

IN BRIEF

YEAR-END RECEIPTS

If you would like a year-end receipt for your gifts to PATCH, please call us at 360-690-8495 or email nrader@projectpatch.org with your request

ALUMNI CALLS TO THE RANCH

Project PATCH gives each child who exits our program a toll-free number so they can call the Ranch when they need to talk to someone. During the holiday months there were 18 calls to the Ranch from alumni. The topics of the conversations vary. They call about struggles and triumphs — even about sharing brownies with their new academy roommate. The kids call knowing that someone who cares will be there to listen, pray and offer encouragement. Several alumni called on Christmas Day to just say “Merry Christmas. How is everyone doing there?” And we reply, “Wow, how great to hear from you? How is everything going for you?” Praise God!



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PATCH works!

Irving: The Frozen Boy

“Tough case” just scratched the surface when it came to describing Irving. The lanky flaxen haired boy seemed frozen, sitting stone still—staring off into space. This usually vibrant boy had turned silent. A close friend had been trapped in a burning building and died. Silent grief was crushing this 14-year-old boy.

Irving’s problems began long before this recent tragedy however. He had issues with authority, peer relationships, anger, poor grades and depression. But after the loss of his friend, his depression progressed into very dark thoughts – thoughts of his own death.

“I didn’t care if I lived or died”, Irving recalls. “I basically didn’t even pick up a pencil my whole eighth grade year ‘cuz I just didn’t care.”

Desperate to save her son, Irving’s mom turned to Project PATCH. It was hard for him to accept being there. He felt powerless and trapped. The routine, atmosphere and expectations were a massive change from what was expected at home.

As he puts it “It was the hardest thing I’ve ever experienced, and definitely the most important. But I know God led me there.”

As Irving adjusted to the supportive environment, he began to open up. The staff led by example and helped him learn to trust. In spite of his various struggles, he didn’t feel condemned. He sensed the staff cared about him, and began to see that he needed to make changes. The precise and enforced boundaries contributed to his progress. Additionally helpful were the steps to making good decisions that he learned. And so he grew, and changed and thrived.

When Irving left PATCH over a year later, he was ready to make things work. His relationship with his mother improved. He worked hard and completed high school where at graduation the principal recognized him as the “most improved student.”

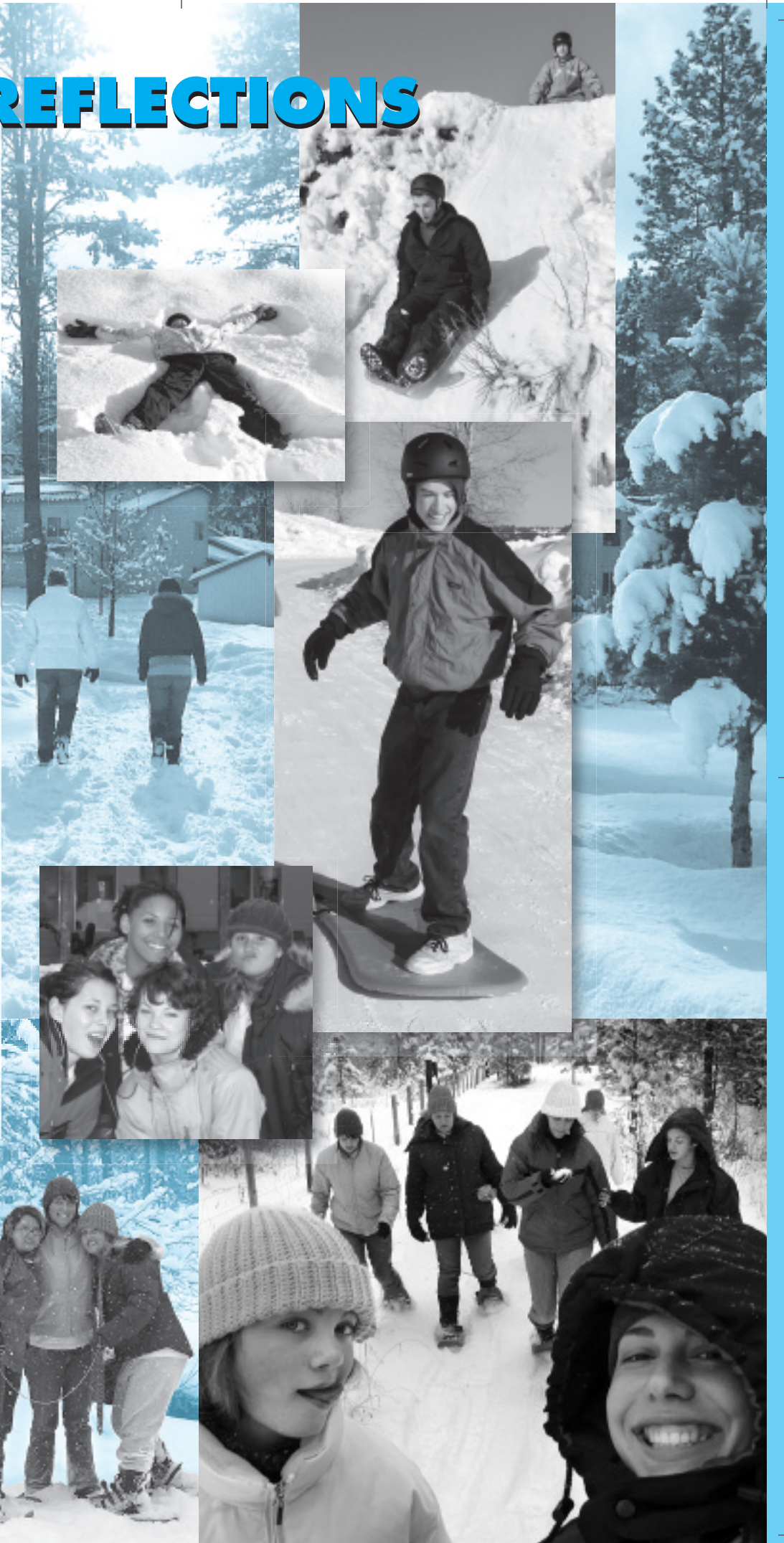
Now in his second year at Walla Walla College, Irving is working towards a career in industrial arts where he can use both his hands and mind to solve problems. A part-time job as a welder helps keep him busy. He is focused, has a clear set of personal beliefs and boundaries. Depression is a thing of the past.

