



SOUNDINGS

Volume 25, Issue 2
Summer/Fall 2013

Enriching Our Days, by *Amanda Schappler*, Day Support & Long Term Assistant

Amanda transitioned from Ananda House Leader to Day Support Assistant in August. We're excited she is helping lead the vision and efforts to restructure our day support.

Greetings from our brand new "day support" program!

Over the past several months, we've been in conversation about how to best support the needs of our core members during daytime hours. As state funding continues to change, and we welcome new core members into our homes, a new daytime rhythm in our life as a community has become increasingly imperative. Our conversation has centered around what we needed to "let go" in order to forge this new rhythm and what we needed to move toward in response to our need.



As a result of our conversations, in August we officially ended the "Noah's Workshop" program. In its place, we have created a new day support program, headed up by the "day support team" consisting of Sue Hudacek, myself, and our Jesuit Volunteer and Lutheran Volunteer. Our new day support program will continue to fulfill the mandate to ensure that each core member has meaningful work or daytime activity. We aim to continue the good work started by Siri Carlson, our previous Recreation/Day Support Assistant, as well as expand our program to include new structures and supports.



This is an exciting time for us! We've begun a season of exploration as we discover new ways to gather and engage core members during the day in an inclusive, sustainable way. So far, we have enjoyed "Wii Wednesdays" at Farmhouse, where some of us show off our wii bowling skills while others cheer them on! We've had fun doing art projects around the Ananda dining room table and having picnics in Hopespring's backyard. Some of us have been on trips to the park, and others have enjoyed storytimes in the Ananda living room. We've continued to appreciate the presence of our faithful volunteers like Sr. Madeleine, Lu Farber and Jodi McConnell, who support us during the day. Ricky and Stacie continue with their Individual Employment at LeMay's, Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Puyallup Playcare. And of course, our swim clubs are still in full swing with weekly trips to the pool on Mondays and Thursdays! In September, we also enjoyed a sing-a-long with James Morgan and a trip to the Washington State Fair.



And it's only the beginning! The day support program will be evolving over the course of the next few months (and throughout the year), as we continue to explore what works and what doesn't, what to do more of and what to do less. We are looking forward to spending time with each of our core members individually to get a sense of what new opportunities they'd like to have, and what recurring traditions are important to them in their lives.

In the meantime, we appreciate the support of the greater community in this new adventure. Your prayers, support, and presence are always welcome!



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"I Choose L'Arche because this community has given me a home. I have been accepted, supported, cared for, and loved. Over the past fourteen months, I have learned so much about myself, others, and the world around me. The L'Arche Tahoma Hope Community has forever changed my life and I feel extremely blessed to be here. ~ Alex Griffin



"I Choose L'Arche right now so I can be part of a vibrant community. At L'Arche I am grateful that I can bring my authentic self to the farm and to life in the homes. Whether I am excited, tired, or stressed, the community of core members and assistants continue to walk with me on the journey." ~ Inga Marie Rohde

"I Choose L'Arche because I love it here and can't imagine living anywhere else! I've learned so much from each of my housemates - greater patience, being a better listener and being less selfish. I have learned how much I cherish relationships. We have a lot of fun together and we laugh a lot. I am learning about who I am and growing into who I want to be. I think that L'Arche provides a safe environment that is encouraging and supportive of this kind of growth for all community members." ~ Michelle Boverman



"I Choose L'Arche because I love the beauty in the challenge of building relationships and establishing trust between one another. The laughter that living in community brings everyday is refreshingly simple and pure. This is the most unique place I have ever lived and experienced the power of God's love. ~ Allie Corrigan

Join Us! We are actively recruiting assistants.

info@larchetahomahope.org

L'Arche USA National Survey

In September 2011, L'Arche USA engaged the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at Georgetown University to conduct an internet survey of assistants, staff and volunteers at communities throughout the United States. At the L'Arche USA National General Assembly in May 2013, Tom Gaunt, SJ reported on the findings of the survey to community leaders, board representatives, national leadership and others. The report had four major parts: background characteristics and demographics, professional experience prior to coming to L'Arche, orientation and training at L'Arche and information on current positions and working at L'Arche. L'Arche USA will use information from this survey to enhance recruitment, formation/trainings and supports for assistants, staff and volunteers.

It came as no surprise that the core members were noted as "very" influential on spiritual growth, understanding of L'Arche and living in community. Other significant influences were retreats, celebrations, and common meals. Nine out of ten respondents agree either "somewhat" or "strongly" that they are more patient now than before coming to L'Arche. More than eight in ten agree "somewhat" or "strongly" that they were more hopeful since coming to L'Arche.

