

# CHANGING LIVES WITH LOVE

SPONSOR GUIDE

FRIENDS  
of the  
CARPENTER







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# ABOUT US

**Friends of the Carpenter is a faith-based, non-profit with a mission to provide services for homeless and other people seeking safety, structure, and purpose.**

We serve individuals regardless of circumstances, fully appreciating and honoring diversity. Our intention is to empower participants to experience life with dignity, hope, and love.

A core part of our mission is the operation of the Friendship Center. Those who come through our doors are greeted warmly and hospitably with a hot drink and sometimes a snack. We invite them to sit down and help with a woodworking or other project. Woodworking provides a tangible activity and meaningful engagement. People find purpose and form

lasting relationships in a safe, non-judgmental setting.

We invite you to join us in improving safety, strengthening friendships, and building the future. This is your guide to our mission and programs. You'll also find information about what we have to offer businesses and other organizations.

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## HIGHLIGHTS

### Safety – Afternoon Events

Every Wednesday afternoon, volunteers assemble woodcraft projects and welcome assistance from participants, often people who are without housing. Workshop events convey an atmosphere of sanctuary. Everyone sits at workbenches, sands and stains a simple woodcraft. The activity puts everyone's focus onto the simple tasks of sanding and staining, allowing an environment of camaraderie. With fun, fellowship, and acts of friendship, relationships are formed. Walls and barriers erode and we find that we are really more alike than different. Each event is closed with a "friendship circle" at which appreciation is expressed, open prayer is offered, and we join in song. People are invited to receive a food or gas voucher or bus coupons. People in need are given a "hands-up" rather than a "hand-out."

### Structure – CARE Committee

The Community Awareness Reaching Empowerment (CARE) Committee is run by participants at Friends of the Carpenter. The committee organizes field trips and events for FOC's participants. The group also provides feedback on the effectiveness of our programs. Field trips have included the Oregon Zoo, the Grotto, Bonneville Dam, and Seaside, OR.

### Purpose – Woodworkers' Shop

The heart of the Friendship Center, the woodworkers' shop houses a variety of tools. People with wood-working skills give time, energy and expertise. In exchange, these volunteers receive access to the shop and state-of-the-art equipment. This is a way to provide meaningful experiences to our participants. Woodworking provides shared experiences, purposeful projects and opportunities for success and skill-building. This also allows our participants to find purpose while spending time in a safe place. Finished pieces are given as gifts to our partners or sold to generate revenue.

FRIENDS  
of the  
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↑  
OFFICE

OFFICE  
←  
ENTRANCE



# CHANGING LIVES WITH LOVE

“**My name is Violet Orell.** I started volunteering at Friends of the Carpenter in early February. I’m a recovering drug addict and have faced many trials in my life. I consider every member of the homeless community to be my brother or sister. I am deeply invested in their well-being and know all too well the suffering they face on a day-to-day basis.

I was homeless myself for nearly two years in Phoenix, Arizona. The things I experienced during those two years will haunt me for the rest of my life. I was using both meth and heroin, running from the law, and sleeping in an abandoned car dealership. A few friends and I called that dealership home for months. It provided at least some measure of privacy against society’s prying, judgmental eyes. I tried to hide from the so-called normal people as much as I could. Their disgusted, disapproving looks made me feel less than human at times. Instead, I stayed near my fellow homeless friends who made me feel safe and accepted.

Today, by the grace of God, I am off drugs and off the streets. I witnessed so many of my friends die during those two years; I probably should be dead too. I don’t know why I survived and so many others did not. I think about my dear homeless friends on a daily basis. I don’t know what might have happened to me if not for their kindness. I know that those that are still alive continue to suffer, and it breaks my heart. I truly love the homeless. They are so admirable, both in strength and in spirit. Any man or woman who has lived on the streets for a considerable amount of time has been witness to unspeakable things; things that will change a person. Therefore, they need our love and compassion more than anyone.

That’s where Friends of the Carpenter comes in. This place is truly a sanctuary and its doors are open to all walks of life. I love the feeling I get when I walk through their door because there is such a warm, loving energy here. It’s a beautiful thing to see everyone here working together. We live in troubled times and we are such a divided nation. But at Friends of the Carpenter, we are so united in our love for the homeless community and our desire to help those in need. At Friends of the Carpenter, everyone is family and we are all God’s children.”