“I want to live and get married,” he says with a grin, a frozen boy no longer.



WINTER REFLECTIONS

My name is Melody. I am a resident at project PATCH. It's really fun at PATCH in the wintertime. I love winter mornings, where you wake up to gigantic snowflakes pelting your window. It is an awesome experience to run outside and catch feather flakes in your eyelashes and hair. Picture if you can trees seemingly sprinkled with powdered sugar and a landscape appearing to be layered with white frosting. We snow blow and shovel our sidewalks to keep up house keeping, but then go and play in the fluffy wonderland. We do a lot of sledding down makeshift hills, our new sledding hill and great places in the community. We cross country ski, and snowshoe our way around campus. We have huge amounts of snow, making snow angel imprints really deep. Snowball fights are pretty outrageous. Hot chocolate adds a sweet touch after playing in the snow, and our meals are always made to add warmth in the cold of winter

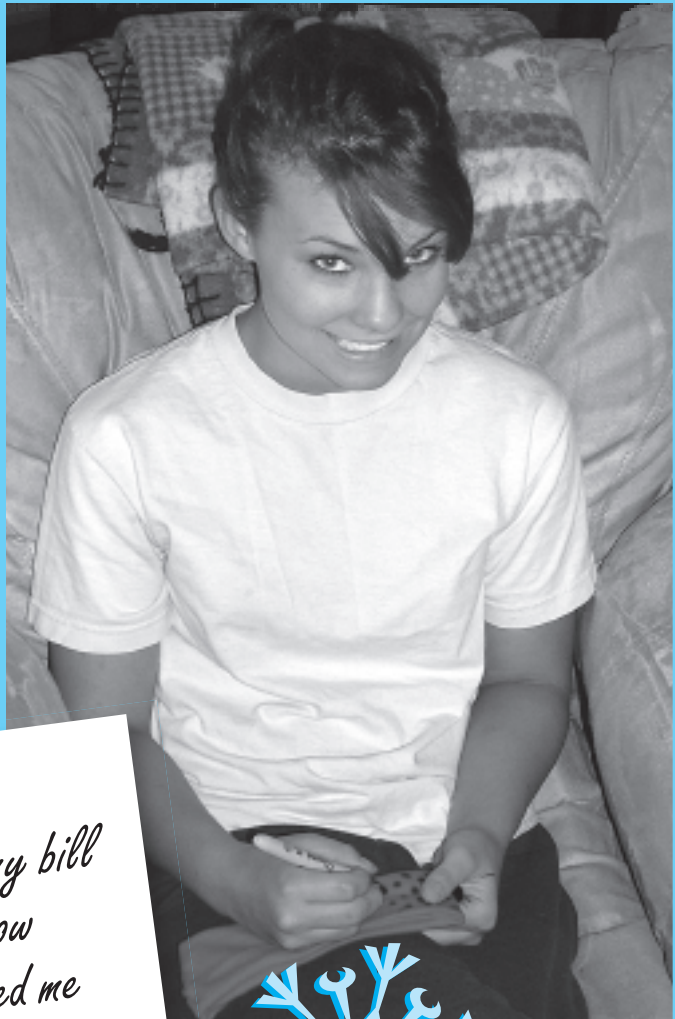


You Make a Difference!

Every day we place all of PATCH's financial concerns in God's hands because they belong to Him. Our job is to be good stewards of the resources He sends our way. We are so grateful to you, our faithful donors, for sharing God's blessings with us.

Many of our residents' families have had employment, health challenges, or other severe financial hardships that have left them only able to pay a small portion of their commitment to PATCH. Last year there were several very generous donors who gave specifically for our scholarship fund above and beyond their other gifts. Nine families received much needed assistance because of those additional gifts.

Below is a letter from Heidi, a recent PATCH graduate. Her mom is a single parent who has worked hard to pay her child's tuition, but had many struggles. Heidi wishes to thank you for the difference you have made in her life and the help you gave her mom.



I felt like I really needed to thank you personally. My name is Heidi and you paid my bill at Project PATCH. I want you to know how grateful I am for that. PATCH has helped me come so far! It led me to accepting God into my life, and I am forever thankful to PATCH and you. This has been the hardest but best experience of my life and I can say honestly that I will take everything I learned here and use it as best I can, not only to help myself but others too. I finally have hope and a second chance and I can never thank you enough for helping me gain that. You have helped make me, my family, and my friends so much happier.

Thank you again, Heidi



The Thrill of Jessy's Smile



