

# LEAD Program

*April 30th, 2023*

Over the course of the last three months, LEAD has continued to train officers and community partners alike, expanding relationships across Marion County to increase interagency collaboration. Through this effort, LEAD has joined with the Silverton Taskforce, the Salem-Keizer Collaboration, the North Marion Services Team, and the Woodburn Taskforce, all of whom have the same goal of combining resources and people together to give the right support and assistance to those that need it.

Additionally, LEAD has begun a new relationship with Salem Health who have joined our LEAD Workgroup team. Together we hope to expand LEAD services to those inside our county health systems who meet LEAD criteria as well as reconnect with active and inactive clients alike who come to the hospital for support.

To achieve this, the LEAD team will be conducting our first hospital training on May 25th with the Care Management Team. We look forward to working with them to expand the amount of clients LEAD can help!

Our program also wants to recognize the various community members such as Soaring Heights Recovery homes whose donations throughout the community have made large impacts to LEAD clients in addition to the other great work they do!

Finally, LEAD is looking to hire additional Navigators, with the latest round of interviews completed on the 29th of March and a second round of interviews planned for the middle of May. We look forward to further expanding our capacity and the ability to serve our community in bigger and better ways.

## Navigator Spotlight: Helen



Lt. Matthew Gill (SPD) and Helen

During the Salem Providers Meeting in early March, our newest Navigator Helen was awarded a challenge coin by the Salem Police Department for the excellent and passionate work that she has accomplished over the course of a few short months. Already Helen has made strides for her LEAD clients, working with community partners to get 8 of her 11 clients housed, 2 clients employed, and 6 with over one month clean. Additionally, Helen stepped up to the plate to teach a LEAD training alongside Josh Wolf to the Marion County Association of Defenders and is planning on working with the Marion County Crisis Intervention Team as a role-player on May 17th to help train first responders. Congratulations Helen, and keep doing great work!

Of Our 67 Active Clients:  
 42 Are Housed  
 22 On the Employment Spectrum  
 8 Regained custody of their kids  
 14 Have over 1 month clean  
 18 currently in treatment  
 7 Have 1 year clean  
 9 Have 2 years clean  
 1 Has 3 years clean  
 3 Have 4 years clean

Renee with Raincoats, courtesy of Soaring Heights Recovery



"Recovery from addiction is not a solo journey. It is a collaborative effort, and with the right support and resources, every person has the power to transform their life and break free from the chains of addiction."

*Sgt. Jason Bernards,  
 Marion County Sheriff's Office*

## *Client Success Stories*

### *Judith*

Prior to joining LEAD, Judith had been living on the streets of Salem since 2015 and was homeless due to her addiction. Upon learning she was pregnant in January of 2021, she knew she had to do something different. Shortly after starting treatment at Her Place, Judy was referred to LEAD as a Social Referral by Officer Perez with Keizer PD.

Since joining the LEAD program Judith has given birth to a healthy baby boy. She has maintained custody of her son while completing treatment. In addition to LEAD, Judith also utilized many other resources throughout Marion County such as MOMS, MOMS+, TOTS Court, parenting classes as well as twelve step and faith-based recovery fellowships.

After her first year clean, Renee, Judith's Navigator, helped her move into an Oxford house where she began to seek employment and regain custody of her two other daughters who live out of state. While there, Judith got an internship with Project Able as well as received approval for SSI disability. Judith had at this point decided that she wanted to work in the recovery field and give back to the community that she had taken so much from in her addiction, and as such perused her certification as a Recovery Mentor.

After 6 months of living in Oxford Judith was awarded a housing voucher which enabled her to move into an apartment. Now with over two years of recovery, Judith is self-supporting through her own contributions. While she is currently a supervisor in the hospitality field she is still actively seeking employment as a Certified Recovery Mentor as was her initial goal over a year ago.

Judith remains grateful at her second chance in life, she also remains perseverant with regaining custody of her older daughters who are still out of state. She maintains her recovery by attending 12 step meeting and being of service to the fellowship.

Judith is an inspiring person to talk to. She is always there to help those trying to make a change in their lives and is a good friend to her peers. She has overcome so many obstacles and still continues today to take action against the barriers holding her back from her goals. Judith is living proof that people can grow self-confidence, patience, knowledge and self-sustainability if given the opportunity.

Judith and Renee



### *Contact us!*

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