

## Celebrating 30 Years!

It seems impossible and improbable that Project Patch has been around for 30 years. It's been an incredible, amazing, miraculous, and inspiring thirty years as well. But what is really important is the transformation of thousands of teens who were destroying themselves, their relationships, and their futures that are now fully living life and serving God and man.

What's amazing is right from the beginning I saw results. For the first six years, teens were placed in foster homes across the northwest. The relief they experienced by being in a safe place brought tears to my eyes and even more resolve that God wanted to use us to bring hope to teens and their families.

It's been miraculous to see how God transformed bare land into a world-class facility to help teens. God had given us a dream for this picturesque place, but being able to build a facility was just "out of the question." The miracles came once we committed to the dream. The design of the dorms and lodge was donated, and then money came in for each step of construction -- not a dollar too soon, and not a dollar too late. Actually, the board



▲ Tom and Bonnie Sanford, founders of Project PATCH

had to make decisions quickly to keep up with God! The selfless work of Maranatha Volunteers and other volunteers made our campus possible. They showed up and started by sorting out six semi-truckloads of lumber. Building the dorms and lodge was an act of love. Over the past 20 years, they have continued to work to expand our campus, which now includes: a school,

*continued on page 7*

## Cares & Prayers

Thank you for the work you do for all the children – God bless. ~ **W.D.**

Finally, I am in a position to give back! My daughter was at Project Patch for one year, the year she turned 14. She is now 20 and is a responsible, caring young adult who is making good choices. I credit Patch for saving her life and giving her the tools to live as she was meant to live. We are extremely close now and I am forever grateful. ~ **D.C.**

Thank you all for all that you do to reach these kids! Blessings and love. ~ **G.W.**

I am doing really well and this would not be the case if I hadn't gone to Patch. You guys never gave up on me. I think and pray for you guys each and every day. Thank you for all that you guys do each and every day, it truly does make a difference, even if it's just one moment at a time. ~ **K.M.**

Thank you so much for all you do. I appreciate the challenges you face on a daily basis. We pray daily for you and all of the students you are helping. May God continue to richly bless you in your endeavors. ~ **T.W.**

God bless your work for Jesus. You are in my prayers. ~ **J.P.**

To share your PATCH experiences and offer encouragement and support to our staff, email [info@projectpatch.org](mailto:info@projectpatch.org), or write to us at 2404 E Mill Plain Blvd., Suite A, Vancouver, WA 98661.

### YOU'RE INVITED TO CELEBRATE 30 YEARS OF

- MIRACLES
- FAITHFULNESS
- TRANSFORMATION
- RESTORATION



Featuring Jaime Jorge

Jaime has dedicated his talents to sharing the love of God through sacred and classical concerts all over the world.



**MAY 18, 6 pm**  
**EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL –**  
**PORTLAND AIRPORT**  
7900 NE 82nd Ave., Portland, Ore.

A table of 10 is \$500, individuals are \$50. If you're unable to attend, please consider supporting Project Patch.

Reserve your seats and meal choices by calling 360-690-8495 or visiting [www.projectpatch.org/30years](http://www.projectpatch.org/30years).

## The FAMILY Experience

**We can't thank you personally, and the team collectively that makes Project Patch the resource it is. We have been so blessed by your counsel and insights, and encouraged by your thoughtful responses at every turn, even in the dark desperate moments. I can't speak highly enough regarding your welcoming, professional, caring demeanor – a true gift to our family in a difficult season.**

Thank you again for your role in the life of our family. You've been a blessing to us and we're grateful. ~ S.F.

Dear Mrs. Linda,  
When we arrived I didn't know what to think of this place. I'll admit I was scared and frustrated ... but when we walked in it was so hard to be mad. With the music and lights and how welcoming everyone was, I just wanted to swim in the warmth and happiness of this beautiful place. Granted family problems don't go away in a weekend, but what a great way for us to start! Thank you for the amazing food and wonderful hospitality! You were such a gift to our family.  
~ **Anonymous teen**

