

May 2020

Senior Services for South Sound ♦ Our Mission: To improve the quality of life for people as they age.



Brian's View

Dear friends and colleagues,

To say it has been a strange time to take the helm here at Senior Services is an understatement. Though we are going through difficult times, I absolutely believe I'm in the right place at the right time. It's a calling for me, and the calling rings clear.

If there is something generally true during this pandemic, it is that we are searching for ways to help. Those of us on the staff at Senior Services have the benefit of knowing our work is beautifully meaningful, and these days, all the more so. Same for our volunteers. And I hope the same

for our donors. We should understand that while the mission of Senior Services is always vital in our communities, it is now consequential in ways we have never experienced.

I was out in Shelton today visiting our nutrition staff and volunteers as they were putting meals out for delivery. I spoke with maybe eight people. Each of them spoke with emotion about their work. There were tears! Our work matters in ways beyond easy understanding.

I'm reflecting a great deal on isolated seniors, and how eager we are to resume meeting their social, intellectual and exercise needs.

I'll share with you a few of my early priorities. For one, I'm learning so much every day! For another, I'm reinforcing a culture of togetherness and shared responsibility. I'm emphasizing my belief in Senior Services being innovative, change-friendly, and idea-friendly. Shame on us if we aren't always striving to be better. I'm especially averse to ineffectiveness, and loathe persistent problems that are straightforward to fix. At heart, and by approach, I'm hopeful and determined.

I hope you are well. Do you know a senior in need?
Let us know!

" While the mission of Senior Services is always vital in our communities, it is now consequential in ways we have never experienced. "



HANSON



SUBARU

Thank You Hanson Subaru!

We would like to give a warm thank you to Subaru of America and especially Hanson Subaru for identifying us as their Home Town Charity. They have provided continuous and impactful support to Senior Services for South Sound. From donating commodities for “blizzard bags” during the Winter for our Meals on Wheels clients, to stepping directly into our

own kitchen and helping us serve lunch to seniors in the Olympia Senior Center. The Hanson Subaru team has been a tremendous, hands-on, supporter of our organization.

This year, Senior Services for South Sound received a generous check in response to the campaign Share the Love. Wow! We are so grateful for their generous support and continued investment in our mission and work. This gift allows us to continue to prepare and deliver food to those who rely on us for their meals, which is especially now so crucial while seniors are sheltering in place. Thank you Hanson Subaru, for your generous support!



MEALS
THAT 
MATTER
AND OTHER ESSENTIAL SERVICES

Senior
Services
FOR SOUTH SOUND

Our Big Event is Almost Here

Our Meals that Matter and other Essential Services event is coming up soon! Make sure to like our Facebook page and tune in on your smartphone or computer on **Wednesday, May 13th at Noon**. If you don't have a Facebook account, no problem! Email us at development@southsoundseniors.org, and we will make sure you receive the link for viewing.

VIRTUAL EVENT
MAY 13, NOON
FACEBOOK LIVE
[@SeniorServicesForSouthSound](https://www.facebook.com/SeniorServicesForSouthSound)

During the live-streamed event, you will have the opportunity to meet our Executive Director, Brian, go behind the scenes of our Meals on Wheels operations, and help us continue to support seniors in our community.

The funds we raise from this event will support our Meals on Wheels program, Senior Transportation, wellness calls to homebound seniors, and other essential services we are continuing to provide at this time.

If you'd like to make a donation in advance of the event, please visit our website by [clicking here](#).

Thank you to our agency sponsor: [Funeral Alternatives of Washington](#)

Thank you to our event sponsors: [Olympia Federal Savings](#), [Lucky Eagle Casino & Hotel](#), [Engineered Software Inc.](#), and [Lively Productions](#).





Thank you for your support!

Thank you to the [United Way of Thurston County](#) and the [Community Foundation of South Puget Sound](#) for their generous support of Senior Services and our senior community.

These two organizations came together and on March 16th, took immediate action to create the Thurston County COVID-19 Response Fund in support of vital non-profits. This fund and the community's support has allowed us to continue serving our seniors population as the need for our services has skyrocketed. Thank you!



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
SOUTH PUGET SOUND

Ideas for Giving and Moving Forward in 2020

By: Pam Toal



During these times of change and uncertainty, we are grateful to our community that cares deeply about seniors. Below we offer resources to consider if you are thinking about supporting Senior Services at this time.