**Jennifer Klein knows what it’s** like to feel awash in uncertainty and transition. She has struggled with drugs, finding employment, homelessness and losing custody of her

daughter. There is, however, a saving grace, a touchstone amidst the chaos. It is the peace she receives from Friends of the Carpenter.

“I really don’t think I would have made it through the last two years without this place. I come here because I need to be here, I can get out of my head, and focus on helping someone else. I feel safe when I’m here and everything I’ve learned has helped me to not give up,” Jennifer says.

Jennifer came to Friends of the Carpenter as part of a six-month job skills program through Partners in Careers. After her six-month stint ended, she stayed on as a volunteer. “I’ve learned a lot – about woodworking, myself, helping others,



God. I know what it means to have faith, compassion and humility. Good things have happened since I’ve been here.”

“Working in the office, I was always so busy and it took me a year before I learned how to make a pocket cross,” she says.

Today, Jennifer is chairwoman of Friends of the Carpenter’s CARE Committee, which organizes day trips and other social activities for participants. “We provide our friends with fun memories that they may not otherwise be able to have,” she says.

“I’ve made a lot of friends, met community leaders and have worked with the homeless. People go through life wondering what they’re supposed to be doing. I feel like this is my purpose, this is what I’m supposed to be doing.”

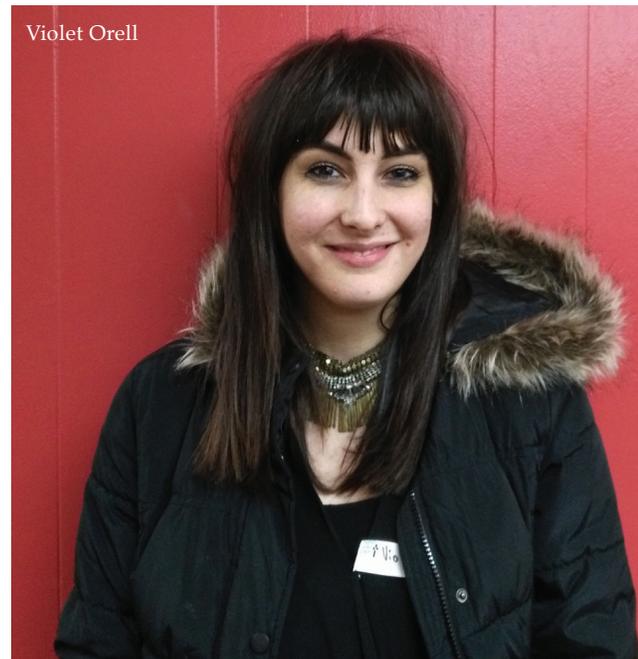
*Jennifer Klein, FOC Participant*

“THERE IS NOTHING LIKE IT NEAR HERE. FRIENDS OF THE CARPENTER IS AN AMAZING PLACE ... HELPS LOTS OF PEOPLE.”

- RHETT



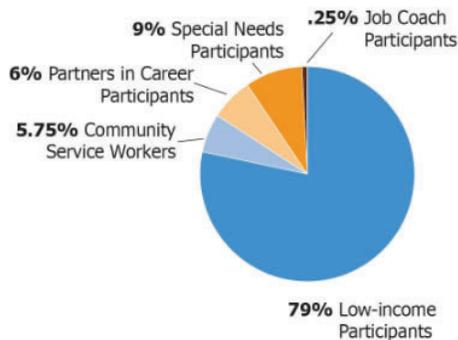
Rhett



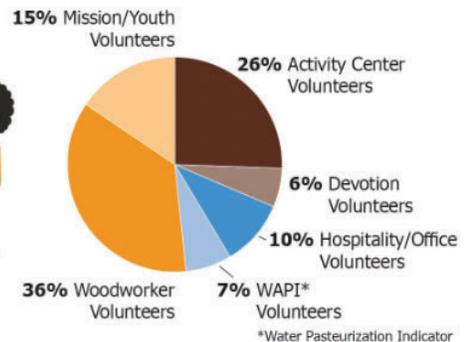
Violet Orell



Participant Visits/Month—Total: 971



Volunteer Visits/Month—Total: 1,634



# TELLING THE FOC STORY

**We are committed to communicating our mission of providing safety, structure and purpose for vulnerable members of the community.** That's why Friends of the Carpenter is a recognized leader in the community.

