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Amani Center

Winter 2014

Giving Children a Voice

The Columbia County Child Abuse Assessment Center (Amani Center) strives to minimize trauma to child abuse victims through professional medical diagnosis and treatment in a secure and child-friendly environment with the goal of preventing child abuse in all forms.

Our Holiday Wish List

- Mini Water Bottles
- Nutrigrain Bars (brand specific)
- Subscriptions to Nickelodeon Magazine, Parenting Magazines, People, American Girl
- Office Supplies:
 - ◊ Paper (white and color) for laser printer
 - ◊ DVR +R
 - ◊ CD-R
 - ◊ CD/DVD paper sleeves (self-adhesive)
 - ◊ Paper towels
 - ◊ Toilet Paper
 - ◊ Cleaning supplies
 - ◊ Envelopes
 - ◊ Avery Labels 5160 & 5366
- Postage Stamps
- Gift Cards for businesses we can purchase the above listed items.
- **An end to child abuse...**



From the Executive Director

Greetings!

I would like to send warm holiday wishes to you from the Amani Center staff, volunteers and Board of Directors. I am honored to serve as the Executive Director for the Amani Center, an agency that has long been close to my heart. Protecting and nurturing the health and safety of our children is a cause that can be trumped by no other.

2014 has held significant changes for the Amani Center. Over the last year the Amani Center has said goodbye to long-time Executive Director Lisa Galovich; and to one of our amazing Medical Examiners, Tammy Winchell. We welcomed two returning team members, Darcy Thomas our Development Coordinator and Clairissa Williams, our Intake Coordinator and Family Support Services Specialist, who formerly was a volunteer with the Center.

I am thrilled to announce that the Amani Center was selected to receive a two-year federal grant to support our Forensic Interviewer position as well as add another staff member to our program! Additionally, we have received a generous grant from the City of Scappoose Community Contribution Fund. These grants only cover a portion of the financial needs of our center, making fundraising and individual contributions vital. We are so thankful for the support we have received from individual donors, our fundraising event participants, sponsors, as well as the local employee giving programs.

The Amani Center is still in critical need of financial support in order to sustain services at a level that the needs of Columbia County demand. Your donation will help us reach our goals to meet the significant increases in service need. Please consider donating today; any contribution will help, regardless of the amount. The Amani Center is a non-profit (501c3) organization and your cash donation is tax deductible. Donations can be made by completing the enclosed donation envelope and returning to the Amani Center with your check or on our website using a credit card.

With your help, we will continue to provide these invaluable services to our community. I hope you will share in this commitment to give abused children a voice and a pathway to healing.

Warmest Wishes in the New Year,

Cassy M. Miller
Executive Director

Help Support the Amani Center while you shop online! **SIGN UP TODAY!**

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice, including **Columbia County Child Abuse Assessment Center!**

- **AmazonSmile** is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service, using your existing Amazon Account.
- Support the Amani Center by starting your shopping at **smile.amazon.com**



Recent Fundraisers

Race Against Child Abuse: On June 7th, Amani Center supporters of all ages laced up their shoes to take part in this 6th Annual event. Offering a professionally chip-timed half-marathon, 10k, 5k and one mile walk, there was truly something for everyone. All of this fun raised over \$13,000 to help us bring hope, health, safety and support to child victims of abuse. A big thanks to all sponsors, volunteers & participants!

Bake Sale: Music & baked goods...sounds delicious, right? On June 26th, Marilyn Naish and her brilliant baking team sold their tasty treats at our 13 Nights on the River booth, raising an incredible \$1469 to benefit the Amani Center. Thank you!

12th Annual Luau & Auction: This festive evening filled with live Hawaiian Music, hula dancers, fire dancing, authentic Hawaiian food, live & silent auctions (dessert, too) brought in a gross total exceeding \$32,000 to benefit the Amani Center! This event would not be successful without all who donated, volunteered and attended! Thank you Everyone, especially our 2014 Event Sponsor, Windermere Charitable Foundations!

