

Quarterly 2025 Newsletter

A Lifeline to Wellbeing Luncheon

Lifeline Connections held our third annual fundraising luncheon, *A Lifeline to Wellbeing*, on September 25, 2025 at Royal Oaks Country Club. During the event, we honored the Vancouver Housing Authority with the 2025 John Cox Community Partner Award and celebrated all this year's nominees. This award celebrates individuals and organizations that partner with Lifeline Connections to provide lifesaving behavioral health treatment and supportive services. "This year's winner collaborates on opportunities to maximize shared resources. They anticipate policy changes to mitigate the impact on our most vulnerable community members," shared Lifeline Connections President and CEO, Andrea Brooks.

The luncheon emphasized the urgent need for behavioral health services, highlighting the prevalence of mental health and substance use conditions in our Clark County community. Lifeline Connections celebrated September as Recovery Month and demonstrated how offering a robust behavioral health treatment continuum enhances someone's recovery by sharing an example of a patient's journey through Lifeline Connections' continuum

During the event, Andrea noted the challenges Lifeline Connections faces due to decreased collection rates from managed care organizations, Washington paying the lowest room and board rate in the country for inpatient programs, and changes to Oregon Medicaid impacting the agency's status as in-network provider for Care Oregon.

Proposed federal budget cuts impacting Medicaid and federal grants will have an impact on our community. It's estimated that nearly 22,000 people in Clark County and 194,000 people in North Sound could lose Medicaid coverage. These reductions in Medicaid can eliminate access to life-saving treatment for our most vulnerable community members, those who are most in need of a lifeline.



Jeff Hatch, keynote speaker and Community Partner Award nominee, shared his lived experience, insights, and ongoing efforts to support behavioral health initiatives in our community. His presentation underscored the importance of collaboration and community involvement in addressing our community's behavioral health needs.

During the event, we asked for our community's support to replace a broken HVAC system at our Pregnant and Parenting Women's program, which serves women who are pregnant or have young children living with them while they participate in inpatient substance use treatment. Our fundraising goal was \$87,500, half of the amount needed (\$175,000) to replace the HVAC system. Thanks to an anonymous donor who matched the amount raised during the event, we were able to surpass our goal and raise just more than half the amount needed to replace the HVAC system!

Go The Distance 5K Run

Lifeline Connections attended and sponsored a team at the Go The Distance (GTD) 5K Run! Clients and staff from our Men's Residential and Pregnant and Parenting Women Programs participated in the event.

Sarah Wasilk, Program Director of the Women's Recovery Center, shared, "My dog, Max, pushed his way through to the finish line. It was a day to remember, and we can't wait for next year!"



Help is Available at Lifeline Connections

Need help accessing treatment? Lifeline Connections is here for you! If you or someone you know is in need of substance use or mental health support, Lifeline Connections offers a wide range of services. Please refer to this simplified one-page resource outlining [How to Access Treatment](#) at Lifeline Connections to connect you or someone else to lifesaving treatment.

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HCA Tour and Roundtable

On November 7th, 2025, Lifeline Connections hosted members of the Washington Health Care Authority (HCA) Leadership Team, Senator Paul Harris, and the Washington Council for Behavioral Health. This group toured our Crisis Wellness Center and received an overview of our robust treatment continuum of behavioral health treatment and services. The roundtable sparked meaningful conversations about the challenges non-profit organizations face and solutions to strengthen our collective efforts and services. We are immensely grateful for our state's leadership, partnership, and their commitment to supporting local behavioral health non-profits!



Financial Leadership Transition

Doug Bourdo returned to Lifeline Connections as our full-time Interim Chief Financial Officer (CFO) on September 8th, 2025. Doug previously served as an Interim CFO for Lifeline Connections in Fall 2022. Doug continued to collaborate closely with our former CFO, Kinh Reynolds, providing support on various financial projects until February 2024. To ensure a smooth transition and continued stability, Kinh Reynolds assisted Doug as he settled into the Interim CFO role. Lifeline Connections remains committed to maintaining financial sustainability as we continue to serve our community.

Your Support Changes Lives

As we approach the close of 2025, we want to thank you for your ongoing support and invite you to continue making a difference in the lives of those who need it most. Your generosity directly impacts our ability to provide vital services, including life-saving treatment, supportive programs, and a caring environment where individuals can find hope, help, and healing. Every gift you make helps us expand our treatment programs and support recovery for our community's most vulnerable members.

No matter the size, your contribution helps us move closer to our goal of building a healthier, stronger community where everyone can thrive. Please consider giving today at www.lifelineconnections.org/donate.



Donation from Dick Hannah Dealerships

We are incredibly grateful to Dick Hannah Dealerships and The Believe in Nice Foundation for their recent donation! Lifeline Connections was honored to be nominated by one of their employees. Your contribution makes a difference in the lives of our patients. Thank you for believing in recovery and helping us save lives!



Double Your Impact with Gift Matching!

Many employers in the Vancouver and Portland areas offer gift matching programs that can double the value of your donation! Some companies will even match contributions from spouses, retirees, and surviving spouses of retirees, and may offer payroll deduction options that combine your gift and the match into one larger donation.

By taking advantage of your employer's gift matching program, you can make an even greater difference at Lifeline Connections. Your generous contribution could be doubled, allowing us to extend our support and services to more individuals in need within our community. Now is the perfect time to maximize your donation and help us continue our vital work.

We encourage you to review your employer's gift matching guidelines and consider becoming a Lifeline Connections champion. Together, we can create an even greater impact!

Contact Development with any questions at (360) 397-8246 ext. 30548.

Are You Looking for Career Opportunities?

Make a difference in your local community and consider an opportunity in behavioral health with Lifeline Connections! We offer a benefits package including tuition reimbursement, generous paid time off, medical coverage, and many positions even include a new-hire bonus.

Please review open positions and apply using our [website](#). We would love to welcome you to our Lifeline Connections Family!