"Friends of the Carpenter has been a consistent voice at the table to make sure that people who are homeless aren't forgotten. Whenever possible, the organization has stepped up to make a difference. We appreciate that Friends was a helpful partner in assisting us as we created a day center to provide an additional daytime option for people without housing."

**Andy Silver**  
*Executive Director*  
*Council for the Homeless*

"The activity coordinators walked the kids through the process of building a bird house. It was heartwarming to see these kids immediately go to work sanding, nailing.

The opportunity to learn under the guidance of skilled caring adults is really important for these kids. An adult saying 'I have confidence in you being able to do this' – a lot of confidence comes from that. Stuff like that is a big part of the recovery process."

**Steven Becker**  
*Director of Outreach*  
*Daybreak Youth Services*

## STRATEGIES

### Digital

We have a growing community on the internet. Our Facebook pages - Friends of the Carpenter and 2nd Chance Thrift Store - have more than 900 followers.

### Mailings

Our mailing list reaches roughly 4,000 households and our e-mail blasts reach roughly 2,000 people. Our open rate is a healthy 30 percent.

### Events

Our annual concerts draw upwards of 500 people; our annual auction brings in more than 300 attendees. These are paid ticket events.

### Press Coverage

Local media regularly features Friends of the Carpenter. For example, in 2016 FOC was featured in newspapers almost every month. Twice during 2016 our business partners received positive attention in those articles. In addition to print media coverage, we received TV coverage when KGW featured our products in a news segment.



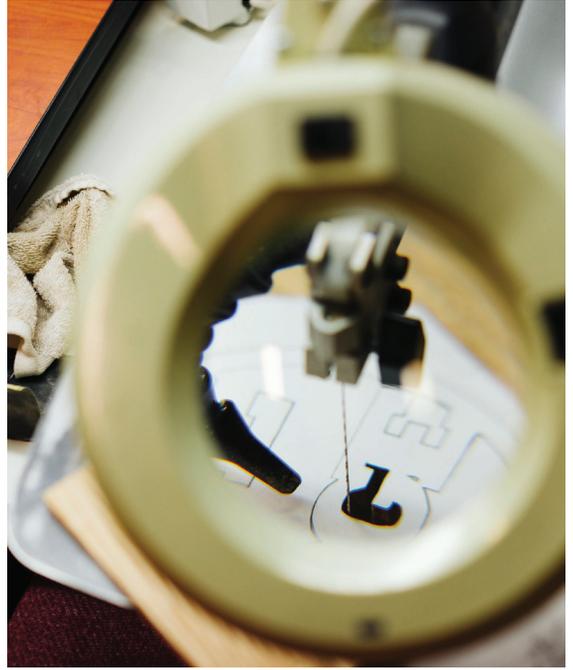
“FRIENDS OF THE CARPENTER STEPPED UP FROM THE VERY BEGINNING. THEY WERE KIND, COLLABORATIVE, CREATIVE PROBLEM-SOLVERS WITH GOOD HEARTS, GOOD KNOWLEDGE AND REAL SKILLS.”

- LEE RAFFERTY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF VANCOUVER'S DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION



# CARPENTER'S GIVING GUILD

**We believe together we do more -- that's why we believe so strongly in partnerships.** We encourage sponsors to participate in our mission and engage with the community. To foster that, we tailor benefits and opportunities to your organization and workforce.



As a member of the Carpenter's Giving Guild, your company will be recognized during all FOC major events, in the quarterly newsletter and through social media. We will assist in leveraging your sponsorship with press releases, special events, as well as with naming and other customer-facing opportunities.

## Engagement Opportunities: Team-building Workshops

At the Friendship Center, your team works together to craft beautiful, lasting wood projects. FOC staff provide training and supervision while you create.

## Employee Volunteer Opportunities

FOC mission and Friendship Center offer volunteer opportunities for your team. Working together, you can accomplish a number of projects in short order, all while having fun! Projects have included assembly of HUGS (hats, underwear, gloves, and socks) care packages and painting areas of the Friendship Center.

