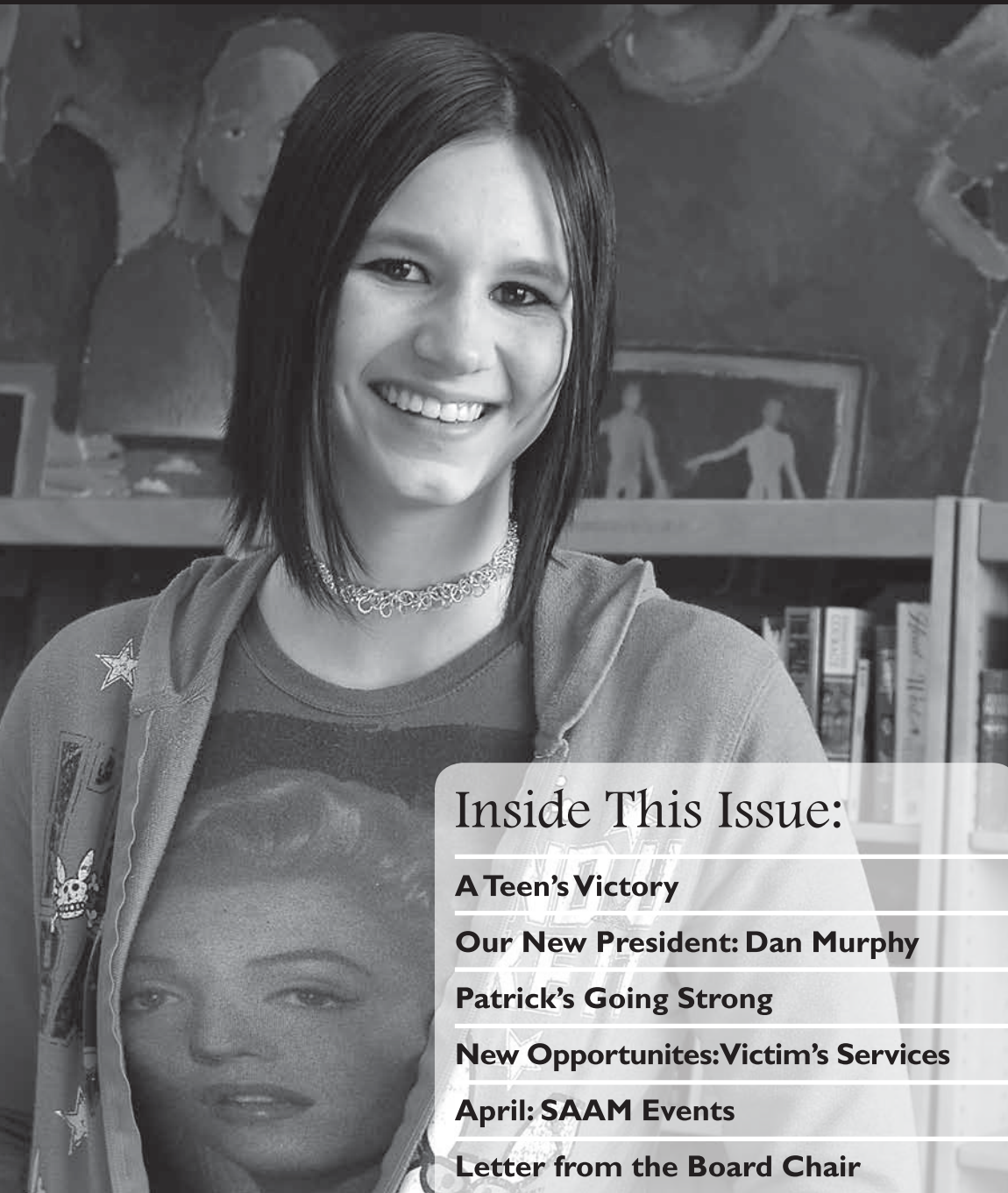


Community Works is a non-profit, human services agency serving the needs of one in eight people in Jackson County.



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A Teen's Victory

Taylor, a CrossRoads student, is her own success story

If you had met Taylor just a couple of years ago, you might have lost hope for her future. Taylor was unhappy at home and began cutting herself with razors at 12. She attempted suicide with pills, was into many types of drugs and ran away multiple times. By her freshman year, she was failing all of her classes at South Medford High and was ultimately expelled because Taylor said she was “wreaking complete and utter havoc.”

