NEW BREW BENEFITS NORTH HELPLINE

During Seattle Beer Week, North Helpline will host a gathering at each of the locations that serve GateCity IPA. There will be prizes, swag, and shenanigans.

Join us at Hellbent, Watershed, The Beer Authority, Cooper’s Ale House, Elliott Bay Brewing Company, Fiddler’s Inn, The Growler Guys, Korochka Tavern, and Last Drop Bottle Shop. We are so honored and thankful to be a part of such an awesome and vibrant community.

After a successful pub crawl last November, Mason is excited to continue the tradition of building community over drinks and fun. People who support the work of making sure our neighbors have food on the table and a roof overhead also like to have a good time celebrating with their community.

Owners of the Watershed Ben and Kelsey say, “We’ve been in Northeast Seattle forever. Part of the plan, before we even had a plan, was to use the business as a vessel to give back. We opened The ‘Shed as a neighborhood pub and we rely on our community to support us, it only seems natural that we support them as well.”

SAVE THE DATE!

GiveBIG Online Fundraiser
5/9/18
Think of North Helpline and donate during giveBIG, a one-day online giving campaign to raise funds for local nonprofits. Early giving starts April 26th. Visit givebigseattle.org and schedule a donation.

Seattle Beer Week 2018
5/10/18 - 5/20/18
This year at Seattle Beer Week, a special beer will benefit North Helpline! Join us at these locations: Hellbent, Watershed, The Beer Authority, Cooper’s Ale House, Elliott Bay Brewing Company, Fiddler’s Inn, The Growler Guys, Korochka Tavern, and Last Drop Bottle Shop.

GETTING HELP AND GIVING BACK

Daren is a longtime Lake City resident who is able to get help from his neighbors at North Helpline, and he also gives back. Over the years, he has been in and out of the hospital due to a complicated type of asthma. He said, “There is nothing worse than not being able to breathe.”

Times were hard. Daren got a disability determination, but financial assistance had not yet arrived. He fell behind on his rent, and he feared losing his apartment. His family helped the best they could, and then he turned to North Helpline. Daren said, “North Helpline helped me pay my rent, because I didn’t have money.”

“Because of you, I was able to keep my housing.”

Daren never became homeless thanks to resources from his family and North Helpline. “A lot of people don’t have a family. When I meet people who are homeless, they are on their own. North Helpline becomes like their family, and you are part of my family too.”

Over the years, Darren has visited the food bank regularly. Then something special happened. He started doing community service, because he had a couple of tickets. Once he got involved in volunteering, he realized he really liked it. Now he does everything that his health will allow him to do. He said, “I try to pass it on.”

“Volunteering here was a huge positive step in my life.”

When Daren volunteers, he serves many roles. Since his goal is to help other people, he responds to what his neighbors need as well as filling in where there are fewer volunteers on a given day. Here are a few examples of how Daren contributes.

• Running the carts
• Sorting and re-stocking
• Serving in the food bank distribution line
• Assisting Jeremy around the warehouse
• Receiving/Front desk

The 10th annual Seattle Beer Week is May 10-20, and a special beer will benefit North Helpline. Drink a pint for a good cause! Hellbent Brewing Company and Watershed Pub & Kitchen are collaborating on the GateCity IPA. Named after the combination of Northgate and Lake City, it is only fitting that his beer will only be released in North Seattle. $1 from every pint will be donated to North Helpline.

“This is a great place, and I love being part of my community.”

Growing up, Daren knew he always wanted to work with people. Serving others at North Helpline gave his life positive meaning. “I always tell people who are less fortunate than me that you have many resources that can help. I tell them to go to North Helpline.”

“This is a great place, and I love being part of my community.”
One of the reasons we continue to celebrate the passage of Breakfast After the Bell is that it ensures children always have a chance to eat at the start of their school day. In the summertime, Summer Invasion provides lunch and snacks that kids would normally get during the school year. The summer program helps keep the cost of food affordable for families.

Khristine and McKenna recently went to the Lake City Community Center Open House, playing the piano and documenting all her travels through video and photography.

