



2024 Annual Newsletter

December 2024



www.wallyshouse.org

WALLY'S HOUSE IS GROWING TO MEET REGIONAL NEED

When a child in Curry County is abused, Wally's House is the one essential place where the child can go to find support, a trained listener, and a pathway to healing and hope. As a non-profit child advocacy center, our primary focus is on reducing trauma to the child. If this work is important to you, please consider a donation during the holiday season this year.

Giving to Wally's House now is especially meaningful. We are preparing to expand to better meet the needs of Curry County, including a new children's mental health program and outreach to the community about prevention of child abuse. Thank you for taking this moment to express your care for Curry children who are working through the trauma of abuse.

HOW TO DONATE TO WALLY'S HOUSE

Every child deserves to be safe.

**MAKE A PLEDGE AT
WALLYSHOUSE.ORG**

Or mail a check to PO Box 1845 Gold Beach, OR 97444



Pictured left to right: Olivia Israel (Advocate/Forensic Interviewer, retired), Vanessa Davis (Office Manager), Jackalene Antunes (Executive Director), Deborah Davis (Administrative Assistant), Ashley Hall (Prevention Specialist), KelyRegan (Therapist), and Micki Wills (Advocate).



Pathway to Hope: Capital Campaigning Efforts and Children's Wellness Center Expansion



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

In early 2023, Wally's House launched its Pathway to Hope capital campaign to create the new Children's Wellness Center. When complete, the new Children's Wellness Center will support mental health services to help children and youth recover from trauma. The Center will also house expanded child abuse prevention, education and outreach programming, and allow for increased capacity of children served from 60 to 90 per year.

With an incredibly generous response from donors, Wally's House secured \$1,450,000 in capital campaign support. Local health partners **AllCare**, **Advanced Health** and **Curry Health Network** all generously contributed to the Pathway to Hope campaign. We have also been honored to receive major grants from **The Ford Family Foundation**, **Murdock Charitable Trust**, **Marie Lamfrom Charitable Foundation**, the **Roundhouse Foundation**, and the **Judith Ann Mogan Foundation**.

"With just \$50,000 more, we can reach the \$1.5 million campaign goal," says Executive Director Jackie Antunes. "Every donation makes a difference as we plan to open the Children's Wellness Center this spring and begin expanding our ability to serve Curry children who have experienced abuse."

Construction is underway on the Children's Wellness Center, and by mid-2025 a celebration is planned to mark the end of the capital campaign and to launch mental health services that help children and youth recover from trauma. All donors of \$1,000 or more to the capital campaign will be permanently recognized in the lobby of the Children's Wellness.

There is still time to be part of this campaign as we raise the final \$50,000! Your donations mean Curry children will have a place to go for hope and healing from child abuse.

MAKE A PLEDGE TODAY



GROUNDBREAKING EVENT, SEPTEMBER 26, 2024



Board President, Doctor Harris, and Executive Director Jackalene Antunes unveiling "Coming Soon" sign.



General Contractor Wes Kephart, Board President Doctor Harris, Executive Director Jackalene Antunes, and AllCare representatives.

Thank you to our major funders!

Advanced Health

AllCare

City of Gold Beach Urban Renewal Grant

Curry Health Network

Gordon Elwood Foundation

HEDCO Foundaton

Humboldt Area Foundation

Jane P. Ratzlaff

Janet Smith

Judith Ann Mogan Foundation

Julia Phillips & John Connor

Marie Lamfrom Charitable Foundation

Menasha Legacy Fund of Oregon Comm. Fdn

Mogan Foundation

Murdock Trust

OCF Community Grant

Roundhouse Foundation

State of Oregon (SB 1579 Pt 1)

State of Oregon CAC Funds (2023 Legislature)

The Ford Family Foundation

Tim & Jeri Tuttle

Programs Develop -- New Hires Join the Team!

Meet The Newest Members of Our Team

pictured left to right: Kely Regan, Ashley Hall, and Deborah Davis





Since 2023, our center has had an additional three members join our team! Our Mental Health Therapist, Kely Regan joined in March 2023 and has started providing Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) to children who have been referred to our center, and continue to receive support to work through their trauma so that they can heal. Additionally, she has been an essential key player in the orchestration of our Capital Campaign project and continues to work closely with our construction and architectural teams to ensure the smooth progression of our newest facility.

Another much needed service that existed in our county's professional organizations and community members was providing prevention education and community outreach services. Luckily, our team met Ashley Hall, who was an elementary school teacher at the time, in June 2023 and brought her on in July 2024 as our Prevention Specialist. Her role is to provide community education regarding child sexual abuse prevention, parent education regarding child development and milestones, and effective community outreach efforts through tabling events and school partnerships.

Soon after the addition of Prevention, Deborah Davis (Deb) also joined our team as an Administrative Assistant. Her role has been essential for the smooth operation of Wally's House, and she has jumped at every opportunity to assist with organizing and planning Wally's House events. Though starting out in what our team thinks of as a "catch-all" role to assist every department, Deb will be transitioning into an Advocate role to work more closely with the children and families that we serve.

Olivia Israel has crossed the finish line to retirement! She has worked at Wally's House since 2021 as a Child Advocate and Forensic Interviewer (a specially trained role), providing a safe space for children to tell their story.

Olivia is truly a one-of-a-kind individual who embodies the role of "nurturer" and exudes unconditional love and acceptance in every role that she has taken on in her working-life. We appreciate Olivia's presence throughout the years and her staunch commitment to bettering the lives of children.



Olivia Israel



Past and Upcoming Events: The Heroes of Curry County's Children Awards Banquet & The Wally's House Gala

The Heroes Event

Our inaugural Heroes of Curry County's Children Awards Banquet was a huge success! The purpose of this event is to celebrate our community partners and Multidisciplinary Team members for their dedication and efforts in improving the lives of our county's children. Without them, Wally's House and our mission would not be nearly as effective or transformational to the children who come through our center.

Over 150 attendees showed up, including numerous community partners (DHS, law enforcement, therapists), several donors and sponsors, as well as several community members. This event recognized Barbara Eells and Jeri Honeycutt-Tuttle (posthumously) for their life dedication and philanthropy toward child advocacy efforts in Curry County.

The Barbara Eells Advocacy Award and the Jeri Honeycutt-Tuttle Leadership Legacy awards will be presented to nominees from the community in subsequent years. More details and information will be released regarding the parameters and requirements to be nominated for the award. We cannot wait to host again in November 2025!



Jackalene Antunes (Executive Director) presenting award to Barbara Eells.



2024 Heroes Event Attendees.



Wally's House Board President Doctor Harris and spouse, Karen Harris.

The Wally's House Gala

This past April of 2024, we hosted our inaugural Gala at Crook Point's Mervue Estate, hosting fifty Curry County residents and raising over \$20,000! These proceeds went to our unrestricted funds to cover expenses that our grants do not fund, and towards our Capital Campaign to expand our services into our new Children's Wellness Center.



The 2nd Annual Gala for Wally's House will be hosted again this April, during Child Abuse Awareness month, with an expected 200-300 attendees to engage with live auction materials. More information will be posted on our website and social media platforms as details are organized by our Event Committee team.



Volunteer Opportunities

Are you interested in helping our team? We have several volunteer opportunities in our community outreach and prevention program, as well as room for additional Board Members to join the team.

If you are interested in helping plan our future events, please inquire about joining our Event Planning Committee.

Contact Us

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