## Exclusive Events

Schedule a VIP tour of the Friendship Center for your employees or customers. The Friendship Center houses a bustling wood shop that is central to our mission. Arrange to see woodcrafters, participants, and volunteers crafting beautiful pieces.

## Customer Discounts

Friends of the Carpenter offers a variety of unique handcrafted wood pieces online and on site at the Friendship Center. We can arrange for your customers to submit proofs-of-purchase from your business in exchange for product discounts.



In addition to the satisfaction that your dedication and resources are comforting and changing lives among the vulnerable individuals of our community, as a Giving Guild member, your company name and logo will be featured:

- On our Giving Guild Guide on the wall of the Friendship Center’s lobby
- In our routine e-newsletter, The Carpenter’s Toolbox (eight to ten per year)
- In the Annual Auction Program
- On our online Sponsor Page

GIVING LEVEL	DONATION AMOUNT	LOGO REPLICA	PLAQUE SIZE	AUCTION TICKETS	GIFT CERTIFICATE
WALNUT	\$30,000+	LOGO 18-24" X 24-36"	LARGE	6	\$350
MAPLE	\$24,000 - \$29,999	LOGO 12-18" X 18-30"	LARGE	6	\$300
OAK	\$18,000 - \$23,999	LOGO 6-12" X 12-24"	LARGE	4	\$250
HICKORY	\$12,000 - \$17,999	NAME 6" X 24"	LARGE	4	\$200
BIRCH	\$6,000 - \$11,999	NAME 4.5" X 18"	MEDIUM	2	\$150
SWEETGUM	\$1,000 - \$5,999	LOGO 18-24" X 24-36"	MEDIUM	2	\$100
PINE	UP TO \$1000		MEDIUM		

\* The annual donation includes the reasonable estimates of in-kind donations.

\*\* The logo or plaque will be crafted in an available hardwood at the time of its production. As possible, we will provide several hardwoods for the sponsor’s choice. The size may be adjusted, within reason, to fit its location in your facilities. There is no guarantee that the choices will include the wood species identifying the giving level.



# THANK YOU

## Friendship Center

1600 W 20th Street Vancouver, WA 98660  
PO Box 65358 Vancouver, WA 98665

Phone: (360) 750-4752

Email: [contact@friendsofthecarpenter.org](mailto:contact@friendsofthecarpenter.org)

Website: [www.friendsofthecarpenter.org](http://www.friendsofthecarpenter.org)

## Find us on social media!

Twitter: @friendcarpenter

Facebook: Friends of the Carpenter

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Grover Icenogle, *President*  
Rev. Josh Rowley, *Vice President*  
Sandy Mathis, *Secretary*  
Linda Otton, *Treasurer*  
Bill Parsons  
Charles Mackey  
Bob McKusick  
Lois Smith  
Brent Stahl  
Frank Stowe  
Wendy Wright

## STAFF

Tom Iberle, *Executive Director*  
Michelle Rouse, *Administrative Manager*  
Craig Cluff, *Facilities Manager*  
John Ryan, *Volunteer Manager*  
Mary Rose, *Accounting Manager*  
Janine Keats, *Activity Coordinator*  
Jim Gutierrez, *Thrift Store Manager*  
Charles Bivens, *Development Associate*  
Samuel Abron, *Sr. Shop Assistant*  
Andre Provost, *Community Service Coordinator*  
Rev. Duane Sich, *Executive Director Emeritus*

FRIENDS  
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# YES, WE SUPPORT FOC!

## SPONSORSHIP FORM



My organization would be honored to support FOC's mission. I/we commit to the Giving Guild:

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- Walnut (\$30,000+)
- Maple (\$24,000–\$29,999)
- Oak (\$18,000–\$23,999)
- Hickory (\$12,000–\$17,999)
- Birch (\$6,000–\$11,999)
- Sweetgum (\$1,000–\$5,999)
- Pine (up to \$1,000)

Payment Amount:

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Credit Card Number:

Expiration Date:

Sponsor:

Company Name:

Contact Name:

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

Mailing Address:

City & State:

Zip:

*Please make checks payable to Friends of the Carpenter.  
Mail payment and completed form to PO Box 65358, Vancouver, WA 98665*

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