Recently Jessy graduated the level program here at PATCH — a cause for celebration. Even more exciting was her decision to follow Jesus Christ and be baptized into the Kingdom of Heaven. During her stay at PATCH we watched her mature and grow, overcoming many difficulties. Not only did she lose over one hundred pounds during her stay at the Ranch, she also lost the burdens associated with her dependence on people and food. A slide presentation at her graduation celebration revealed a smiling, joyful young lady. Her mom was thrilled to see Jessy smiling again!

Real Handicaps

A devotional I read a while back told the story of W. Page Pitt who lost 97% of his sight by age five. He refused to attend special schools for the blind but rather attended public school and even played baseball and football. He completed college and went on to become a top journalism professor.

A student once asked him which he thought was worse, blindness, deafness, or not having arms or legs. He replied, "None of those things! Lethargy, irresponsibility, lack of ambition or desire: they're the real handicaps"

This story challenged me because often I judge what PATCH can do based on funding, staffing, facilities or even the type of kids that we have in our care. I do need to be realistic in our capabilities; however, I also need to see beyond my present perspective. Rather than focus on resources, I need to be focused on what God has placed on my heart and in my dreams.

LETHARGY – Sluggishness of body or mind

IRRESPONSIBILITY – The trait of lacking a sense of responsibility and not feeling accountable for your actions

AMBITION – a strong drive for success

DESIRE – the feeling that accompanies an unsatisfied state

What wakes you up, moves you to action, creates a hunger for success and leaves you wanting more? I know that it isn't buildings, budgets, or kids' behavior. It is the knowledge that God cares intensely about the kids at PATCH and has invited us — you and me — to work beside Him. What an opportunity!

Thank you for taking action to support God's kids.

"I can do everything through him who gives me strength" Philippians 4:13

Chuck Hagele, Ranch Administrator

NORTHWEST MISSION ADVENTURE

Nestled in a semi-remote area west of Goldendale, Washington, Project PATCH's 500 pristine acres awaits volunteers willing to assist with construction of buildings for a family therapy center.

Experience the pleasure and joy of being a part of a new project for struggling families in need of revitalization. Be spiritually and physically refreshed as you enjoy the great outdoors while bringing a new ministry of Project PATCH to life.



