

KERR CONNECTIONS

A Newsletter for Donors, Volunteers & Friends of Albertina Kerr

BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS



Albertina Kerr's first Project SEARCH interns

Project SEARCH Internship Trains Young Adults with Developmental Disabilities

Albertina Kerr along with partners Kaiser Permanente, Washington County Developmental Disabilities program and Vocational Rehabilitation launched the first ever Project SEARCH internship program site in Oregon last year. Project SEARCH addresses the critical unemployment rates with 85% of people with developmental disabilities not having a paid job in their community, according to National Core Indicators. For individuals with disabilities, three of the top barriers they face when looking for a job are lack of education or training; employers assuming they can't do the job; and lack of transportation. Kaiser Permanente combined forces with Project SEARCH to help break down those barriers and create an inclusive environment for young adults.

In its first year, Kaiser hosted seven interns with developmental disabilities at the Westside Medical Center location. The interns worked in a variety of jobs including an Emergency Room Greeter and Stocker, Intensive Care Unit Greeter, and in Sterile Processing.

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Donate Your Tax Refund to Kerr



This year, doing your taxes can make a difference. Help support Albertina Kerr's Crisis Psychiatric Care program by donating all or part of your state tax return. To choose Albertina Kerr, include Schedule OR-D with your Oregon Tax form. This is a new tax form this year and can be accessed at <http://1.usa.gov/1OWroaG>. For more information, visit <http://albertinakerr.org/GetInvolved/WaystoDonate/TaxRefundDonations>

Back in 2008, more than 11,500 signatures were collected throughout the state of Oregon to allow Albertina Kerr to be included as an option for Oregonians to donate all or a portion of their tax refund.

Albertina Kerr was first on the form in 2009 and over the years, we have received more than \$47,000 from generous Oregonians like you.



Left: Cal Weld Golf Team; **Top Right:** Tennis Tournament Champions; **Bottom Right:** 24 Hours of Kerr Chair, Dave Manougian, Susan Nightingale and Foundation Board Chair Mary Lago

24 Hours of Kerr

Nearly \$355,000 was raised at the first annual 24 Hours of Kerr held on September 13 and 14. This 24 hour event kicked off its first day with Flight of Angels, a first of its kind fun ride and community event at Jamison Square. Followed that night by a gala at the Hilton Portland, guests were treated to a unique dinner by Portland's finest chefs, and an exquisite live and silent auction. The next day, golf tournament participants played the links at Columbia Edgewater Country Club and we hosted our first annual tennis tournament at Club Green Meadows.

More than 500 attendees participated in events over the two days. Gala attendees enjoyed a performance from Michael Allen Harrison. Dinner was prepared by four of Portland's premier chefs: Bryan Siegel, Executive Chef of the Hilton Portland and Executive Tower; Chef Chris Thompson from iorio restaurant; Chef Aaron Guerra from Culinary Graphics; and Chef Aaron Arko from the Portland Marriott City Center.

From the Golf Tournament, Jeff Elorriaga, Steven Elorriaga, Chris Holzgang, and Stanley Walker from Oregon Metal Slitters advanced to the Mercedes-Benz Dealer Championship Western Sectionals in Pinehurst, NC. Clint Benson, Patricia Dorsa, Nancy Kratochvil and Lars Topelmann won spots in the Mercedes-Benz Dealer Championship Western Tennis Sectionals in Pinehurst, NC. Thanks to Mercedes-Benz of Portland and Beaverton for providing these opportunities for the winners.

