

## Neighbors Helping Neighbors ENews Brief

7 January 2024

Woodstock Pantry, Hot Meals, Clothing Closet and Hygiene & Harm Reduction programs were all closed this weekend. Cultivate Initiatives was running a warming shelter, so also was not onsite. It's been a rough week for everyone. I hope you all are safe and warm and recovering from the storm.

### ANNUAL REPORT

Chris, Jim and Robert are joining Andria and me to present the Annual Report this Sunday. If you'd like to see the presentation, come to the dining hall by 11:30. The presentation will start at 11:40 and run approximately 15 minutes. There is much to celebrate! I will post the presentation on our [webpage](#).

### OREGONLIVE

Excerpts from [Unhoused Portlanders Struggle Amid Icy Conditions After Shelters Close](#)



'...estimated 1,200 people were forced to leave a dozen warming shelters Wednesday morning after county officials declared weather conditions no longer warranted emergency sites.

...Wednesday at about 10:30 p.m. the county announced all of its own offices and libraries would be closed for safety reasons "due to ice."

...Another round of freezing rain is expected in the metro area as early as mid-afternoon Thursday, according to the National Weather Service's Portland office. Overnight temperatures are expected to linger around 30 degrees Thursday into Friday. Forecasters don't expect ice to melt or temperatures to rise above freezing until around 10 a.m. Friday.

Nevertheless, officials in Multnomah and Washington counties have indicated they do not plan to reopen warming shelters. ...Instead of shelter, the county has offered three spots where people can pick up cold weather gear from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday.

"...Making decisions to kick everybody out into the ice based off an arbitrary temperature makes no sense," said Liz Starke, development director for Rose Haven, a women's day shelter in Portland. "It is clearly still an emergency situation out there and people simply have no place to go."

Blanchet House peer support specialist Duke Reiss said one of their frequent guests died inside their tent from hypothermia over the weekend, though that individual is not included in Multnomah County's count of hypothermia-related deaths.



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### LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

#### **Intercultural Communication Tools Through An Equity Lens Register here**

An introduction and self-exploration to recognizing the varied ways in which the intersections of identity and worldviews can change the nature of communication especially during conflict. This workshop addresses conflict involving disagreements and interpersonal tensions and is intended to equip participants with tools to work through conflict as a generative process for transformation.

#### **Introducing Our 2024 Anti-Hunger Agenda: Ending Hunger Power Night Register**

Learn about Oregon Food Bank's Policy Leadership Council's Policy Priorities for the 2024 Legislative Session.

### VOLUNTEER SIGN-UPS

**Woodstock Pantry** - Volunteers sign up each week for the shifts they want to work.

#### [WP SIGN UP SHEET JANUARY](#)

**Hot Meals** uses Saturday Teams. Team Leads organize volunteers for their Saturday.

**Clothing Closet** and **Hygiene & Harm Reduction** are individually organized.

The more cross-over we have between programs, e.g., Hot Meals volunteers working pantry shifts, the more opportunities you have to participate in ways that interest you, and the stronger we will be as an organization. So, if you are interested in any of our programs, let me know and I will set you up!

### THE WOODSTOCK PANTRY FUNDRAISER & FRIENDRAISER

We are raising funds to pay for our new pantry facility. We need your help!

You can ask people to join us by:

1. contributing on our [gofundme.com](#) page, or with this QR code
2. and sharing this request with their colleagues, friends and family as well as community organizations and businesses (add to your social media, send emails, make calls).



**THANK YOU ALL FOR EVERYTHING YOU DO!**

**Celebrate...**

**It Takes a Community, And We Are It!**