

Community NEWSLETTER

November 2025



22 North

22 North is a PSH community developed to provide wraparound support services to adults experiencing homelessness as they build lives of stability and opportunity.

Northwest Barber Academy at 22 North



Offering free haircuts from a professional stylist had a meaningful and immediate impact on residents who have experienced chronic homelessness. Receiving a quality haircut helped them feel renewed, dignified, and cared for. The experience boosted self-esteem, supported emotional well-being, and encouraged positive social interaction within the community. For some residents, a fresh haircut also increased confidence as they pursue employment, engage more fully in services, or take steps toward greater stability. This simple yet powerful act of care created a sense of respect, connection, and hope—reminding residents that they deserve to look and feel their best as they rebuild their lives.

Dorothy Place

SPA DAY! Northwest Barber Academy at Dorothy Place



Providing free manicures to residents who have experienced domestic violence created a soothing and uplifting experience that supported both emotional healing and community connection. Many survivors have limited access to personal care, and receiving a professional manicure helped them feel cared for, valued, and deserving of comfort. The shared space became a warm, supportive environment where residents sat together, laughed, showed off their freshly painted nails, and exchanged stories—fostering trust and rebuilding a sense of community. This gentle act of self-care reduced stress, boosted self-esteem, and offered a moment of peace and joy, reinforcing dignity and belonging for survivors as they continue their healing journey.

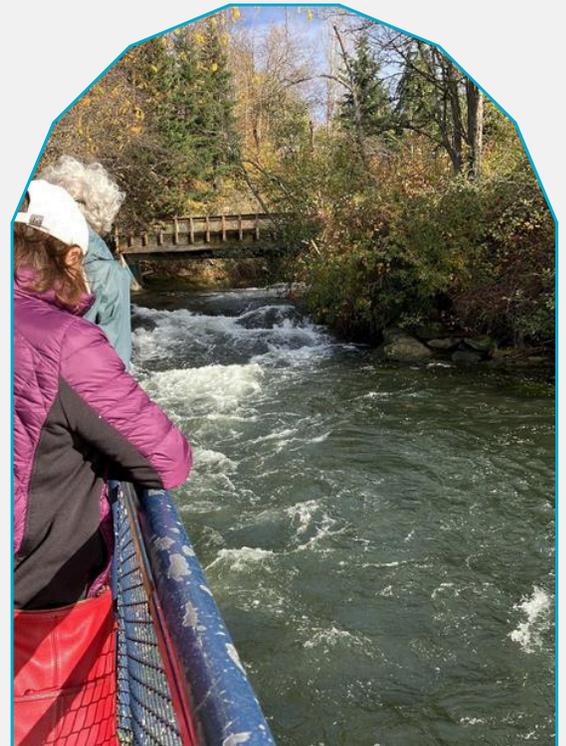
About Dorothy Place

Since 1999, Dorothy Place Apartments have been a sanctuary for individuals and families who are homeless after escaping domestic violence. Our first official supportive housing program, Dorothy Place is a crucial resource in our community, ensuring that vulnerable families have a safe and stable place to call home. Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) is a proven, long-term solution for helping people experiencing chronic homelessness achieve stability. At Dorothy Place, PSH offers stability, housing, and supportive services for children, families, and other people in need.

Laurel Forest

The last Wonder Walk of the Season

Taking seniors out into nature during the fall had a meaningful impact on their physical, emotional, and social well-being—especially as winter approaches and outdoor opportunities become limited. The crisp air, changing colors, and gentle movement of the walk supported mobility and mood, offering a refreshing break from indoor routines. The group also experienced a powerful moment of connection with the natural world as they watched seals harvesting salmon from the river, sparking excitement, conversation, and shared wonder. Witnessing this seasonal cycle firsthand fostered joy, curiosity, and a sense of belonging to the broader ecosystem. Overall, the outing strengthened community bonds, reduced stress, and provided seniors with a memorable and enriching experience before the darker months set in.



Laurel Forest is an affordable housing community for senior adults age 55 and older. Supportive services and community engagement activities are available to help residents prevent isolation and build community.

Fall Feast

THANK YOU WINDEREMERE

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Windermere Property Management for generously providing Thanksgiving meals to every resident at Dorothy Place. For individuals and families with low or no income, the holidays can be an especially challenging time, and this support ensured that each household was able to experience the comfort and tradition of a warm holiday meal. Your contribution brought relief, dignity, and a sense of celebration to survivors who are working hard to rebuild stability and safety in their lives. The meals not only met a critical need but also created moments of joy, connection, and gratitude within our community. Thank you for making such a meaningful impact.



Fall Feast at 22 North

On Thanksgiving Day, the staff of 22 North prepared a full holiday meal for residents, creating a warm and welcoming celebration for individuals who have experienced chronic homelessness. For many, consistent access to home-cooked food and shared traditions has been limited, and this meal offered comfort, dignity, and a sense of belonging. Sitting together to enjoy a holiday feast fostered community connection, reduced feelings of isolation, and reminded residents that they are valued and supported as they continue their journey toward stability and healing.



Looking Ahead



Certified Therapy Dogs at PSH

A volunteer with two certified therapy dogs recently reached out to us seeking opportunities to spend time with our residents, and this partnership has the potential to make a truly meaningful impact. Therapy dogs offer comfort, reduce stress, and help ease symptoms of anxiety, depression, and trauma—benefits that are especially valuable for individuals who have experienced chronic homelessness or domestic violence. Their calming presence can encourage social engagement, brighten mood, and create a sense of safety and connection. Welcoming this volunteer and their dogs will bring joy, emotional support, and moments of peace to our residents, enriching the overall healing environment within our housing communities.

Winter Festivities

We are excited to host a Winter Soiree for our low-income seniors, creating a warm and joyful space to celebrate the season together. Thanks to a generous grant from the Whatcom Coalition, we are able to bring holiday cheer directly to Dorothy Place residents—many of whom have limited resources and may otherwise go without festive gatherings during this time of year. In addition, 22 North residents will enjoy a holiday meal and celebration of their own, offering comfort, connection, and a sense of belonging to individuals who have experienced chronic homelessness. These events provide far more than seasonal treats; they foster community, reduce isolation, and remind residents that they are valued and supported, especially during what can be an emotionally difficult time of year.



Animals as Natural Therapy Miniature Horse at Laurel Forest

A visit from a therapy miniature horse is planned for the low-income senior apartments at Laurel Forest, and it promises to be a truly unique and uplifting experience for residents. The novelty of a miniature horse—gentle, calm, and approachable due to its small size—offers a safe and engaging way for seniors to interact with an animal they may never have met up close. This visit is expected to bring joy, spark conversation, and encourage residents to gather in community, while also providing the calming and mood-lifting benefits that animal-assisted therapy offers. By creating an opportunity for connection, wonder, and gentle engagement, this experience will support emotional well-being, reduce feelings of isolation, and bring a memorable moment of delight to Laurel Forest residents.