From the Development Corner...

by **David Rothrock**, Development and Outreach Coordinator

"How do we ensure the future of L'Arche Tahoma Hope?"

It is a joy and privilege for me to be back with L'Arche Tahoma Hope. In the past few months I have been reconnecting with the community and with friends of the community. And once again, I have found the magic that I knew so well years ago. L'Arche Tahoma Hope is healthy - alive - joyful and continuing its journey as a community of hope. The core members, at the heart of the community, are growing and finding their place. The assistants, some new, some long term, care deeply and are committed to walk with the core members. The Farm has become a source of life and a wonderful "face" of L'Arche in the wider community. The leadership and the board are wise in accompanying the community and searching for the best solutions to keep the community going. And the friends of L'Arche are ever thoughtful and generous in their support.

One of the most obvious challenges we face - how to ensure that L'Arche Tahoma Hope will continue to exist and provide care and hope to so many people in the future? In an era of diminishing resources, funding becomes a most important question. Because of this, I want to let our friends know that we have a Planned Giving Program. We would respectfully like to ask our friends to consider remembering L'Arche Tahoma Hope with a charitable bequest or legacy gift. Everyone needs to be sure to make provisions for their family and heirs. And this they should. But after that, some might like to remember L'Arche with a gift that could help sustain L'Arche Tahoma Hope in the future. And some might like to honor one of their loved ones with a legacy gift in their name. If anyone might need some advice or help in drawing up a legacy gift, L'Arche has competent advisers who can assist.

The L'Arche Tahoma Hope Endowment Fund has been renamed in honor of Fr. Jimmy Boyle, the friend of so many of us and the priest who gave so much to so many folks with developmental disabilities. Fr. Jimmy was part of L'Arche from the earliest days and we want to remember him in gratitude with the Fr. James Boyle L'Arche Tahoma Hope Endowment Fund. I want to assure you that any gift to this endowment will remain in the endowment with the proceeds giving annual support to the community in perpetuity.

Thank you for your support of L'Arche Tahoma Hope. In the name of all the community, we are most grateful.

2013 Community Vacations

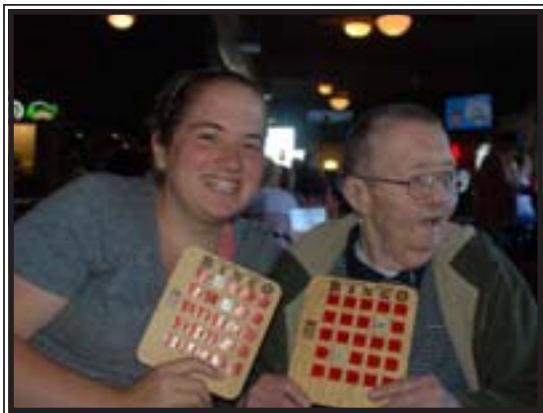
As has been the tradition for many-a-year now, July is a special time in the community. After months of planning and anticipating, we mix and match community members and head off for a week long vacation. This year was no different. We had 5 groups spread out all over Western Washington. Here are some highlights from each group...

South Puget Sound packed a lot into seven days. Some highlights include: getting stuck in the gate at the zoo more than once, making prank calls, watching the Rainiers play, bowling, hosting a BBQ, going to the movies, swimming, eating our favorite foods and experiencing a new church together. We enjoyed calling Farmhouse home for a week!



The **Bellingham** group had many fun adventures this year. We spent time at the pool, at the bowling alley, and at some local eateries – getting burgers and shakes at Boomer's and ice cream at Mallard's. We lived it up. Catching a Bellingham Bells baseball game. Drumming the sun down at a park following a pizza picnic. It was a great week that flew by and I think we're ready for next year!

The **Olympia** vacation group enjoyed daily visits to Starbucks, sleeping in till noon, lovely visits to the park and Ice Cream! We had grand adventures to the farmers market, the Mall, and even went all the way to the Ocean to see the Ocean Shores group. Sometimes a few weirdo-schmerdo things would happen but we kicked it in the pants. All and all it was a great trip!