“I hung out at the bus station a lot, I hung out with the wrong people.” Taylor said. “I ended up staying with a man I met at the bus station who I thought would protect me. He ended up raping me. I was 14 and he was 23.”

Taylor was placed in the Southern Oregon Adolescent Study & Treatment Center, where her life finally started to shift in a positive direction. She tried to get back into South High School, but because of her history there, they recommended Community Works' CrossRoads School. CrossRoads is an alternative middle and high school that allows students to work at their own pace. It provides different settings and support goals for students so they can achieve their educational goals.

“Being at CrossRoads has taught me a lot about standing up for myself,” Taylor said. “I've grown up, matured, and gotten out of the crowd I was with. I've been in the drug program at CrossRoads and have been clean for a year.”

“CrossRoads was my light at the end of the tunnel,” Taylor said. “The program was a flashlight to point me in the right direction when I was in the dark. Getting into CrossRoads was the best thing that ever happened to me.”

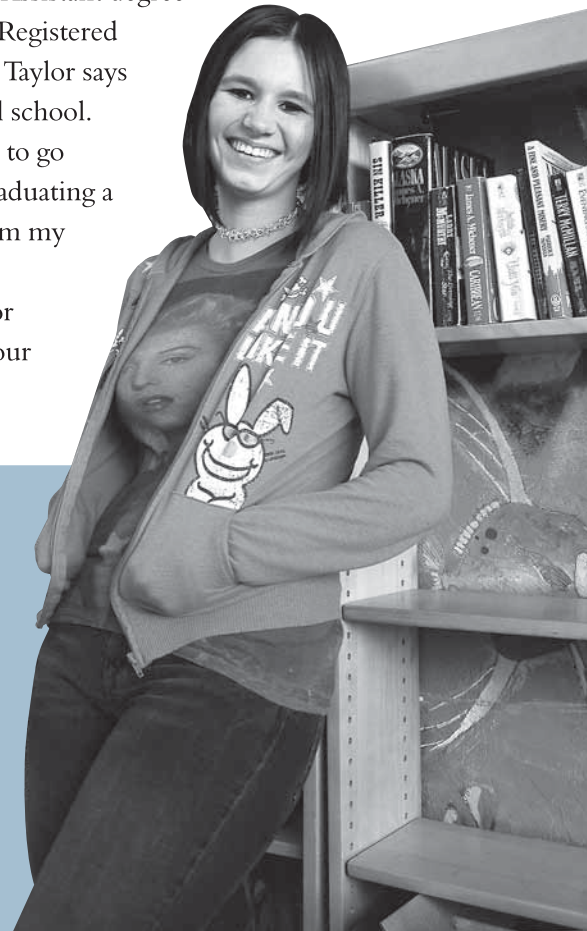
Taylor entered CrossRoads with only 3 high school credits. In just two years, Taylor has earned almost all of her required credits to graduate. She is planning on attending Rogue Community College to get her Certified Nursing Assistant degree and then go on to get her Registered Nurse degree. Eventually, Taylor says she wants to go to medical school.

“No one expected me to go anywhere and now I'm graduating a year early,” Taylor said. “I'm my own success story.”

Congratulations Taylor on your success and for your bright future!

Light at the end of the tunnel:

Taylor says it perfectly. Community Works offers light to people facing dark times. Please donate today, using the enclosed envelope or at community-works.org to extend our light to others in need.



Board Members

Mike Mastroni, *Chair*

Pat Barry

Chris Borovansky

Jani Hale

Dann Hauser

Barbara Johnson

Brianne Kleiner

Mary Lesley

Stuart Meyer

Rich Miles

Eileen O'Connell

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Elisabeth Zinser



Programs

Victim Services/Advocacy

Dunn House Outreach
Dunn House Shelter
HelpLine
Sexual Assault/Victim Services

Educational and Residential Services

CrossRoads Alternative School
Lithia Springs Boys Program
Lithia Springs Girls Program

Lithia Springs Proctor Program
Mission Candle Factory
Lithia Springs School
Parent Education

Youth & Family Services

Independent Living Program
HomeRun
Drop In Center and
Street Outreach

Transitional Living Program
Youth and Family Case
Management
Youth and Family Counseling

For more information on these programs, check out our website at www.community-works.org



An Introduction...

*from our new President and
CEO, Dan Murphy*

Our mission is one of encouragement: we give hope and offer help to those who need it. We believe in those we serve, trusting their capacity to heal and grow, and finding practical pathways towards success.

A few days ago, an attendance specialist at our local schools told me about a young man, "Jeremy," who suffered from suicidal thinking and depression for two years. Our therapist promptly began working with Jeremy, his family, and his school. Jeremy is now on his way to a better life—one with hope, promise, and practical pathways towards success. This story is just one of many that illustrates the hard work of our highly committed staff and volunteers—in partnership with other community service providers.

Rita Sullivan, executive director of On Track, used a powerful metaphor. Strong members of the caribou "community" create a circle around the younger, more vulnerable reindeer with their antlers pointed outward to protect them from predators. That's how we must behave as a human service system and as a community—banding together to protect, nurture, and support the vulnerable.

The Board of Community Works is creating a vibrant strategic plan. We are discerning our "centers of excellence," in light of community needs and in alignment with other human service providers. Like the caribou, we're taking our place, with each agency supporting those in need.

Along with the Senior Staff Team, our staff, volunteers, and the Board of Directors, I greatly appreciate your interest in and support of Community Works and our mission. **I'm thrilled to be here!**

Dan Murphy

Dan Murphy, President/CEO
Community Works

Patrick's Going Strong

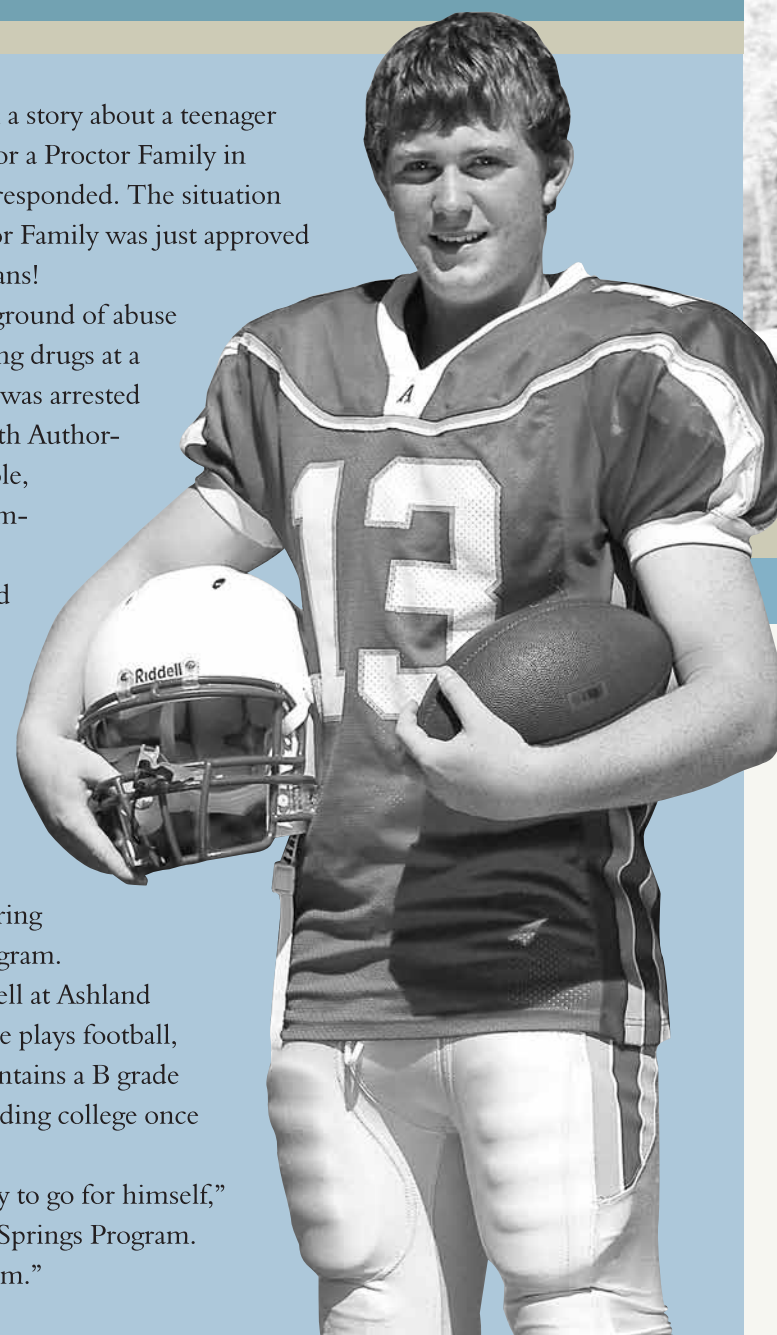
In the fall 2006 issue, we ran a story about a teenager named Patrick with a plea for a Proctor Family in Ashland. A wonderful family responded. The situation worked so well that his Proctor Family was just approved by the state as his legal guardians!