Our family just spent 3 days at the Project Patch Family Center just west of Goldendale, Washington. First, what a gorgeous setting on 500 acres, with deer everywhere you look (yesterday my daughter saw a large buck lead a large herd running past the lodge downhill and then back up a minute later). Second, what fantastic staff, including Herb, Linda, and Brandon, who made us feel so welcome and relaxed and very well fed! The fantastic staff also included Jim and Jeremy, who guided us through a number of learning experiences, outdoor adventures, and good old-fashioned fun. Yes, some of the counseling exercises were difficult and draining, especially given the current dynamics within our family of four. Through it all, I felt we were being offered healing and hope. What could be better? ~ **David Sanford**

2 – PATCH works

# Building Thriving Families

Families are being pulled apart. Our schedules, stresses, and pleasures of living many times leave us disconnected from the ones we love the most. The Family Experience, a Project Patch program to help families thrive, provides an opportunity for your entire family to get away, regroup, and learn practical skills in a hands-on way that will help you to stick together and support one another through the obstacles of life.

The Family Experience is for every family, especially for families facing the challenges of single parenting or blended families. However, at some point, every family could benefit from a weekend designed to help them adjust to their kids growing up and the craziness that comes with hitting puberty. No matter what the family circumstances are, the pull and the desire for connection are there!

As we often hear from parents: "It's hard to have meaningful conversations in the home." We know it isn't easy, yet we also know the impact and longing kids have for connecting.

The Family Experience is here to help you learn how to communicate, problem solve, support each other, assertively address life's challenges as they arrive, and to provide an opportunity for those meaningful conversations to happen.

It isn't a weekend of camping, but instead is a weekend of being pampered by our hospitality team, which includes a chef making meals that appeal to kids and adults. Families enjoy private rooms, 500 beautiful acres, and hours of indoor and outdoor fun.

It also isn't a time to sit around. The Family Experience is built around the model that



experience is a better teacher than lecturing, and so the program includes many fun and challenging hands-on activities.

Does this sound like something that would help your family or another family that you know? We are eager to serve families and are offering a several ways to make it even easier and more affordable for families to get the help they need.

- If you think your family could benefit, please contact us and use the coupon below to register your family.
- If you thought of another family, there are two ways to help:
- Pass the coupon on to the family to help them with the cost of attending; or,
- Use the coupon when you partially or fully sponsor the family to attend.
- If you thought of multiple families, you can talk to your local church or community organization and use the second coupon to get a group rate.

Come thrive with us for three days, so that you can thrive for the rest of your life.

We acknowledge that approaching another family, your church, or even your own family about attending The Family Experience can be a challenge. For ideas and suggestions, please see our tips on how to facilitate this conversation on our website:

[www.thefamilyexperience.org/tips](http://www.thefamilyexperience.org/tips)

PROJECT PATCH

**\$ 300 VALUE VOUCHER**

**This voucher entitles the bearer to**

**FREE admission for one child to a Project Patch Family Experience Weekend\***



2404 E Mill Plain Blvd, Suite A  
Vancouver, WA 98661  
360-690-8495  
projectpatch.org  
Facebook.com/projectpatch

Authorized by Chuck Hagele

Expires July 15, 2014 Code NL-SF14

**Not redeemable for cash. Limit one per family.**

For dates and registration information see [projectpatch.org/family](http://projectpatch.org/family).

\*with family registration



## Hosting Tip – Get a Silpat

If you do any baking in your kitchen, you need a Silpat. This silicone baking sheet saves you time (no more ripping parchment paper) and cleanup (no more cooking spray or food sticking to baking sheets).

I use mine all the time for everything from vegetables to cookies. It also makes a fabulous wedding or host/hostess gift!

# Grilled Asparagus

*Simple, easy, and absolutely delicious!*

Spring is the best time of year to enjoy asparagus because its season is just beginning, so it's not only plentiful, but also very flavorful. My favorite way to prepare asparagus is grilling.

Wash the asparagus and break off the ends where they naturally want to break. Then put the asparagus in a bowl and sprinkle a small amount of:

1-2 Tbsps. olive oil  
1 Tsp. salt

Other optional seasonings that I have used which give it different tastes:

Natural Seasoning – NO SALT by Kirkland – sells at Costco  
Brewer's Yeast  
Pepper  
Parmesan cheese

Bake in oven on BROIL for 3-5 minutes until they are done – or at 350 for 10 minutes. If you BROIL it, please keep an eye on it.