THANK YOU TO THE COMMITTEE

24 Hours of Kerr Chair: David Manougian; **24 Hours of Kerr Tennis Co-Chairs:** Carilyn Alexander & Tom Gustafson; **Committee:** Blaine Bartholomew, Jerry Baysinger, Larry Eldridge, Angela Hult, David Kamens, Clarke Leaverton, Wake Mack, Tim McNamara, Anni Miller, Greg Mottau, Adèle Nofield, Andrew Plummer, Mike Rompa, Margie Rowland, Brian Shrock, John Thoma, John Van Leeuwen and Casey Waage.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Golf Tournament Sponsor: CalWeld; **Golf Supporting Sponsors:** Andersen Construction, DW Fritz Precision Automation, Lawyers Title, Mercedes Benz of Portland, Mercedes Benz of Beaverton, Regence BlueCross BlueShield, Swagelok Northwest, and Washington Trust Bank; **Tennis Team Sponsors:** Carilyn Alexander, CareOregon, KPTV Fox 12, Mary Murphey, Players Racquet Shop of Beaverton and Lake Oswego, Margie Rowland & Art LaFrance; **Tennis Supporting Sponsor:** Moda Health; **Flight of Angels Sponsors:** BedMart, Kronos, OIA Global, Regence BlueCross BlueShield; **Hole Sponsors:** Baysinger Partners Architecture, Bradshaw Advertising, Comcast, Entercom, Ferguson Wellman Capital Management, First Republic Bank, Folkman Asset Management, Hart Wagner, Househappy, Jeff Bieker and Propel Insurance, Oregon Metal Slitters, Russell Construction, TS Gray Construction, Tumac Lumber, Umpqua Bank, Union Bank, Waddell & Reed, Western Pacific; **Table Sponsors:** Aequitas Capital, Becker Capital Management, Brown & Brown Northwest Insurance, Carr Auto Group, David L. Wilson, D.M.D., P.C., First American Title Company of Oregon, The Greenbrier Companies, Heffernan Insurance Brokers, Kaiser Permanente, Gary McGee & Co., Perkins & Co, R & H Construction, Springwater Wealth Management.

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The Kerr interns spent a combination of time in the classroom and in an internship rotation. During classroom time, the team worked on job readiness. Skills including job preparation, resumes, master applications, talking about soft skills such as communication in the workplace, hygiene, accountability and customer service.

"There are so many different skills that each of our interns brought. Most of all, they consistently delivered unparalleled passion, a desire to learn, and can-do attitudes. I am so grateful for what each intern has meant to our department and what the entire Project SEARCH Program has provided for the Kaiser Westside Medical Center," said Adam Haslam, MHA, Interim Chief Operating Officer at Kaiser's Westside Medical Center.

A graduation ceremony was held in the fall and six of the seven interns have received job placements.

Another Project Search intern site with Embassy Suites at the Portland airport will start in mid-February.

Christmas Ships Soiree



(L-R) Catherine Bekooy, Chair; Karen Ward, Executive Director, CDHS; Rosanne Vecchio, At Home Property Group

Two hundred and fifty guests enjoyed Albertina Kerr's second annual Christmas Ships Soiree on December 18, 2015 and raised more than \$64,000 for Albertina Kerr's Children's Developmental Health Services.

The special moment of the evening was when Laurel Akridge shared her story of her son Riley, a seven-year old who received our services. Laurel's story and photos from the event can be viewed on AlbertinaKerr.org/Events/ChristmasShips.

A very special thank you goes out to Christmas Ships' event Chair, Catherine Bekooy and committee members Margaret Barry, MaryBeth Butkovic, Diane Girard & Traci Ray.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Soiree Sponsor: Providence Health & Services; **Silver Tinsel Sponsors:** Barran Liebman LLP, Comcast, Durham and Bates Insurance Brokers & Agents, Fred & Christy Stockton, Point B, Swagelok Northwest (US); **Mistletoe Sponsors:** Aequitas Capital, The Bekooy/Khare Family, Carilyn Alexander, Mercer.

NEWS & UPDATES

Chris Krenk Retirement



Chris Krenk, CEO of Albertina Kerr, announced his retirement at the 108th Annual Board Meeting on October 27, 2015. Chris has currently served as CEO for 25 years and will be stepping down in June 2016. Chris has contributed to much growth here at Kerr since joining the agency in 1990. At that time, Kerr served 200 people. Over the years, through Chris' leadership, that number has grown and in 2015 nearly 2,200 vulnerable children and adults with mental health challenges and developmental disabilities were

served. A special video highlighting more of Chris' accomplishments and can be viewed at AlbertinaKerr.org/Videos.

Board Member Updates

Welcome to new Governing Board Members **Mary Caballero**, **Phil Jackson** and **Melissa May**. Mary Caballero is a Partner and Director of Retirement Plans & Wealth Management at Heestand Company; Phil Jackson is the Chief Executive Officer at Oregon's Health CO-OP; and Melissa May is an attorney with Catalyst Law, LLC focused on estate planning, probate and trust administration, and advising tax-exempt organizations.

Our Foundation Trustees welcomes **Christopher Beaulieu**, **Alex Bruemmer**, **Jennifer Hall** and **Katherine West**. Christopher Beaulieu is an Assistant Vice President of Investments at the Standard and is a Certified Financial Analyst; Alex Bruemmer, CTFA, will be joining Key Bank as a Trust Officer in February 2016 from Union Bank. Bruemmer also serves as the Chair of Kerr's Ambassador Board; Jennifer Hall is Vice President of Operations and County Manager for Lawyers Title of Oregon; and Katharine West is a partner at Wyse Kadish LLP, where her practice focuses on Estate Planning, Trust and Estate Administration as well as additional probate matters.

Anthony J. Seashore was elected as an Emeritus Board Member. Anthony has served on Kerr's Boards since 2002 and is the President of TS Gray Construction.

Updates on Kerr Programs

Kerr has decided to close its operations in Lane County and two of its programs. Developmental disability services in Lane County will be transitioned to other providers in the community. Coordination of operations from its headquarters in Portland is challenging. Hearing Services and Foster Care programs closed July 31, 2015. Kerr has found that other non-profit organizations and now many big-box retailers provide low cost hearing service options to consumers.

The Lane County operations and these two programs were experiencing an increasing amount of unreimbursed care and were projected to require further private investment and would create an unsustainable financial position. Kerr prides itself on being financially stable and has not experienced a deficit since 1999. These difficult decisions will allow Kerr to focus upon strengthening its children's mental health services throughout the state and developmental disabilities services in Metropolitan area and Marion county. The strong network of non-profit partners will allow this needed care to continue, further reduce any duplication of services and maintain our sound financial stewardship.

COMMUNITY PROMISE

Community Promise Reaches Key Milestone

To date the Community Promise Capital Campaign has raised nearly \$5.8 million and is fast nearing \$6 million. The campaign has succeeded in raising the necessary support to build two new Intensive Treatment group homes for youth and expand the Crisis Psychiatric Care program with a new wing on Kerr's Campus for Children's Mental Health. The campus will be completed in May 2016 with the renovation and expansion of the historic Louise Home and campus site improvements. The Louise Home, the most prominent and historically significant building on campus has been designed to serve as Kerr's hub for coordination and delivery of community-based mental health services.

Altogether, the Campaign investments create a unique ten acre campus, which will bring together at a single site leading children's mental health practitioners and critical program services. The consolidated campus offers Oregon families effective diagnosis and treatment for the most critical children's mental health issues, and is expected to benefit more than 1,000 Oregon children and their families annually.

The Campaign will continue past the May 2016 campus completion with a focus on long-term resources, including bequests and charitable trusts. For the duration of 2016, contributions to the Campaign of \$1,000 or more will be recognized in a special installation to be located on campus near the Reflection Grove, a historically protected stand of fir trees. This structure will be unveiled at a dedication ceremony on May 20, 2016.

Contributors to the Campaign are motivated by the urgency of mental health crisis faced by thousands of Oregon families. Your heartfelt participation is an important step toward building a future in which the Community Promise will be kept. Make your Community Promise Pledge at www.KerrCommunityPromise.org.



**ALBERTINA
KERR**

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AlbertinaKerr.org

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Albertina Kerr strengthens Oregon families and communities by helping children and adults with developmental disabilities and mental health challenges – empowering them to live richer lives.

EARN YOUR WINGS: JOIN US



RACE FOR THE ROSES
Half Marathon, 10K and 5K Run/Walk
April 17, 2016
Oregon Convention Center
Good Cause. Great Race. Join fellow Oregonians for a fun run/walk and after party at the Oregon Convention Center. 100% of the race proceeds benefits Albertina Kerr.
race4therosos.org



COMMUNITY PROMISE DEDICATION
May 20, 2016
Campus for Children's Mental Health
722 162nd Avenue, Portland
Celebrate the completion of our campus to expand and strengthen children's mental health care in Oregon.
KerrCommunityPromise.org

For more information, please visit
AlbertinaKerr.org.

ALBERTINA'S PLACE: Discover a Gem. Empower a Life.
Lunch featuring heritage inspired-dishes plus shopping for jewelry, accessories, gifts, vintage luxury home-goods, and new-to-you chic clothing and home goods. Private events.
424 NE 22nd Avenue, Portland, 503-231-3909,
AlbertinasPlace.org
Monday to Saturday, shops: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.,
Kitchen: 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

ART FROM THE HEART
Ceramics, paintings, cloth-work, and more made by artists with developmental disabilities.
3505 NE Broadway Street, Portland, 503-528-0744
Gallery open Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

PORT CITY
Cutting boards, bags, aprons, and more made by adults with developmental disabilities.
2124 N Williams Avenue, Portland, 503-236-9515
Store open Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

KERR BIKES
Fun bike rentals on the Portland Waterfront
1020 SW Naito Parkway, Portland, 503-808-9955
March to October, seven days a week (weather permitting),
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Winter Hours: Wednesday to Sunday (weather permitting),
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.