Asay
Dave Berger
Michael Gordon

Dennis Hulse
Antonyon Ingram
Rue Nelle McCullah
David McRae
Ana Cristina Molina
McCleary
Cydney Moore
Martin Moore
Wade Schwartz
Evelyn Takei
Maria Tracy

MISSION

MSC is building a future without poverty by creating pathways to help, hope, and dignity for our neighbors.

VISION

Empowered individuals. Thriving communities.

VALUES

TEAMWORK
PASSION
RESPECT

INTEGRITY
DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

BE THE CHANGE

"I joined the board because I realized my voice could be a voice for vulnerable people, those that we serve," shares MSC Board Member Teleda Holmes.

Teleda has served on MSC's Board of Directors since 2010. Her first experience with MSC was as a client. In 1998, Teleda earned her GED through MSC, and then entered MSC's THRIVE employment program. In the THRIVE program, Teleda enrolled in a Pharmacy Technician internship. While she elected not to move forward in that field, during her internship she met someone who introduced her to home healthcare, a career she pursued for several years. During this time, Teleda was also able to get energy and food assistance through MSC to help support her and her two daughters.

"At first I felt intimidated being on the board. Not because of the people, but more so myself because I didn't understand then that my voice as a client really mattered. There were politicians, bankers, etcetera on board, what could I provide? I was worried about finding my place, but now I see that there is a need for my voice. What I have to bring to the board is valuable. I can shed light on some things others on the board may not understand or know, just from my personal experience. I also bring energy and excitement, and sometimes, tough love. I feel very welcome, and I feel very glad that we can openly express ourselves."

Not only does Teleda volunteer as a board member, she also has volunteered in MSC's food bank and at the Federal Way Day Center, where her volunteering led her down a new employment path. For the last three years, Teleda has been a lead shelter advocate at a local emergency shelter. Her daughters are now 18 and 20 years of age, and two foster daughters, ages one and two, recently joined her family.

Even with her very busy life, Teleda stays committed to serving on the MSC Board. "I feel like my work on the board isn't done, the work isn't done. I still believe in MSC's mission and want



to make change and impact our community. I want to see the day when MSC achieves financial independence from restricted funding that limits what they can do to help."

"If you want to see change you need to be that change. If you care about the community, you need to get involved. We need help, no matter your skill set you can find place to help."

As a community action agency and to make sure that MSC's work is representative of the communities we serve, our board is a tripartite board. This means that one third of our board are clients or client representatives, one third elected officials or their representatives, and one third community members. All MSC board members are volunteers, giving their time and treasure to support MSC's mission.

2020 PREMIER BUSINESS PARTNERS

Alaska Airlines
Banner Bank
BECU
Campeon Market
Coldwell Banker Danforth
Columbia Bank
Eagle Tire & Automotive
Federal Way Mirror
Federal Way Public Schools
Fred Meyer
Group Health Foundation
Heaven Sent Children's Resale

HomeStreet Bank
Kaiser Permanente
Laurus Financial Group
Loveridge Hunt & Co.
Microsoft
Puget Sound Energy
RealNetworks
Safeco Insurance
Safeway
Shelter Resources, Inc.
Smart Foodservice
Sound Transit

Sparks Care Care
Sprague Israel Giles
Target
Trader Joe's
Walmart Stores, Inc.
WinCo Foods
WSECU

MSC Premier Business Partners are businesses that support MSC with sponsorships, grants, or in-kind donations of over \$2,500 during the calendar year.



DEPEND ON MSC

“COVID19 has really taken a toll on me emotionally,” shares Ericka.

Ericka was homeless for a year before she moved into her current apartment three years ago. In recovery for over twenty years, and dealing with multiple health issues, Ericka has been unable to work and is dependent on Social Security Disability.

“I’ve wanted to get out and do stuff, but with COVID, I’ve been pretty much stuck in my apartment,” she shares. “It’s been pretty surreal. I’m trying to get out and walk now and get fresh air.”

Ericka has two adult daughters, and a seven-year old grandson. Her daughters have both struggled with addiction. One has been sober for the last four years, the other is still trying to gain sobriety. It has been hard on Ericka to see her daughters go through the same struggle, and she wants something different for them and her grandson.

“I’ve just been trying to hold everything together and get through it one day at a time,” says Ericka. “I’ve been getting energy assistance from MSC for the last three years, and it’s been great to know that I can depend on the help from MSC.”

MSC’s energy assistance program helps income eligible households. You do not need to be in crisis. Find more info at mschelps.org/gethelp/energyassistance/.

2020 HELP, HOPE, CHANGE HONOREE



MSC will honor Jeanne Burbidge with our second annual MSC Help, Hope, Change award in recognition of her contribution to our community at our 2020 MSC Helps Luncheon live stream event on October 15, 2020.

Jeanne has been a strong advocate and supporter for both the arts and people in need in our community. Jeanne was an early member of the Community Caregiving Network, serving as emergency services director, volunteer, and member of the Board of Directors. She also was part of the initial “kitchen cabinet” for FUSION, and served on the Boys & Girls Club and Centerstage Theatre boards.