Khristine previously worked for United Way of King County as a Fuel Your Future AmeriCorps Member, implementing the Breakfast After the Bell Program and promoting the Summer Invasion Campaign in high needs schools and communities across South King County, helping alleviate hunger and increasing access to resources across communities is her passion, leading her to continue the work at North Helpline.

STAY IN TOUCH

FACEBOOK/instagram

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northhelpline.org

WELCOME KHRIStINE!

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Please join us in welcoming Khristine Cancio, our new Communications and Outreach Americorps VISTA. Born and raised in Manila, Philippines, Khristine graduated from the University of the Philippines Diliman with a degree in economics and a special interest in development and political economy. She is excited to get to know her new home and serve the community. Her hobbies include reading books, analyzing films, playing the piano, and documenting all her travels through video and photography.

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A major benefit to serving people at our food banks is that we are able to meet people where they are, not just for food, but for many other needs as well, including housing. Here are two stories of our neighbors who are no longer homeless.

Starting last summer, Maya came to North Helpline because she had become homeless. An Emergency Services volunteer gave her a sheet of paper with phone numbers to find housing. One of the phone numbers Maya received was for our partner Solid Ground. She joined the rapid rehousing program, but Maya struggled to match program requirements with her life situation. The process was challenging for her, but she hung in there.

While waiting for housing, Maya bought an RV and lived in it on her car all winter. Not only did she take care of her son, she also stayed in school getting her college degree in social services. This spring she graduated. Last month, Maya was both happy and relieved to get the phone call that she received an affordable housing unit here in North Seattle.

Another one of our neighbors Amy recently found housing! She stopped by to share the good news with our Community Connector Melanie, because the two of them had worked together. Melanie’s role is part of a pilot program through the city of Seattle. Anybody that comes to the food bank can meet with Melanie to receive referrals to multiple services, including basic necessities and housing information. Our neighbors also receive referrals and resources from the Emergency Services program here at North Helpline.

After Amy found housing, she gave Melanie a small dinosaur with the note, “I counted on you! Thank you.” She also took a rock from North Helpline to keep in her new home and remember that her community is there for her.

Through our Community Connector and referrals from our Emergency Services program, our neighbors have an easier time navigating the challenges to find housing.

Finding housing is not easy. There is a reason we are calling it an affordable housing crisis. Melanie is quick to point out, “There are many people who ask for my help finding housing who have not yet found a home. It can be heartbreaking to see how limited resources are compared to the need.”

April is volunteer appreciation month at North Helpline, and we feel like shouting from the rooftops about how much we love our volunteers. North Helpline has always been driven by people like you. Volunteers serve multiple roles in our two food banks and in our emergency services program. In 2017, North Helpline had 1,687 volunteers, serving 36,446 hours, equal to 17 full time staff. Amazing, isn’t it? Here’s an overview of the many roles volunteers fulfill.

Board of Directors

North Helpline’s board members commit their time and skills in countless ways. Special thanks to each of them: board chair Patrick Bradshaw, Julie Greenberg, secretary Nikki Hurley, John Keating, Diana Koala, Dominica Myers, vice chair Aric Skudlari, treasurer Sid Thatte, and Colleen Woolsey.

Emergency Services

Four days a week in our Lake City location, dedicated volunteers run the Emergency Services program that helps our neighbors keep a roof overhead and meet their basic needs. In 2017, volunteers helped 109 families receive $15,592 for eviction prevention. Another 110 families received $18,464 for avoiding utility shut off.

As we celebrate those who are able to stay in their homes, we also respond to the need of our neighbors who are experiencing homelessness. Our volunteers and staff give no-cook bags to our neighbors, which they can receive every day we are open. Also, all of our neighbors can come to North Helpline for lunch.

In addition, volunteers with the Emergency Services program assist with operating the baby cupboard, distributing hygiene packs, toilet paper, laundry soap and ID replacements.

Grocery Rescue

Our grocery rescue volunteers are another highly dedicated group. Nearly half of our food comes from grocery rescue, a program that collects goods that are approaching expiration or otherwise unsaleable from 15 grocery stores throughout Seattle. Volunteers drive our vehicles to various stores, pick up food, and deliver it to North Helpline.

Volunteers continue to...