



pacsfacts

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Every boy's dream Christmas gift

My skinny frame could hardly contain itself.

"Presents!" I yelled. "When can we open our presents?"

Alas, my four-year-old appetite for new toys had to wait. We had to eat breakfast and talk about the true meaning of Christmas first.

I was going to explode!

Finally, my Dad disappeared into the back room, and re-emerged in a red sweat suit and a white-batting wig.

He reached for the first glittering package, and guided it towards me.

I frantically tore off the paper, ripped open the box, and unfolded several small, cottony items, each with two leg holes.

Yes, I had just received underwear for Christmas.

As unhappy as my selfish little four-year-old mind may have been with that particular generous gesture from my parents, in the end, the sum of my plun-

der that morning also included some very exciting toys. Add in the delicious Christmas breakfast we had eaten, and I had zero excuse for being ungrateful.

What if briefs had been all my parents could afford? Even worse, what if I'd gotten them on an empty stomach?

This year, fun gifts will be hard to afford for many. But even worse, some parents cannot afford adequate food to provide to their kids.

Running the busiest food pantry in the state isn't cheap. If you've donated to PACS, or another food program that helps needy families, we cannot thank you enough. You are our reason for being grateful this Christmas.

And we hope you know that your donation just may be the difference between Christmas dinner and no Christmas dinner for a child in a needy family this holiday season.

—Brian Vistaunet
Development Associate



PACS Holiday Closures

Christmas

All departments closed Friday, December 23 through Monday, December 25.

New Years

Thrift store closes at 1 p.m. on Thursday, December 29. All departments closed Friday, December 30 through Sunday, January 1.



Uncle Paul Wants You!

We usually ask for steady, reliable volunteers who can meet a schedule.

And it's true that we always have that need in our food pantry, health clinic, and thrift stores.

However, one of the biggest needs we

have at this time is with the PACS COW Mobile Pantry. We need a flexible team of people who can learn specific roles and take them on the road with the PACS COW to neighborhoods and Portland-area towns that don't have a centrally located food pantry.

If you want to have a hands-on impact in helping needy people, this is as good a chance as you will find. Lets talk. Give me a call at 503.252.8500.

—Paul L. Cole
Executive Director



The PACS Cow Mobile Pantry

USDA Food Cuts Threaten Low-Income Families

The US Department of Agriculture has cut USDA food supplies for Oregon's neediest families nearly in half.

Some of the food we receive from Oregon Food Bank is channeled through them by the USDA, so the cuts do threaten supply for hungry families at PACS.

Oregon Food Bank has been actively seeking other sources that it can channel to make up for the deficit, and while it has had some success, we are preparing for the reality that keeping our shelves stocked next year may cost more than it

used to.

God has blessed us. Through this recession we haven't had to turn anyone away due to lack of food, despite record needs.

And we hope we never have to. Please pray that we can afford to sustain our supply and ensure struggling families needing food are not turned away in 2012.

—Ron Meisner
Food Distribution
Manager



About PACS

PACS follows Christ's example to meet the basic needs and restore the dignity of struggling individuals.

Hours

Food Pantry: 9 - 12 M-F

Health Clinic: Call for appt.

Thrift Store:

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. M-Thu

9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Fri

11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sun

Awards Dinner raises \$86k to help needy families

We didn't quite reach the \$100,000 mark. It would have been the third year in a row, if we had.

Nevertheless, participants at the PACS Awards Dinner and Auction on October 9 contributed over \$86,000 to the program, helping to ensure our health care services to uninsured individuals, and

emergency food for low-income families.

The 2011 Barbara Nelson Award was presented to Wendell & Betsy White of Generations Retirement Communities for the broad range of support and involvement they have had in service to the community.

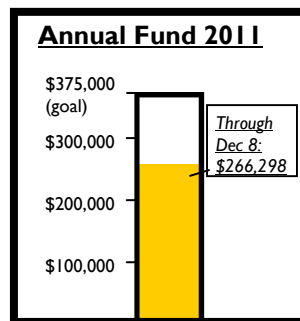


Director, Paul L. Cole, and board chair, Thomas Mostert present the Barbara Nelson Award to Wendell & Betsy White.

Annual Fund Update

We are still over \$100,000 short of our goal, though we were in a similar situation last year. We didn't quite meet the goal, but extra sales revenue in the Thrift Stores helped make up the difference. However, this year, we'll need to get closer to that \$375,000 mark. We are deeply thankful to God and each

person for the gifts to help underprivileged families thus far. Join us in prayer that extra gifts in December will help us reach \$375k.



PACS

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Community Services**

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Main: 503.252.8500
Clinic: 503.252.4589
PORTLANDACS.ORG

Prayer requests

These are real concerns written down by needy individuals at PACS. Please remember them in your prayers. Names are changed to protect identity.

- Everett—our faith
- Brent—weight loss/better health
- Linae—to keep hope strong
- Marilyn—to see good in others

