



From the Chief Executive Officer, Bob Lieberman

With hardly a week going by without another significant act of violence committed by a young person, the stakes for our work at Kairos could hardly be higher. I am excited with the recent developments that will enhance our ability to make a difference in the communities that we serve, and beyond.

Most visible of these is the Children's Mental Health Campus on Nebraska Avenue. Phase I of that project, the Community Services Building, was completed and moved into in December of last year. We had a well-attended open house in this beautiful building on April 1st that was featured live by Medford news media. The building houses our Treatment Foster Care program, School Community Team, and some administrative offices.

Phase II involves a second building, which will provide a Crisis Unit for young people in mental and behavioral emergency, integrated with a Psychiatric Residential program, an Education Center, and a Family Apartment. This was designed, in conjunction with community partners and based on the latest research, to respond to the need presented by increasing numbers of children who are appearing in emergency rooms in critical mental health emergencies. The Emergency Rooms are not equipped to meet their needs, but are also unable to discharge them when they are at a significant level of severity. Therefore they are admitted into ICUs and CCUs, essentially wherever there is a bed, and await placement in a child psychiatric program, of which there are very few in the state. The new Kairos unit will help with this situation, providing a more appropriately attuned response, a more stabilizing experience, and at a lower cost. The youth in care have been involved in helping design elements of the program, which we expect to open in late August.

The Crisis Unit will be an anchor of sorts, in a continuum of services that we are developing in partnership with local community mental health programs. Within the next month or two we will be implementing a project in Medford to provide intensive in-home "virtual" residential services, by deploying staff into homes to help support families in supporting their children. Linked with this will be a Crisis Respite Treatment Foster Home replicating the successful model we implemented with Coos County Mental Health a few years ago. We are also providing similar Wraparound types of services in Coos County which already are making a difference in helping children and families stay stable.

As an outgrowth of our work with young adults, we will be providing Independent Living Services to young people, ages 16 through 20, aging out of the Foster Care system. These services will be designed to help them acquire the life skills they will need to integrate successfully into the community. They will also link with the young adult "Hub" we have opened Medford. This is a drop in center for youth and young adults 14 through 24 that will be entirely staffed by young people who have been in the system themselves, providing referrals to professional services, but more importantly helping young people cope through support

Continued on next page

provided by peers who have been in the system themselves. Peer support is often less intimidating and stigmatizing, and peer driven drop in centers are showing great success in other parts of the state. This program, developed in partnership with Youth M.O.V.E. Oregon and Jackson County Mental Health will also provide leadership groups and a special Character Academy to help young people develop hope for the future and assets with which to succeed.

To help support this exciting development we are launching the final community portion of our Capital Campaign to support the development of the Children’s Mental Health Campus described above. The successful completion of the campaign will help us lower costs related to those services and make access to help more available to young people. Above all please know that all of us working together can help mitigate the stress and despair experienced by many young people and make a positive difference in our world. Thank you for your ongoing interest and support of these efforts.

Kairos Celebration of Hope Luncheons

Once again we had two amazing Celebration of Hope luncheons in Grants Pass and Coos Bay. The youth, young adults, family, and community members testimonial stories were moving and heartfelt. Youth M.O.V.E. Kairos performed thought provoking skits and gave the audience insight into their daily struggles. Guests were inspired and in awe of the clients ability to speak so bravely and frankly about their stories and healing paths.

Thank you to all who attended the luncheons and please join us in thanking the following luncheon sponsors:

Grants Pass

Pacific Power
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Western Oregon Advanced Health
The Black Market Gourmet



Kairos has been making a difference in the lives of youth and young adults with mental and behavioral disorders and their families for over thirty six years. We help them learn skills and find solutions to build a better future for themselves and the community. Your contribution helps us continue this important work. Please feel free to arrange a tour and perhaps meet some of the youth we serve. ***Together, we can build a stronger community and bring hope and promise to the youth and families who need our help the most.***

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Development Department
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A benefit to raise funds for three nonprofit mental health agencies: Family Solutions, Kairos, and Options for Southern Oregon

Josephine County's largest holiday festival, **Rogue Winterfest** is held at Evergreen Federal Bank's Bear Hotel. Each year, this venue undergoes a spectacular transformation into a winter wonderland, bringing the community together to help support the Rogue Valley's mental health organizations: Family Solutions, Kairos, and Options for Southern Oregon.

Rogue Winterfest kicks off with the popular **Gala and Grand Auction** on Thursday, December 4th, which features an exciting selection of creatively decorated trees, and artworks. For the third year, we are offering the **Golden Social** for our senior community on Friday, December 5th. Family activities take place during the **Weekend Holiday Events** on Saturday, December 6 and Sunday, December 7th. The **Culinary Christmas Classic** on Monday, December 8th will bring the series of holiday festivities to a delicious close.

For additional information about Rogue Winterfest events please visit the website at www.roguewinterfest.org.



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