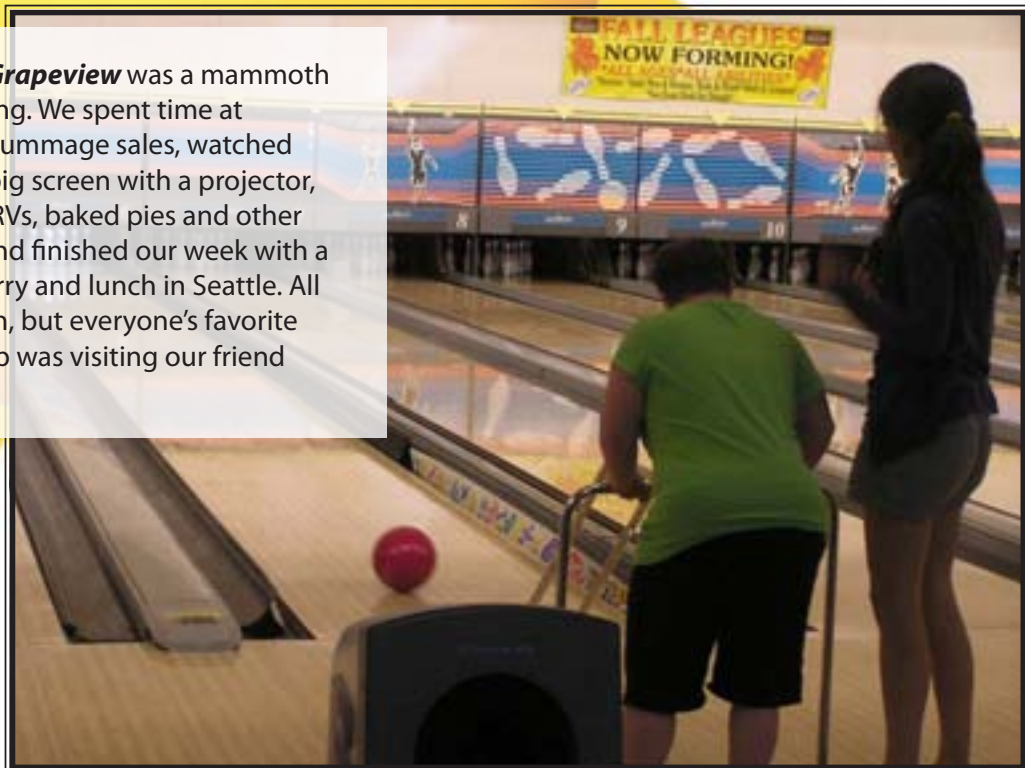
Some highlights from **Ocean Shores** (in no particular order): lots of ice cream, the floor had a really nice carpet, the house was right on the water, drinking mochas, playing in the sand at the beach, relaxing mornings, mini golf, riding the five person bike, arcades, bumper cars, nice conversations, s'mores, a visit from the Olympia group, breakfast at the little airport diner with the biggest pancakes you have ever seen, being silly, singing, getting pedicures, and watching movies



We wanted to go swimming but there was no pool in Ocean Shores - not a single pool to be found! There were no boat rentals in Ocean Shores so the dinner cruise we dreamed up didn't happen! Carrie and Michelle were spending some time together walking around, being tourists. Michelle thought it was time to go but Carrie sat down on the sidewalk right in front of the ice cream shop! She sure was letting Michelle know she wanted some ice cream!



The week at **Grapeview** was a mammoth dose of relaxing. We spent time at markets and rummage sales, watched movies on a big screen with a projector, checked out RVs, baked pies and other tasty foods, and finished our week with a ride on the ferry and lunch in Seattle. All of this was fun, but everyone's favorite part of the trip was visiting our friend Jimbo.





Weekly Markets

6th Ave Market: 3 - 7pm, Tuesdays through Sept. 29th
Broadway: 10:00am - 3pm, Thursdays through Oct. 31st
Proctor: 9am - 2pm, Saturdays through Dec. 21st

Harvestfest - October 5th, 2013, 10am - 3pm



Purchase Pumpkins for Pies and Porches

Visit the Chickens & ET the Horse • Honey from Our Hives

Berry Bush and Edible Plant Sale

Bring 2 cans of food for the Food Connection and receive a free 1-gallon perennial.

(additional cans are welcome)



Holiday Sales at the Farm

Evergreen Wreaths and Swags

\$25.00 each (ensure yours by ordering ASAP!)

All of our arrangements are made from scratch using local mountain fresh greens and will be available from

November 16th - December 21st.

Holiday Cards and Ornaments - Greeting Cards, Holiday Cards, Ornaments, Journals, Picture Frames and Paper Beads - all crafted from our handmade paper.

Bulk orders can be made with advance notice.

