EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

As the city observed its third consecutive year in a state of emergency around homelessness and affordable housing, our team of nearly 300 advocates redoubled its efforts to serve Portland’s most vulnerable. On the way to assisting nearly 10,000 people over the course of the year, we sought to shorten the path between those we serve and the essential services they need to end their homelessness and move forward with their lives. We accomplished this through a series of changes to the way we operate, including: making our services more mobile to better engage with people living on the streets; infusing our shelter spaces with more health & wellness, employment, and housing supports; and, diversifying our workforce to ensure that our team better reflects the population we serve. Together, these efforts enabled us to help more than 1,000 people make the jump from homelessness to housing.

Looking ahead, our team is excited to be moving forward on three innovative projects that will help mark the organization’s 50th anniversary year. This summer (2019), we’ll officially launch two new, purpose-designed facilities: a permanent shelter in SE Portland focused specifically on women and couples, and a navigation center – Portland’s first – in NW Portland focused on men, women, and couples. And this winter (2019), we’ll complete work on LISAH (Low Income Single Adult Housing), a co-housing modular “project” that will provide 72 units of deeply affordable housing in North Portland’s Kenton neighborhood. With the addition of these resources, we hope to help even more people end their homelessness in the year ahead.

If you’re reading this letter, odds are you’ve played a role in supporting our work – or are at least considering doing so. In either case, thank you. When Portland pulls together to help neighbors who’ve fallen on hard times, we collectively affirm a powerful fact that our team witnesses each day, day after day: the tremendous resilience of the human spirit, with the right help at the right time, people can overcome extraordinary challenges. We see it happen every day.

With gratitude,

George Devendorf
Executive Director

Transition Projects

Low Income Single Adult Housing (LISAH)
Coming in 2020
Transition Projects is committed to thoughtful stewardship and transparency, and upholds the AFP Donor Bill of Rights with regard to donated resources.
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