

FROM HOMELESS TO HOPEFUL

A CLIENT STORY

It was a perfect storm for Dan, his wife Sara, and their three children.

First, Dan loses his job, then the landlord raises the rent, and before the family knew it, they were living in the family car. They lived in their car for six months before finding help.

How does a family of five live in a car for six months? They park at night behind a large discount store, hoping to sleep safely without interruption. They take advantage of a gym membership to obtain showers. Sara cries a lot, worrying about the impact of homelessness on their children and fearful their slipping credit would make it hard to ever have a home again.

Dan finds work in a restaurant, but now they need to overcome obstacles to housing. Sara comes to Fishline, and Fishline and its partners step in. The agencies locate an affordable apartment, and a kind landlord overlooks



their bad credit. Dan's boss loans them money for the deposit, and Fishline's partner agencies help with the first month rent. The family received food from Fishline, allowing them to save further. A less-stressed Sara shows up to appointments, beaming with relief and joy over how a secure place to call

home will mean better school performance, good credit, safety and a solid base from which to go to work.

Now both parents have jobs, they are repaying Dan's boss and are covering their bills. Our hearts fill with Sara's joy. This is how the gift of happiness is given to both client and helpers.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

With a new school year just begun, this is the perfect time to think about lessons...not those gleaned from a textbook or chalkboard, but lessons that come from volunteering. At Fish-

line we believe that volunteers come in all shapes, sizes...and grades! Over the years, we've had the hands of St. Cecelia's kindergarteners putting cans on shelves and the vim and vigor of North Kitsap High School students unloading boxes of bananas from delivery trucks. This year, we'll be welcoming 2nd graders from The Island School and a handful of home-schooled families keen on implementing the service learning model into their curriculum.

At its heart, service learning is an educational approach that combines learning objectives with community service in order to provide a pragmatic,

progressive learning experience while meeting societal needs. This can be as sophisticated as a dialogue about economic structures that contribute to wealth disparity while packaging up toiletries for people experiencing homelessness, or as straight-forward as learning about mammals while hosting a pet food drive. Whatever lesson you're looking to learn, we can help make it relevant and fun.

To explore service learning with NK Fishline, please be in touch with our Volunteer Manager, Natalie Vaughan-Wynn (volunteer@nkfishline.org).



SECOND SEASON THRIFT SHOP

Shopping at Second Season Thrift Shop is a favorite activity for not only the local community but also for visitors to Poulsbo. The shop's boutique look and high-quality merchandise, donated by the community, surprises many shoppers. The all-volunteer staff at Second Season takes pride in presenting the merchandise in a clean and pleasant environment resulting in a steady stream of funding that benefits Fishline.

The store has morphed over the years

to its current look and will continue to change with an exciting upcoming move later this fall to a larger space at the north end of the parking lot. This move will allow the thrift shop to almost double its space and thereby carry more of what visitors like to shop for. Clothes, jewelry, books, handicrafts, household goods—Second Season has it all!

Also be sure to visit our Second Season Home Store on Third Avenue in downtown Poulsbo.

BUILDING UPDATE

When Fishline's new Market and Comprehensive Services Center (CSC) opens in June, 2018, it will bring a unique and needed combination of social services to North Kitsap. Our two-floor building will house our Healthy Food Market, improving access to nutritious food items, significantly reducing waste and improving the working conditions for our volunteers.

The second floor will house our new CSC, where Fishline will invite on-site presence of providers of the most needed human services, including housing, employment, health and wellness, domestic violence and crime victims' support and other family services. These agencies will work as a team while addressing the needs of our most vulnerable to create a consistent, integrated care plan that will reduce redundancies and bridge gaps of service.

Working together with our clients in crisis, the potential to transform lives will be more possible than ever before.

TO LEARN MORE: Visit <http://www.nk-fishline.org/capital-campaign/overview> or stop by and let us show you around.

LIBERTY BAY AUTO: FEED YOUR BACKYARD

Every year we get asked by many organizations to donate to their cause and, while we love to give back to our community, this year we wanted to focus on one: North Kitsap Fishline. We wanted to choose a business where we felt our campaign could really make a difference.

By dedicating an annual focus versus a seasonal focus, we hoped that other local businesses would see what kind of impact a campaign like this can have on a local non-profit organization that benefits those in need within our community.

There is never a "perfect" time to give, but there are always people out there who are in need of help. When we donate money, time and ideas it promotes generosity and motivates the community to want to do the

same. By connecting our day-to-day business activity with a cause marketing campaign that was affecting people's daily lives, it really was about helping others in need and taking notice that the necessities in life don't always come easy for everyone.

The feedback from our customers and the community about our Feed Your Backyard campaign has been well received! The campaign gives our customers a sense that they too are helping to give. The most inspiration comes

from being able to keep North Kitsap Fishline at the top of the communities' minds by promoting, advertising, speaking and giving. Through Aug. 31st our tally is \$10,290 or 51,450 meals!

Our advice to other businesses who are trying to come up with creative ways to give back to the community is to give in ways that truly will make a difference. Think big, talk with your local organizations, talk with your employees, get them involved, see where the organization's pain points are and where your business can really assist when those valleys come. Most of all make a commitment to work side by side with that organization and cross promote needs.