Fibers & Stitches: Our wonderful local fabric & quilting shop held their own creative fundraiser to support the Amani Center. Shoppers brought in remnants of high-quality fabric to donate. This fabric was then sold to the public at a significant discount. All proceeds were passed on to the Amani Center in the amount of more than \$486! Fibers & Stitches plans on doing this fundraiser again, so watch for information. Thank you for your ongoing support, Fibers & Stitches!

Yo Mamas Give Back Night: On a special evening in September, Yo Mamas Frozen Yogurt in Scappoose donated 20% of all their proceeds to the Amani Center. In four short hours, this sweet little shop raised over \$93 to help the children in our community! Thank you! Look for our next Give Back Night.

Choose Your Charity Bake Sale: Scappoose Education Association brought their scrumptious baked goods to the Scappoose Football game on October 3rd. Game patrons were able to choose a treat & then choose which charity's jar they would like to put their donation in. Generous supporters filled the Amani Center jar with a total of \$169.51! Much thanks to Scappoose Education Association!





Be a Shining Star this Holiday Season

Donate in honor or memory of someone you love.

Child abuse is now at epidemic levels:

- Studies show that every 36 seconds one child in the United States is neglected/abused.
- 1 in every 4 girls and 1 in every 6 boys will be sexually abused by the time they are 18 years of age.

The demand for the Amani Center's services is staggering. Last year we provided medical & forensic assessment to over 100 child abuse victims. Many more children were not able to be seen at the Amani Center due to our current level of funding.

The Amani Center is looking for **Shining Stars** to **Light The Night For Child Abuse**. This holiday season, you can help an abused child. Your donation will ensure that alleged child abuse victims in Columbia County are provided with *Quality & Comprehensive* medical and forensic assessment/treatment services by specially trained child abuse professionals while in a secure and child-friendly environment.

During the holiday season, the Amani Center will post all our donors on Shining Stars in the Center's front windows. All donations made now through January 31st will be listed as a **Shining Star!** Please ensure that you note how you would like the name to be listed on your star or if you would like the donation to be anonymous. Donations can be made on our website or mailed to our center in the envelope provided.



**Make a donation.
Make a difference.**

Your generous donation is greatly appreciated by the abused children of Columbia County! Together we will **Light The Night for Child Abuse!**

Save the Date ~ Upcoming Events

Winter Wonderland - Sunday, December 14 (1-3pm), Best Western Banquet Room, St. Helens

Giving Turkey - The Season of Giving is NOW - December 1st at Ichabod's Restaurant, Scappoose, OR

Race Against Child Abuse - Saturday, April 25th, 2015 (8am), Columbia View Park, St. Helens

Luau & Auction - Saturday, August 22, 2015 (5-9pm), Columbia County Fairgrounds Event Complex



YOU CAN HELP THE AMANI CENTER EARN DONATIONS JUST BY SHOPPING WITH YOUR FRED MEYER REWARDS CARD!

Fred Meyer is donating \$2.5 million per year to non-profits in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington,

based on where their customers tell them to give. Here's how the program works:

- ◆ Sign up for the Community Rewards program by linking your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to the **Amani Center** at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards

You can search for us by our name or by our non-profit number (84681).

- ◆ Then, every time you shop and use your Rewards Card, you are helping the **Amani Center** earn a donation!

You still earn your Rewards Points, Fuel Points, and Rebates, just as you do today.

If you do not have a Rewards Card, they are available at the Customer Service desk of any Fred Meyer store.

For more information, please visit www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards.



Last month with only 31 households, we received over \$311! You can make a difference!



AMANI CENTER

Columbia County Child Abuse
Assessment Program

PO Box 1001, Saint Helens, Oregon 97051

Amani Center

A 501 (c)(3)
nonprofit agency

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EMPLOYEES

Cassy Miller
Executive Director

Darcy Thomas
Development Coordinator

Lesley White
Child Forensic Interviewer

Clairissa Williams
Child Forensic Interviewer &
Family Support Services Specialist

Marie Scott Brown
Medical Examiner

Linda Eddy
Medical Examiner

Heather Sutton
Medical Billing Specialist

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tami McDonald - Chair
Stacia Tyacke - Vice Chair
Andrew Bliss - Treasurer
Stan Mendenhall

* For information about becoming a Volunteer, visit our website:
www.amanicenter.org