As Community Services Chair for eight of her 22 years in Federal Way Rotary, she oversaw allocation of tens of thousands of dollars in grants to MSC and numerous other local non-profits that provide subsidized housing/ emergency shelter, food, mental health, job training, education, and other services to low-income residents.

Jeanne served on the steering committee to incorporate Federal Way

as a city, then initiating her service with the new city as an arts commissioner.

During her 20 years serving as Federal Way’s Mayor, Deputy Mayor and City Councilmember, Jeanne was a leading advocate for ensuring that human services became, and remains, an important part of the city’s budget. During her council career, Jeanne was active regionally, serving on a variety of boards.

She is a founding board member of the Federal Way Performing Arts Foundation, which raises funds for the “Arts 4 Youth” program, enabling Federal Way students, a significant percentage of which are from low-income families, to experience live theater performances during the school year. Jeanne also represents King County District Seven on the King County 4Culture Board of Directors.

MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE

“Without Open Doors, I wouldn’t have graduated,” shares 20-year-old Hailee.

Awarded her diploma last June, Hailee’s road to graduation was full of twists and turns. Hailee struggled with school starting in middle school. As a freshman in high school, she admits to slacking off. During sophomore year, although she had switched schools, Hailee still wasn’t motivated. She was starting to experience some health problems, was using drugs, and was in what she calls a rough relationship.

“I gave up on school, for a while,” shares Hailee. She left high school and considered a couple of options, such as going to school to be a firefighter and online classes; however, neither option was a good fit. Hailee started working, and after a few months, realized that she did want to finish high school as it would help her with employment.

“I felt like I needed to buckle down and start being responsible,” she shares. Hailee went back to high school to enroll and saw information about Open Doors. “I’m glad I chose Open Doors,” she shares. “They were different and didn’t let me slack off. I got one-on-one attention that was really supportive. They showed me they really cared, both about how I was doing with school stuff, but also personal stuff like music and how my life was going in general.”

A diploma wasn’t the only change in Hailee’s life this last Spring. In April, she was laid off from her position at the airport because of the COVID-19 pandemic. She had already moved in with her mother after her prior lease expired to save up some money, so she was able to remain financially stable. In May, her girlfriend proposed and they are now engaged. And, Hailee enrolled at Green River College to start classes Winter quarter towards earning her Bachelor’s degree in cyber security.

“I used to tell myself that I couldn’t do stuff, and thought I should do a more traditional career, like become a nurse,” shares Hailee, “But, I want to do something I know I’ll be happy with and that I can do. That’s why I chose cyber security. And, it’s a way I can still help people.”

In five years, Hailee sees herself finishing college and starting a career, buying a house, and possibly having a baby with her fiancé. We hope her dreams come true!

MSC partners with Federal Way Open Doors through the Federal Way Public Schools to reengage students ages 16 to 21 and support them in obtaining their High School Diploma or GED Certificate. MSC has dedicated staff at Open Doors who work with students to achieve their academic and personal goals, provide individualized learning plans and other support, provide comprehensive case management, connection to community resources, post-secondary planning, and positive youth development opportunities such as field trips and leadership activities.





P.O. Box 23699
Federal Way, WA 98093-0699

MSC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency that offers people pathways out of poverty through support and resources in education, employment, housing, energy assistance, food, and clothing. We also provide statewide advocacy for elderly and disabled residents of long-term care facilities.

Learn More: Call 253.838.6810, online at www.mschehelps.org, or social @mschehelps

Help. Hope. Change.

Empowered individuals, thriving communities.



TRUE STORIES ABOUT MAKING A DIFFERENCE.

Dear Friends,

So many things have changed in our world since our last newsletter in March. The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly impacted the way we interact with each other, and for many, our economic stability.

As the pandemic began, MSC pivoted quickly to provide all of our services remotely, with the exception of the food and clothing bank. To follow health guidelines, we had to make the decision to temporarily close the clothing bank. The food bank has adjusted its service model so that households can pick up food quickly and safely. We've seen a 41% increase in the use of the food bank, and a general increase in need throughout all our programs. We expect this to continue, and perhaps even further increase, as the pandemic continues and more households face long-term impacts through loss of employment or health issues.

In May, the tragic death of George Floyd brought to the forefront long-standing social justice issues in our country. The historical and current impact of racism and racial trauma on our community is real

and painful.

At MSC, we see the disparity in poverty and homelessness among Black, Indigenous, and People of Color. In order for MSC's mission to become a reality, we must act in accordance with our values which include a commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, integrity, respect, teamwork and passion for helping others, and for eradicating social injustices which perpetuate the cycle of poverty. We will make change to the systems that continue to perpetuate racism.

We thank you for being a partner in providing help, hope, and dignity for our neighbors.



Stay well,

Robin R. Corak

Robin R. Corak
Chief Executive Officer