Walk the old trail to an early 20th century power generator and envision the old flume meandering around the edge of the cliff to the sediment tank before plummeting to the powerhouse below. Catch a stunning view of the 70-foot waterfall that abruptly ends the journey of Block House Creek as it cascades over a rocky cliff into the Little Klickitat River. Climb historic steps to a small plateau overlooking a waterfall on the river. Roam through forest and meadow to scenic views of Mt. Adams, Mt. Hood and Mt. Rainier.

Plan to provide your own sleeping quarters (tent, RV, camper) and food. Limited on-site housing may be available. Your group should include several experienced professionals to manage the group work projects. Other options besides construction projects are brush clearing, wood splitting, landscaping, trail and fence building.

For additional information contact Tom Sanford at tsanford@projectpatch.org or phone 360-690-8495.



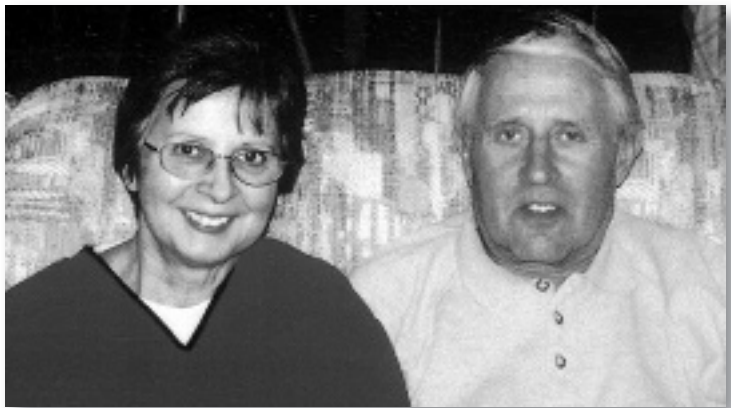
Note: Some areas are listed with the State of Washington as archeological sites. Therefore, we request that no artifacts be removed.

Staff Profile: Carlyle and Judy Mason

Isn't it amazing how God brings just the right people into our lives at just the right time? We at PATCH have lost count of the many times this miracle of anticipated providence has occurred. Carlyle and Judy Mason are one recent example.

Carlyle now works for PATCH in preparing the property at Goldendale for a family therapy center. He brings a lifetime of construction experience to our project, having begun his career at age 15 working in his uncle's remodeling business, then forming his own company by age 21. After many years in the private sector, he and Judy felt they needed to be doing more for God. The combination of Carlyle's construction expertise and Judy's culinary skills fit the needs of schools, youth camps and the Gladstone Campground for many years.

With retirement approaching, Carlyle and Judy purchased property near Goldendale and began to build in their limited spare time. Finally, in the spring of 2006 they said their farewells to Gladstone and moved to Goldendale. Shortly afterwards



Carlyle had to fight for his life as stubborn infections ravaged his body and he suffered a massive heart attack. His miraculous recovery and PATCH's need of someone to oversee the construction project in Goldendale coincided perfectly.

Carlyle's advice to those who seem to be uptight, anxious or impatient with the things of life is: "You need to experience a heart attack and face death. That way you will appreciate every moment of life that is given you and slow down and enjoy the beauty of the moment."

We're looking forward to another fun-filled and exciting tournament this year! Last year we raised over \$18,000 to help kids find healing at PATCH. This year our goal is \$20,000.

- Sign-in at 7am
- Shotgun start at 8am
- Gourmet luncheon
- Door prizes ■ Gifts
- PATCH alumni stories ■ auction

Please help us reach our goal by coming out to play or sponsoring through your business. Go to www.projectpatch.org or call Jennifer at 208-375-8965 and register to play or sponsor. Volunteer opportunities are available to help plan the event as well. Together we can redirect the lives of wounded young people and give them hope for the future!

4th Annual MATCH for PATCH Golf Tournament Tuesday, May 20

**Spurwing Country Club
Meridian, ID**

A Donor Bill of Rights

Philanthropy is based on voluntary action for the common good. It is a tradition of giving and sharing that is primary to the quality of life. To assure that philanthropy merits the respect and trust of the general public, and that donors and prospective donors can have full confidence in the not-for-profit organizations and causes they are asked to support, we declare that all donors have these rights:

- ▶ **To be informed of the organization's mission, of the way the organization intends to use donated resources, and of its capacity to use donations for their intended purposes.**
- ▶ **To be informed of the identity of those serving on the organization's governing board, and to expect the board to exercise prudent judgment in its stewardship responsibilities.**
- ▶ **To have access to the organization's most recent financial statements.**
- ▶ **To be assured their gifts will be used for the purpose for which they are given.**
- ▶ **To receive appropriate acknowledgment and recognition.**
- ▶ **To be assured that information about their donations is handled with respect and with confidentiality to the extent provided by law.**
- ▶ **To expect that all relationships with individuals representing organizations of interest to the donor will be professional in nature.**
- ▶ **To be informed whether those seeking donations are volunteers, employees of the organization or hired solicitors.**
- ▶ **To have the opportunity for their names to be deleted from mailing lists that an organization may intend to share.**
- ▶ **To feel free to ask questions when making a donation and to receive prompt, truthful and forthright answers.**

Developed by: American Association of Fund-Raising Council (AAFRC), Association for Healthcare Philanthropy (AHP), Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), National Society of Fund Raising Executives (NSFRE)

Initial Endorsers: Independent Sector, National Catholic Development Conference (NCDN), National Committee on Planned Giving (NCPG), National Council for Resource Development (NCDR), United Way of America.

PATCH Bouquets

Keep up the good work – we pray for you daily – Jesus is coming!

an Oregon donor

God continues to bless all of you and the young children who are blessed to be able to come to Project PATCH and be healed spiritually, physically and mentally.

a Washington donor

Thank you for the wonderful missionary work for which you have been called, in helping to put young lives back on tract. Praise the Lord as we give him all the credit in the restoration of these children.

an Oregon donor

I really think what you are doing for young people is wonderful. I'm sure Jesus is happy and blessing them and all of you.

an Idaho donor


May God continue to bless your wonderful ministry!

a California donor

2ND ANNUAL TAXES FOR TEENS

\$20 donated to PATCH per return and 20% off tax preparation

March 27 – April 4, 2008 call for hours @ 208-433-9110

Liberty Tal Service:  LIBERTY TAX SERVICE®
32 E. Franklin, Meridian
and 10804 W. Fairview, Boise, Idaho

Kick-Off: March 27 @ Meridian & March 28 @ Boise

Food, door prizes, balloons for kids and more! Mention this newsletter.



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www.projectpatch.org

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In This Issue. . .

Irving: The Frozen Boy

You Make a Difference!

Real Handicaps

Staff Profile

PATCH works! is published three times yearly by Project PATCH for alumni, board members, parents, staff, and philanthropic supporters...

Comments are welcome please contact 360-690-8495 or patch@projectpatch.org

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Photos: Gary Garvin, Chuck Hagele, Rosie Leon, Eric Stenbakken, Marge VanDyk, Jessica, Karrissa & Jordan

PATCH *works!* BOUQUETS

Thank you for your dedication to the youth of our country. God bless you and Project PATCH in 2008!

Washington donors

May you continue the wonderful work you are doing for our troubled youth. May the Lord bless the money we're sending a hundred fold to help your mission continue. God bless you all.

California donors

Hello! Just wanting to send a little financial contribution to be a part of supporting these wonderful young people. God bless you all richly is my wish, and may God's love and peace be with each young person.

a California donor

MORE BOUQUETS ON PAGE 7

PROJECT PATCH WISH LISTS GARDEN VALLEY RANCH

- HAND-HELD GPS SYSTEM W/PROGRAMS\$350
- ROCK CLIMBING SHOES\$45
- NETS FOR HOCKEY AND SOCCER GOALS\$75
- AIR SCRUBBER FOR WOOD SHOP\$400
- BOX CLAMPS FOR WOOD SHOP\$35
- WINTER GLOVES\$20
- SCREWS FOR WOOD SHOP PROJECTS\$40
- LARGE HANGING FLOWER BASKETS (6) EA\$20
- NEW LAWN MOWERS (3) EA\$200
- SMALL OFFICE PRINTER/COPIER\$250
- FISHING WADERS (4) EA\$75
- USED FLY-TYING EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES
- NEWER VEHICLES IN GOOD WORKING CONDITION

GOLDENDALE

- HAND-HELD GPS SYSTEM W/PROGRAMS\$350
- MICROWAVE OVENS (6) EA\$100
- NEW WATER SAVER PLUMBING FIXTURES?
- NEW ELECTRICAL FIXTURES?
- STILL NEEDED: ½ MILE OF POWER LINES\$20,000
- VOLUNTEERS SKILLED IN PLUMBING, ELECTRICAL, ROOFING, SIDING, PAINTING AND FINISH CARPENTRYPRICELESS!