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Two Introductions

First, let us introduce two very important new members of the Give a Little community—**Tamara Waraschinski**, our new Executive Assistant, who comes to us from two other continents, and **Courtney Cunningham**, a new member of the Board of Directors, who is a familiar McMinnville personality with deep roots in our geographic region.

A native Oregonian with 15 years of experience in the flourishing local wine industry, **Courtney** runs her own marketing and design company, Glint Creative, which serves primarily wine-related clients. Courtney is also co-owner with her husband Scott of a highly popular Third Street restaurant, [Community Plate](#), where she formerly worked as pastry chef. She has long been a community contributor, with previous experience managing McMinnville's Farmers Market, serving on the board of Habitat for Humanity, and coordinating events for Yamhill County Action Partnership (YCAP). She is currently a member of the Board of Directors of **Visit McMinnville**, helping to shape the future of tourism in the city.

Tamara comes to us via Germany, her country of origin, and Australia, where she earned her doctorate at the University of Adelaide in sociology, with a specialty in issues of death and dying, old age, and poverty. She has been involved professionally with community care of elderly patients and families, has functioned

as a palliative care volunteer, and has been a geriatric nursing assistant. In her new position, Tamara succeeds **Anna Barsotti**, who now returns to our Board. In just under two years as Executive Assistant, Anna did splendid work as a woman of exceptional talent and compassion, and we look forward to her new role as our Volunteer Coordinator.



Second in this oversized newsletter, we want to give an especially large "Thank You" to a number of our generous supporters.

To begin, we wish to thank the **Hillside Foundation** for the substantial grant it awarded us again for 2018 to support our efforts to assist elderly Yamhill County residents in need. Our focus is two-fold: (1) to help individuals in temporary crisis with funding for medical expenses, car repairs, etc.; and (2) to help improve the quality of life for seniors in general by providing lesser amounts of money for essentials (gas, groceries, clothing, etc.) and for small treats, especially those that involve socializing.



Next, a hearty "Thank You" goes out to the [Willamette Valley Wineries Association](#) for naming Give a Little as a beneficiary of proceeds raised by the new [Taste McMinnville Loop](#). The Loop is a tourist driving circuit that includes **Youngberg Hill**, **Coeur de Terre**, **Yamhill Valley Vineyards**, and **Brittan Vineyards**. These four family-owned and operated wineries, along with **Valley Commissary** and **3rd Street Flats**, designated a portion of income from the Loop for Give a Little's well-established program in the schools, especially to help homeless high school students in their efforts to graduate and improve their chances of success in life. For more information please go [here](#).

Also, we are grateful for the continuing support of two local leaders in philanthropy: the **McMinnville Area Community Foundation** and **First Federal Savings and Loan**, both of which help Yamhill County nonprofits every year in numerous ways. Give a Little received donations from each of these in 2018.

Finally, we want to express our gratitude to **all of you** who continue to support us in monetary and other ways, including our **BPPs**, local business owners and professionals who have joined with us as partners by contributing a minimum of \$500 over a twelve-month period. We currently have 63 such partners, and we welcome new ones at any time. If interested, please contact us by email at givealittle@onlinemac.com or leave a message for us at 503-857-2964, and we will be in touch with you. Please visit our [website](#), where you can see the complete list of our BPPs, with the hope that you will patronize them and personally express your appreciation to them.

Give a Little in the Schools

We have recently completed another successful year of providing support to at-risk and homeless students in Yamhill County. Our mission is to remove barriers to learning while helping children retain a sense of dignity and safety. Our program operates through Give a Little volunteer liaisons (now active in every school in McMinnville and soon to be in Sheridan) who work directly with a school contact person — an administrator, counselor, or teacher — responsible for identifying specific needs of individual students. Through this system, we have in the past few years provided hundreds of pairs of shoes and socks, many winter jackets, other clothing, school supplies, holiday meals, eye glasses and dental care, hygiene supplies, lice kits, umbrellas, camp scholarships, pool passes (for physical therapy), and more.



Nichelle Greene, Homeless Student Advocate at McMinnville High School, receiving just a few of the 140 hygiene kits Give a Little has provided for homeless students this year. The cloth bags were sewn and donated by members of the Gone to Pieces Quilt Guild in McMinnville.

We also have a program that provides scholarships to Chemeketa Community College for graduates who were homeless at some time during their time at McMinnville High School. The number of homeless students in Oregon has increased approximately 20% since 2014, currently making up an estimated 4% of all enrolled children and teens.

We extend special appreciation to **Famous Footwear**, **Larissa DeHart with Farmers Insurance**, and the members of the **Gone to Pieces Quilt Guild** for their support this year, as well as to all our Give a Little liaisons and our partners in the schools. For further information, or if you would like to help, please contact our Board Member Bonnie Mann at bonnie@givealittlefoundation.org.

Things Are Running Well



Runners preparing for the first Miller Woods event in 2017

We are pleased to announce that, together with Miller Woods, we will host the second annual 10K Trail Race, **Run the Woods**, on Saturday, October 13, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Our inaugural event a year ago more than lived up to expectations in terms of high spirits, excellent race results, amazing weather, and 100+ participants. You can find more information [here](#).

[Register](#)

***Note: As we use new technology for the first time to produce this newsletter, we wish to thank our Leadership Council member **Belinda Garrettson**, who will now be stepping into a different role at Give a Little, for the fine work and creativity she put into the many newsletters she designed since 2014.

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