Place your order in any of the following ways:

- Email us at farm@larchetahomahope.org
- Visit us at a Holiday Fair Trade Event (see below)
- Come out to the Farm to place your order and see how it all happens.



www.larchefarmandgardens.org

farm@larchetahomahope.org

Fair Trade Events

Shepherd of the Hill Presbyterian Church - Nov 2nd, 9- 4

St. Leo Fair Trade - November 18th through November 20th. Friday 4- 7 PM, Saturday 3-7 PM, Sunday 9- 2 PM

Bethany Presbyterian Fair Trade Sunday - December 1st 12 - 3 PM

St. Marks Lutheran Church - Dec 1st and Dec 8th, 8:30 - 1:30

Not all events are confirmed - Please visit our website, Facebook page or email us before making a special trip to see us.

Welcome Kendyl and Debbie!

On June 12, Kendyl Hair moved into the Farmhouse. Before moving to L'Arche, Kendyl lived with her family in Woodinville, and she worked three days a week at different elementary and Montessori schools teaching



American Sign Language, helping with snacks, and doing light cleaning. Kendyl brings young energy to the Farmhouse. She easily delights in life, and she loves adventures of any kind. Kendyl greets her housemates each day with a cheery, "Good morning!" and she carries her good cheer and energy with her throughout her day.

On August 9, long time Farm and Gardens' employee, Debbie Wilson, moved into the Farmhouse. Debbie has worked on the Farm since 1992, she has traveled across the US and over to Ireland with L'Arche over the years,



and so it seemed like a natural fit to welcome her into one of our homes. Debbie has a great love for music and dancing, she scours the ads each week for great coupon deals, and she is a person who carries prayer with her wherever she goes. Debbie seems grateful and excited to fully step into the life of the community.

Memorial Contributions

We are grateful for the donations we have received in memory of the following people. They, along with their families and friends, are in our prayers.

Fr. Jimmy Boyle Dorothy Stewart
 Marlene Haines Dick Sutherland
 Jane Yotsunye

We are also thankful for the donations we received in honor of:

Mark Drangstveit
 Dr. Gary Petersen

WE ARE ALSO EXCITED TO WELCOME Christian Zahringer, an In Via Volunteer from Germany (Farmhouse and Farm & Gardens), new Jesuit Volunteers Tiffany Justice (Day Support) and Nathan Lin (Farm & Gardens), new Lutheran Volunteers Hannah Sampson (Day Support) and Paul Westbrook (Farm & Gardens), and Maren Telsey (respite support at Hopespring).

In October we'll welcome two Jesuit novices for 2 1/2 months - Yoo Jin Nam and Edward Chow. New assistants always bring fresh energy to our community, and for that we're grateful!

We still have openings for live in assistants so if you, or someone you know, are interested, visit us at www.larchetahomahope.org or email Mary at info@larchetahomahope.org for more information.

Thank You to the Tacoma Dominicans!



The Tacoma Dominicans are celebrating their 125th Anniversary, and it is with deep gratitude that we congratulate them on this milestone. Many of the sisters have been a

loving support to L'Arche Tahoma Hope -- in times of sickness and in health, and we give special thanks to Sr. Madeleine as well as Sr. Peg and Catherine Place for blessed companionship over many years!



L'Arche Tahoma Hope Community
12303 36th Avenue East
Tacoma, Washington 98446

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L'Arche Tahoma Hope is a non-profit organization.

Your donations are tax-deductible.

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Tacoma, WA 98404
(253) 474-5618

Ananda
12306 Vickery Ave. E.
Tacoma, WA 98446
(253) 537-5126

Hopespring
12319 - 36th Ave. E.
Tacoma, WA 98446
(253) 537-6936

Noah's Workshop
12319 - 36th Ave. E.
Tacoma, WA 98446
(253) 537-7540

Farm & Gardens
11716 Vickery Ave. E.
Tacoma, WA 98446
(253) 537-7871

www.larchetahomahope.org

e-mail: info@larchetahomahope.org

The Mission of L'Arche is:

- To make known the gifts of people with developmental disabilities, revealed through mutually transforming relationships;
- To foster an environment in community that responds to the changing needs of our members, while being faithful to the core values of our founding story;
- To engage in our diverse cultures, working together toward a more human society.



**NEW
DATE!**

L'Arche Tahoma Hope
Annual Auction



Sláinte (pronounced SHLAN-cha) is Gaelic for "Cheers"

www.larchetahomahope.org/auction.html

