Letter from the CEO

There is much happening in the Kairos world, as is often the case. We are initiating construction on a new building for Coastline Services in Coos Bay, and we have received over $900,000 thus far in grants and donations for a project of a little bit over $1 million. This was part of the Coastline Community Capacity Campaign, which also included raising over $200,000 to help Youth M.O.V.E. Oregon establish a young adult drop-in center in North Bend. The coastal community has been supportive, highlighted by Dutch Bros. partnering with Kairos on June 9 for a children’s mental health awareness effort, through which they donated a buck a cup (over $2,300) toward our campaign.

In Jackson County, our new Outpatient Program (Jackson Services) has been inundated with young people and families seeking help. This program serves young people (0–17) and their families, and so far, more than 550 have contacted us for supports and services. The volume has far exceeded what we predicted when we entered into the contract, but staff are working hard to keep up, and we are increasing our staffing to respond to the need.

Perhaps the biggest change afoot, however, is we are in an executive transition process. September will mark forty full years that I have worked with SOASTC/Kairos, twenty-eight of them as Executive Director/CEO. Four years ago, I began looking ahead to a transition and entered active planning in spring 2016. The Board has appointed an Executive Transition Team consisting of four Board members and three leadership staff, and they have guided a carefully planned process to identify and hire the next leader of Kairos. A firm in Maryland that specializes in rural behavioral health was selected to conduct a national search and has done an outstanding job of carefully sorting through a robust response and thoroughly vetting a number of candidates to present to the transition team.

The team selected three finalists, who then participated in a set of conversations, tours, and presentations with the Board, leadership staff, and stakeholders. The next Executive Director has been hired, and we are working to achieve a seamless transition by September. You’ll be hearing directly from the Board about this exciting change.

I am deeply appreciative of the support all of you have offered to the organization and to me personally over the years. That support has made and will continue to make a profound difference in the lives of the thousands of young people and families we serve. Together, we help young people and families develop resilience and recover from the overwhelming adversity, stress, and trauma they have experienced in their lives. Thank you so much.

—Bob Lieberman
Celebrations of Hope

The Coastline Celebration of Hope was a remarkable success! We would like to thank the sponsors who contributed:

- Bay Area Hospital
- The Mill Casino
- Western Oregon Advanced Health
- Youth M.O.V.E. Oregon

The speeches and poems were inspirational. Bob provided an update on the Coastline Community Capacity Campaign, which will provide services and supports to young adults in the county and help with the construction of a new building to house the Kairos Coastline Services team.

Held at a new venue this year, the Rogue Valley Celebration of Hope was both motivating and informative.

Along with inspiring speeches, we had the opportunity to recognize the following former Board members for their service: Kathy Steinmetz (2014–2017) and Jennifer Wheatley (2013–2016).

Kairos Give Back Day with Dutch Bros. Coos Bay/North Bend

We want to thank Dutch Bros. Coos Bay/North Bend. Together, they raised $2,397.89 for Kairos by donating $1 from every drink sold on June 9. To encourage extra support from the community, they offered a nine-stamp loyalty card for every large drink purchased.

“Working with the Kairos team has been such a pleasure, and I am proud to support all the work they do with mental health issues in our communities,” says Ken Hiler, owner of Dutch Bros. Coos Bay/North Bend. “The stories that came through the window on Friday of the victories that the community has seen through Kairos and agencies like them made me feel really excited about working together again in the future.”

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Kairos Give Back Day!

The Coastline Mobile Youth–Crisis Response Unit (MY-CRU)

Since its rollout in July 2016, MY-CRU has been providing crucial support for youth and families in crisis. MY-CRU responds to mental/behavioral health emergencies and continues to communicate and build connections with other providers in the hope that increased community connections and outreach will result in better outcomes for youth and families. From August 2016 to May 2017, MY-CRU responded to 264 crisis calls. All but 20 of these calls resulted in hospital diversion— that is a rate of 92 percent. MY-CRU has extended its hours to respond to daytime calls, and all calls receive follow-up the next day.

Thank You for Supporting Our Community!

We are proud of the work Kairos does in the communities we serve. Your help makes it possible for us to continue that work. Approximately one in four children and young adults suffer from a mental or behavioral disorder at some point, and only about a third receive treatment. The increasing stresses in our society make it difficult for young people to achieve or sustain optimum mental health.

We continually strive to improve our ability to meet the needs of the most vulnerable youth, young adults, and their families. Your support is as critical as ever. The generosity of our donors and supporters helps us provide desperately needed services and supports in the communities we serve. Using the form below, please help us promote mental health awareness and provide critical services that empower youth and young adults to build on their strengths as they overcome challenges, find solutions, and develop hope for their future. On behalf of all those who will benefit from your commitment, we thank you in advance for your consideration.

Please mail this form and your check to:
Kairos
Development Department
735 SW Ramsey Avenue
Grants Pass, OR 97527
You can also make a donation on our website via PayPal at kairosnw.org/donate.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

EMAIL

Find Balance

Kairos has been making a difference in the lives of youth and young adults with mental and behavioral disorders and their families for forty 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. Together, we can build a stronger community and bring hope and promise to the youth and families who need our help the most.

Along with inspiring speeches, we had the opportunity to recognize the following former Board members for their service: Kathy Steinmetz (2014–2017) and Jennifer Wheatley (2013–2016).