Inside The Gate

Issue 8 November 2009

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Tournament Raises $6,500

The 4th annual Gate Golf Scramble was a huge success thanks mostly to the generous corporate sponsorship of CUI Inc. The tournament held at Oak Knoll golf course, raised $6,500 with over 60 golfers enjoying beautiful sunshine and great golf. A special thanks to all the hole sponsors and raffle prize donations. Thanks also to Traeger for their donation of another grill for the raffle. We look forward to 5th annual tourney to be bigger and better.

The Gate Youth Association

PO Box 416
1505 Monmouth Street
Independence, Oregon 97351-0416

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Volunteer Opportunities:

- Tutor kids after school
- Hang out with the kids on Thursdays @ The Gate
- Speak at Tuesday Lunch

For more information contact:
Joyce Wahl—503-838-5653

Thoughts from Ben (Bobeda)

At our annual meeting Chris Robertson stepped down from the position of President to sit on the board. Mike Ainsworth is now the Vice President and I accepted the role of President. Each time I meet with the other board members, I'm reminded of their servant hearts and diversity. The board is a representation of the other group of people working for The Gate – You. Each one of you receiving this letter has indicated that you want to be involved in providing a place for tomorrow's youth to be safe and to hear the truth. Each one of you also represents a gift, whether it is financial prosperity, a listening ear, wise counsel or an able body.

Progress is being made, which I'm sure is good news to those of you who began supporting the Gate 3-4 years ago as well as those of you who have joined us since then. Check out Ryan's article on the new building! Recently, at Lights On After School, a mom of one of the girls who was helped by the tutoring program gave a testimony of how the tutoring made a dramatic difference for her daughter. It is easy to say that The Gate will not be built without the support of the community, but the reality is The Gate cannot be built without your support. Will you help me?

Ben

Summer at The Gate

Each Thursday for six weeks Gate youth and adult volunteers provided leadership for a morning camp program for elementary students in Monmouth. Funding for the program was provided from a Monmouth Parks and Recreation grant. Working alongside The Gate volunteers was Martin Robison, a CHS senior, carrying out his senior project. Other summer projects included a collaboration with Evergreen Living Center to provide wheel chair "drivers" that enabled it's residents to enjoy the Polk County Fair.

THE GATE

Winning, equipping, mentoring and empowering youth

New Building Design and New Team Leader

My name is Ryan McCormick and I assumed the role of the Building Team Leader in early October. Ben Bobeda is still a vital part of the building team; he continues as the liaison between the building team and the leadership team.

These are exciting times for The Gate because tremendous progress has been made towards our ultimate goal of constructing our facility. The most exciting development for the building team, with the guidance and hard work of our architect, Mike Junge, is preparation of the Phase 1 construction documents for bid. This means we will soon be entering a Site Plan Review with the City of Independence, which provides the city an opportunity to review our plans and comment on any changes that will need to be made. Once finished with the review, the construction plans will be released in November for bid by a select group of contractors. Once we evaluate the bids, we can select a general contractor to give us an updated estimate for construction and eventually construct Phase 1. Phase 1 will be a finished shell building; however the inside will be unfinished. People passing by will see painted exterior walls, windows, doors, some exterior lighting, side walks, and some landscaping, however if they walk over to peer in a window, they would see a gravel floor, and exposed wall studs. The building team adopted this "least cost" strategy in order to put something tangible on the ground so the community can see progress being made to make The Gate a reality. Another exciting development is working towards finalizing all of the interior spaces of The Gate. We are taking a specific look at each "room" in The Gate, and inviting people to our meetings who have excellent experience to help us develop a final plan. Once this is finished, the Phase 2 documents can be completed, and the Association can begin the final steps to completing The Gate.

All things considered, this is a very explosive period for The Gate because the project is progressing so well. This also means it is a great time to get involved with this project. There is lots of work to be done finishing the building. Planning, fund raising, spreading the word about The Gate, and implementing ongoing ministries are just a few so I invite you to get involved in some aspect of this project. If any of these opportunities spark your interest please contact The Gate Youth Association. You can get involved today!

Program Updates

Tuesday Church Lunch, a foundational program of The Gate, is in the midst of its 20th year of providing 150 Central High School students with delicious meals, inspirational messages, and a place where students know they are welcomed and safe. The volunteer staff provides invaluable consistency to the students and the program.

Each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday Gate volunteers work with Central High School youth as they complete assignments in the high school library as an integral part of The Gate-Central High School after school collaboration. Additionally, up to 65 students gather at The Gate each Thursday afternoon from 3:15 until 6:15 to study, play games, eat snacks and dinner, learn to cook, and participate in service learning projects.

Two new components of the Thursday program are partnerships with the Central School District Food Service Program which now provides a hot “super snack” and Hands On Willamette Valley which helps with volunteer procurement as well as service learning projects.