Through the Feed Your Backyard Campaign, now until the end of the year, every car sold at Liberty Bay Auto will provide Fishline with 150 meals.

Contributed by Dawn Leibold, Marketing Director, Liberty Bay Auto

**Every Car Sold Provides
North Kitsap Fishline with 150 Meals.
Please Help us Reach our Goal of 100,000 Meals!**
LIBERTYBAYAUTO.COM

ALTERNATIVE HOUSING OPTIONS AT NORTH KITSAP FISHLINE



Most of us know that more people are experiencing serious challenges to finding and keeping affordable housing. In 2016, over 2,800 households in Kitsap County were either literally homeless or at risk of losing their housing and seeking assistance.

As the housing crisis looms as one of the major issues confronting our society today, the situation is only becoming more dire. While housing professionals, advocates, and elected representatives are working hard for permanent, long term solutions, North Kitsap Fishline is putting resources to creative, outside-the-box ideas to get our clients in need of housing, housed now.

Fishline has three Alternative Housing Options programs: the HomeShare Program, the RV Living Program, and the Boarding House Referral Program. You can learn more about these programs on our website.

HomeShare Program: Fishline's program in which someone with an extra room in their home is matched with someone looking for a room to rent, thus sharing all or part of a home for their mutual benefit.

RV Living Program: This program has three elements including Donate an RV; Host an RV (temporarily sited on your property); and Sponsor an RV (permanently sited at a mobile home park). These offer opportunities to house people in a self-contained unit temporarily or for the longer term.

Boarding House Referral Program: This program seeks to establish a relationship with property owners who are interested in using their rental properties as boarding houses for people seeking a room to rent.

Please join us in helping people find a place to live in our North Kitsap Community.

Contact Marta Holt at (360) 229-2503, or email HomeShare@NKFishline.org to learn more.

Homeless Needs for Cold Weather Months

- 1 or 2 person tents
 - Sleeping bags
 - Sleeping mats
 - Tarps
 - Lightweight wool blankets
 - Hot chocolate packets
 - Travel mugs
 - Can openers
 - Gas cards
 - Walmart gift cards
 - Gift cards for hot meals
 - Camping stoves
 - Small propane tanks
 - Prepaid cell phones
 - Lanterns (with batteries)
 - Head lamps
 - Hand and foot warmers
 - Warm gloves
- For men and women:**
- Long underwear
 - Winter socks

RENT IN KITSAP COUNTY

49% OF RENTERS PAY MORE THAN 30% OF THEIR INCOME FOR RENT
According to Quicken.com, you should only be spending 25% on housing.

GROWING COST OF RENT



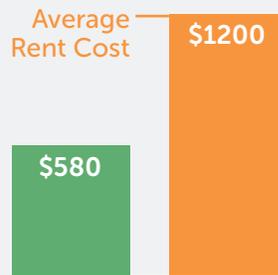
For every 100 low income households,

only



44 units of subsidized housing are available.

RENT PER MONTH



Average renter can afford to pay just \$580 including utilities.



I'd like to take this opportunity to express my sincerest thanks for the Supportive Services offered at Fishline. Our family is a housing provider in the HomeShare program. The young man we share our home with was, until recently, homeless. The HomeShare Coordinator, Marta Holt along with Housing Referral Coordinator Robin, did their due diligence and with great

respect for all parties. It has been a few days since he's moved in, and I know my family and he are a great fit. I believe this was an answer to both his and our prayers! He was so grateful to have a room of his own and a family to share time with. I hope programs like this continue as there is such a great need. Thank you for everything your staff does to make great things happen.



WAYS TO HELP



Give Online:
<http://www.nk-fishline.org/get-involved/donate/>



Give by Mail:
North Kitsap Fishline
787 NW Liberty Rd.
PO Box 1517
Poulsbo, WA 98370



Amazon Smile
Shop at Amazon here:
bit.ly/helpfishline and support the printing of this newsletter



Get Involved:
www.nkfishline.org/get-involved



Shopping List

- Fresh, sweet potatoes
- Frozen turkeys
- Hams
- Eggs
- Butter
- Celery
- Bake mixes
- Pies
- Holiday candies and treats
- Canned yams
- Cranberry sauce
- Coffee
- Grocery gift cards

DROP-OFF LOCATIONS:

Fishline

Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri: 8:30a-2:45p

Wed: 8:30a-6:45p

787 NW Liberty Rd, PO Box 1517,
Poulsbo, WA 98370

Non-Perishable: Drop-off bins
at Central Market, Red Apple,
Liberty Bay Bank, and Safeway.



GETTING READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The feel of fall is in the air, which means the holiday season is fast approaching us. The need to help others is always present but much more so during the holidays. All cultures celebrate in some fashion and food plays an important role in those festivities. Everyone should be able to enjoy this special time of the year without having to decide between food and rent. We are committed to ensuring

Happy Holidays for all clients.

Fishline provides turkeys, hams and meal trimmings for Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday meals.

Our Christmas Child program invites members of the community to sponsor a child by picking gift tags from a tree at a local business. These tags have their wish lists and are a great way to support needy families during the holidays.

Help us reduce print costs by subscribing to our [e-newsletter](mailto:email-pr@nfishline.org). Email [pr@nfishline.org](mailto:email-pr@nfishline.org) with your request.

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