CARES Act

Congress recently passed the CARES Act, which includes charitable benefits for both individuals and organizations.

- Individuals who take the standard deduction on their 2020 tax return can now claim a new deduction of up to \$300 for cash donations to charity.
- Corporations have greater incentives to make charitable gifts. Usually limited to 10% of taxable income, for 2020 it is increased to 25%.

Donor Advised Funds

If you have a Donor Advised Fund, you can make a gift without affecting your financial security. The Alliance for Strong Families and Communities, a strategic action network of thousands of social sector leaders, recently urged donor-advised fund account holders to designate charitable dollars toward community-based human service organizations, which are among those hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you wish to support seniors today, visit <https://southsoundseniors.org/give/>. To explore a planned gift or to sign up for our new Gift Legacy e-newsletter, visit <https://seniorserviceslegacy.org/>. You'll find resources to make a difference for you, your loved ones, and the organizations you care about.

For more information, please call 360.586.6181, ext. 106 or email ptoal@southsoundseniors.org.



Meet Our Military Music Man!

There's a new face on the staff at Senior Services for South Sound — and like the insurance company's TV commercial, he knows a thing or two because he's seen a thing or two.

Meet Bryan Hildebrand, who was recently recruited as Client Services Director, in part because of his skills in working with a wide range of people — from tender elementary school children and angelic church choirs to hardened U.S. Army colonels who like to sing too.

His springboard was a degree in music education and performance from Texas Christian University. Over the next five years he introduced hundreds of children to wind and string musical instruments. Then came the leap: He joined the U.S. Army — not so much to taste combat but to play in Army bands, a musical signature of the nation's global goodwill. He was assigned a weapon, of course, but Bryan was best known for his command of a euphonium — an intimidating name for a baby tuba.

Besides playing in the Army's band concerts and music ensembles, he occasionally stood up as conductor, either for specific musical selections or entire concerts. For four years, he also conducted higher-ranking Army brass who loved performing as the "Caroling Colonels." Brian's skills were duly noted; he was awarded the Legion of Merit as his retirement award.

Bryan's military career brought him to Joint Base Lewis–McChord, and he and his wife, Angelle, settled down in Lacey with the youngest of their four children. Bryan, 57, wasted no time joining the church choir at St. Michael's, where he found himself surrounded by music lovers, many who were older than him.

With his upcoming separation from the Army — his retirement comes June 1, and he's currently on leave — Bryan started pondering what to do next with his life. And it so happened that also sitting in the choir was Eileen McKenzie Sullivan, who at the time was executive director of Senior Services for South Sound. She had a position to fill — client services director, and encouraged Bryan to come in for an interview. He nailed it.

"I was touched by what was going on here," he says. "So many seniors, interacting, playing games, music, dancing — so many different things. My heart was moved by the idea of helping seniors. I felt a connection, that this might be a calling. And the more I thought about it, the more I got excited."

His marching orders? "I'm on a learning curve, and I report to Brian (Windrope), our executive director, who's also on a learning curve. His guidance to me is to learn, learn, learn, and to get the most positive impact for our seniors from every dollar donated.

"There's nothing broken. I'm just going to polish it," he says. "I'm use to polishing my horn, now I'm going to polish my part of the organization to make it shine even more."





Do you know a senior in need?

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Washington Stay Home Stay Healthy order, our senior community has an increased need for delivery services. Senior Services is seeking help in identifying seniors who may need help with grocery shopping, picking up prescriptions, getting a new book, or receiving other essential items.

If you know a senior in need who could benefit from these services please call us at 360.586.6181 ext. 136 and leave your name and phone number, or email us at SeniorNeed@SouthSoundSeniors.org. For more information, please visit our website at www.southsoundseniors.org.

Do you know a senior in need?



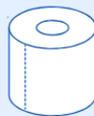
Critical Delivery Program for Seniors

Senior Services for South Sound is providing temporary delivery services to individuals unable to leave home due to COVID-19

What can we deliver?



Groceries



Vital Necessities



Books

Call 360-586-6181, ext. 136

Email SeniorNeed@SouthSoundSeniors.org



Thank you to our agency sponsor:

