



COWLITZ CHAPLAINCY

Volume 12

Issue Number 1

January 2015

Chaplains Activity

Chaplains Training

During December the Chaplains were called out by law enforcement and fire agencies to assist in crisis events 14 times during the month. December was one of our quietest months of 2014.

The number of times the Chaplains are called out to assist have doubled over the last two years. In 2012 the Chaplains were called out 103 times, in 2013 165 times, and in 2014 203 times.

There are several reasons for the increase. First of all, as Chaplains we have focused our time getting to know each of the first responders, attending their shift briefings, riding along with them during their shifts, participating in some of their trainings, and being supportive during their difficult times, as well as their times of personal accomplishment and celebration.

Another reason is as Chaplains we have continued our own professional training so that we can be a stronger resource on each call. Also, we are able to provide training for the first responders that supports and encourages them in their professional, but also, their personal and family lives.

Third, we are being called out to assist in new types of crisis. Typically the Chaplains have been called when someone dies, and this continues to be the majority of our calls. But we are also being called to assist in domestic violence situations, suicide attempts, and when medical aid is engaged in CPR. We can provide comfort to the families, as well as transportation of loved ones to the hospital, and whatever else is needed to assist on the scene.

So far this year has been started out very busy. In January we have responded to 24 calls to assist different agencies.

Chaplains Mario and Doug attended a class entitled **Spiritual and Psychological First Aid** held at the Northwest Baptist Campus Center on Jan 23 & 24. The class was sponsored by the Disaster Relief Ministry of the Northwest Baptist Convention and Golden Gate Seminary. The instructor for the class was Dr. Naomi Paget, a Certified Chaplain and Crisis Interventionist with the FBI, an expert in the field of traumatic events. The class provided training in emotional, spiritual, and psychological assessment, plus responses to working with individuals who have experienced a trauma or crisis. This training is encouraged for all individuals working with people in crisis, and is a requirement for those responding to disasters and other catastrophic events around the country.

Chaplain Doug recently presented a class on **Maintaining Confidentially in the Workplace** to employees at area funeral homes. This was the most recent class in a series of classes taught by the Chaplains to train employees in various topics including spiritual and emotional care.

In February Chaplains Mario, Doug, and Flip will attend the International Conference of Police Chaplains' Regional Conference at Cannon Beach, Oregon. Chaplain Tom will be leading the Calvary Community Church Men's retreat at the end of the month.

Newsletter Going Forward

Our plan for the newsletter going forward is to produce six during the year. The next newsletter will come out in mid-March. We always look forward to communicating with you about what is going on with the Chaplaincy.

We are very grateful for our many partners who faithfully support us each month, and other partners who support our fundraisers. However, we want to be good stewards of the money you graciously donate to us so we are constantly looking for ways to keep our overhead costs at the lowest level possible.

With the rise of postage over the last couple of years it has become quite expensive to mail out over 700 newsletters. So we want to encourage you to read our newsletter electronically. You can go to www.cowlitzchaplaincy.org and read the newsletter off our website. Click on the newsletter tab and you can read the current newsletter and past newsletter. You can even print out the newsletter off the website and distribute it. We also encourage you to “like us” on Facebook. Search for Cowlitz Sheriff Chaplaincy and read our posts, and the newsletter will also appear on Facebook. We also want to collect all the email addresses of our supporters and partners. Please provide us with your email address on your donation check or by sending us a short note so we can send the newsletter to you through email, as well as up to the moment happenings or emergency needs.

We also respect that some of you do not wish to, or are not able to read our newsletter online. We will be glad to continue to send you a printed copy. Please indicate to us that you would like to continue to receive a printed copy when you send in your donation and we will be glad to continue to send you a printed copy.

10th Annual Les Nelson Memorial Breakfast and Auction

Plan now to attend the 10th annual Les Nelson Memorial Breakfast and Auction, April 11, 2015 at the Expo Center in Longview 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. This year’s event will have some special features you will not want to miss!

You have several ways to sponsor the breakfast

Platinum Sponsor \$2500.00 One available

Gold Sponsor: \$1000.00 Two available

Silver Sponsor: \$500.00 Three still available.

Bronze Sponsorship: \$250.00 32 still available.

See www.cowlitzchaplaincy.org under “events” to see what each sponsorship receives, or contact one of the Chaplains for a brochure. 360-425-7222.

Host a table: Your mission is to invite 8-10 people to fill a table purchased by one of our sponsors who is not able to fill their table.

Donate an Auction Item: We need your special silent and live action items. Please contact the office and we will be glad to pick up your item. 360-425-7222.

Thank You!

We want to say a BIG thank you to several donors who helped us purchase six upgraded field radios. This will help us stay in better contact with the first responders when we are out in the field.

We also received a donation of a Keurig Professional Office Pro which helps us get fired up each morning!

2015 Needs

Please consider becoming a monthly partner with the Chaplaincy. We have been blessed with lower fuel costs over the last couple of months, but more monthly partners would take the pressure off our fundraisers, and allow us to use our fundraisers for extra needs.

One of our more pressing needs is new vehicles. Our chaplain truck is a 1998 model with many miles on it. The tires are far beyond need for replacement, so if you can help us with getting new tires, or even better, a new 4 wheel drive truck, we will be incredibly grateful.

Cowlitz Chaplaincy

serving LAW ENFORCEMENT-FIRE-RESCUE since 1983

Olympia Way, Longview, WA 98632 Mail: P.O. Box 2578, Longview, WA 98632

Phone 360-425-7222 FAX: 360-423-6249

Website: www.cowlitzchaplaincy.org

“Supporting those who support our communities’ first responders”