Patrick came from a background of abuse and alcoholism; he started using drugs at a young age. Eventually Patrick was arrested and placed in the Oregon Youth Authority. When he came up for parole, Patrick asked to be part of Community Works' Lithia Springs Program, which he said turned his life around.

The Lithia Springs Program provides support to girls and boys like Patrick including drug/alcohol treatment, mental health services, and education. Proctor Families provide stable, caring homes for the boys in the program.

Patrick continues to do well at Ashland High School. Now a junior, he plays football, basketball, and rugby and maintains a B grade average. Patrick plans on attending college once he graduates Ashland High.

"Patrick chose the right way to go for himself," said Matthew Brody at Lithia Springs Program. "And it has really paid off for him."



Proctor Program

Community Words/Lithia Springs is looking for special people to be a **Proctor Family** for boys like Patrick. The organization offers training and support, vacation and respite time, and a salary and living stipend. If you are interested in becoming a Proctor Family, **call us at 482-8906**.



New Opportunities

to better serve our victim's services program

The Victim Services program recently received two grants from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW). The first is a three-year Transitional Housing Grant to help victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking who are also homeless.

This grant provides rental assistance to women with or without children for up to 12 months. It also pays for a case manager to work with the landlords to help find rentals for these families. The program supports up to six families each year, and has placed two women for 2008. It contributes 80% of the participants' rent for six months and then 50% of the rent for the next six months.

"The grant creates economic stability by helping these women get into their own apartment," says Anna D'Amato, Director of Victim Services.

The second OVW grant is for Dunn House for rural outreach, public aware-

ness, and systems evaluation. It funds two advocates to work with victims of domestic violence and stalking from rural Jackson County. Advocates help victims access resources, create safety plans, understand domestic violence, and support them in making choices for themselves and their children. The public awareness campaign, Home Safe Home, will broaden the community's awareness of what friends, neighbors, co-workers and family can say and do when they believe someone they know is being abused or is being abusive, and will feature the agency's 24/7 HelpLine as a resource. The grant also provides funding for Safety & Accountability Audits to review programs and organizations to examine how victim safety and offender accountability are incorporated, and makes recommendations for improvement. To make a donation, please call Nicole Watson at 779-2393, ext. 228.

APRIL

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Action, Believe, Change

Thursday, April 3

Coffee for Awareness

Coffee cafes support S.A.A.M.

Saturday, April 12

Pear Blossom Parade

Awareness table at Alba Park.

Tuesday, April 15

Ani DiFranco Concert

For tickets to the concert, visit

www.craterian.org.

Wednesday, April 16

Jackson County Council

Against Domestic and Sexual

Violence Luncheon

Tuesday-Thursday, April 15-17

Clothesline Project ~ Ashland

SOU's Women's Resource Center

will display on campus, t-shirts decorated by survivors.

Friday, April 18

Take Back the Night ~ Ashland

An inspiring event focused on empowering survivors of intimate violence.

Tuesday, April 22

Earth Day Celebration

5:30pm, N. Mountain Park, Ashland.

Friday, April 26

Take Back the Bars

An effort to raise awareness about drug facilitated rapes.

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

Please contact Sarah at

779-2393 x217

Letter from the Board Chair

We hope this edition of The Works finds you living life in peace. After an extensive national search, it is with great pleasure that Community Works introduces Dan Murphy as our new President/CEO. Dan's immediate strength of leadership has quickly earned the admiration of the staff and the Board of Community Works.

The needs of those we serve continue to grow as the resources to serve them shrink. Dan has shown exceptional leadership addressing these concerns by fostering collaboration with other not-for-profit community partners to work to maximize available resources. Dan and the Board of Directors have also made it a priority to develop and implement our new long-term Strategic Plan to provide direction for Community Works.

I would like to thank Dan and the staff of Community Works for their exemplary efforts during the transition of leadership and for their positive outlook. Most importantly, I would like to thank you and our community for your continued support of these incredibly important life-changing services.

Mike Mastroni

Mike Mastroni
Chair, Board of Directors
Community Works





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Giving online to Community Works is simple and secure. Just go to
www.community-works.org, you'll see the **Make a Donation**
Online button on the right.