

## ***Thoughts from the President***

It is amazing to think that it has been almost 7 years since we started working on a project to build a community youth center. After working with teens in this community for the last three years, I am even more confident now that The Gate is not just another good idea. "Oh, wouldn't it be nice if those teenagers had somewhere to hang out." Weekly there are over 100 teens taking advantage of the afterschool programs and 150 high schoolers eating at Church Lunch. The Gate is serving over 275 youth in the community each week with the doors being open less than 9 hours a week.

Where do we go from here? Over the next three months the Board is going to be working on a 5-year master plan. We, as a board, feel that there continues to be a need for our own building. While we are thankful for First Baptist for so graciously allowing us to use their building, the size and layout of the available rooms is impeding program growth. What are the steps we need to go through to raise \$2 million and reach our goal of building The Gate Community Youth Center? While the building project continues to move forward, the second part of our 5-year plan is to continue to grow and develop the programs that will eventually move into our own building. How do we deal with the issues of staffing and raising funds to finance our programs?

These are just some of the questions we are asking as we look to the future. Another question I have is, "What is my involvement with The Gate?" I hope you will ask yourself this question as well. It is only as the community comes behind The Gate that it will be a success.

Ben Bobeda, President

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### ***Thanks for a Great Golf Tournament***

Thanks to your support of our annual golf tournament, sponsored by CUI, Inc., we raised over \$X,XXX. Together with your regular donations and our other fundraising, The Gate Youth Association has raised \$XX,XXX this year allowing us to serve the youth throughout the year and continue to make plans for building The Gate Community Youth Center. Thank you for your continued support of The Gate!

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# THE GATE

*Winning, equipping, mentoring and empowering youth*

## ***Thanks for Collaboration***

The Gate is very appreciative of collaboration with Central High School, Polk County 4-H, Young Life, Western Oregon University, community churches and the Central Service Integration Team. Each entity provides valuable resources to The Gate which allows us to more fully serve the youth of our community. We are thankful for WOU and Cheme-keta students who provide tutoring, kitchen and craft help and general supervision each week. Volunteers from five area churches routinely help with The Gate programs. Additionally we are grateful for a life skills class from CHS that helps with “take down” after Tuesday Lunch.

## ***Thanks for Your Prayers***

***Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.***

*Psalms 100: 4-5*

- Give thanks for God's faithfulness in the seven years of The Gate ministry He has blessed.
- Give thanks for the many students who return year to year for Thursdays at The Gate and Tuesday Church Lunch.
- Give thanks for the positive relationships built between adult mentors and youth through contacts established at The Gate ministries.
- Give thanks for those who faithfully and generously support The Gate ministries with finances, time, energy and prayer.

## ***Three Days in the Life of The Gate Volunteers***

<u><b>Tuesday Church Lunch</b></u>	
Days before	Food shopping for 160 10 women preparing food Arrange for lunchtime speakers
Tuesday	
6:30-8:00	Prepare and serve breakfast to high school set up crew
10:00	10 women arrive and assemble a comfort food teen lunch
11:00	Pray for lunch, youth and community
11:30	Last minute prep; Check PA system
12:00	Feed 150 CHS youth and staff.
12:30	Quick lunch and clean up begins
2:00	Last volunteer leaves

***Weekly Volunteer hours - 70  
Students served each week - 150***

<u><b>Thursday @ The Gate</b></u>	
Pre Thursday	Shopping for 80-90 Planning crafts, cooking and recreational activities for youth
8-10:00	Volunteers set up for afternoon activities Last minute shopping and baking

## ***Thanks for Volunteers***

The Gate is grateful for the 20 committed volunteers who weekly give over 130 volunteer hours. That is the equivalent of 3 full time staff! Volunteer help allows us to be able to serve close to 300 students weekly. We are thankful for our all volunteer board as well. This fall we welcomed Don Ediger, community business owner and leader to our board. We look forward to his guidance as we move forward with future plans.

1-3:00	Pick up 50 “super snacks” from Central High School cafeteria 6 volunteers prepare food and activities for the afternoon
3-6:00	9 volunteers feed, supervise, tutor and engage students in activities like making caramel apples, friendship bracelets, football and dodge ball
6-7:00	Clean up
6-8:00	Students can attend Young Life at Calvary Chapel or Youth Group at First Baptist

***Weekly Volunteer hours - 50  
Students served - 80***

## **CHS Afterschool Tutoring Collaboration**

(Tuesday and Wednesday)

3-5:30	2 Gate volunteers join the CHS Afterschool Program staff and WOU volunteers to provide one-on-one help to 15 students
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***Weekly Volunteer hours - 10  
Students served weekly - 30***

## ***Volunteer Opportunities:***

- Share a hobby like calligraphy, sewing, art, or . . .
- Mentor a student
- Teach a youth leadership class
- Facilitate a girls' group
- Facilitate a boys' group

Contact Joyce Wahl at [joyce.wahl@gmail.com](mailto:joyce.wahl@gmail.com) or 503-838-5653 if you're interested.