## The True Host

Hosting means, "Remember others in a special way". People have many needs and we cannot begin to help with everything, but really listen to people when you are talking with them. They will typically share what sad or hard things they seem to be going through at the time. Remember what they've shared and you will be able to pin down what you could help that person with. Small or big doesn't matter – it is the act of doing that does. A quote that I want to share: "You may only be someone in the world, but to someone else, you may be the world!"

PROJECT PATCH

## GROUP VALUE VOUCHER

This voucher entitles your church or community group to a

**Group discounted admission to a Project Patch Family Experience Weekend\***



2404 E Mill Plain Blvd. Suite A  
Vancouver, WA 98661  
CALL -- 360-690-8495  
projectpatch.org  
Facebook.com/projectpatch

Authorized by Chuck Hagele

Expires July 15, 2014 Code NL-SP14

Not redeemable for cash. Limit one per group weekend.

For dates and registration information see [projectpatch.org/family](http://projectpatch.org/family).

\*with family group registrations

\*Coupon is valid for families who register before July 15, 2014

PATCH works – 3

# AlumNotes

## Stories of Lives Changed—In Their Words

### Jay's Success Story

*continued from page 8*

prior to Patch. I was on and off the streets, plagued with drugs due to my addictions. My peers at Patch encouraged me and gave me wisdom to discern when to stop when I wanted to go on with my poor behaviors; and to keep on going when I wanted to give up on the program. This formed an invaluable bond between us.

Before I came to Patch I had no clue what I wanted to do with my adult life and no drive to figure it out. Through the school program and the help I received from my teachers and my counselor, I discovered that I have a strong fascination with engines. Shortly after I learned that, I decided I wanted to make it into a career. Patch has helped me go through all of the steps to make that dream a reality. They fought to get me accepted into Job Corps. Before I came to Patch I couldn't even get a job because my interviews always went horrible. After being at Patch for about ten months, the staff and counseling team helped me to be prepared for my Job Corps interview to the point where my interviewer was so impressed she couldn't stop talking about how great I did and how much promise I showed. Patch's hard work and investment into my life definitely paid off.

Now that I have this new found passion and the accountability of healthy stable adults, I have hope for my future. My plan is to own an auto mechanic shop so that I can show others how to live their life in, hopefully, a better way. Because of the things that I learned at Patch, I want to share what I know with others. I know for a fact that if my Patch counselor hadn't invested as much time as she did into me, there would be no way I would be where I am today. Healthy, trust worthy, clean and sober; that's what my future holds.

Thirty years ago this August, a young man was placed in the home of a loving, godly couple in a small town in Montana. He was kind of a handful. He had a very curious nature and was full of questions about everything. By the hand of God and some very loving people who wanted the best for this young man, Tom Sanford was called. He was just starting a program to help kids who needed love and Christian support. Because of his love of Christ, he chose to serve children at a time that there wasn't much help for them.

As a result of Tom's compassion and drive to help me become all that I could be, I have been able to work with over a thousand kids and now help adults as they head back into society.

Thank you for caring enough back then and caring to this day. May God continue to bless this wonderful program as it grows and evolves. ~ **Dave Wood**

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It is funny how much faster time goes by when you're not at Patch, or when something that was difficult is behind you. I'll never forget Patch, and what it taught me, the friendships I made, and the life changes it helped me implement. Many people think that Patch will solve all your problems. News Flash: It won't. Patch is there to give you tools to navigate through life, not give you all the answers.

I will never forget the love that each staff member at Patch gave me. All the times that I just needed a hug, someone to understand what I was going through, to challenge me to never give up on myself—that's what they

did for me. Even at my worst times, when I was on Work Crew, Group Closure, and Level Hold all at once, they never judged me, never made me feel worthless, and always encouraged me to keep my head up and finish strong. My counselor was a constant for me there, teaching me to love working outside with my hands, pulling weeds, or mowing the lawn. She taught me that business keeps one out of trouble!

I felt so close to God at Patch because our chaplain taught me that it's about the relationship, not the religion. He showed me raw honesty, and I'll never forget some of his sermons on love that he preached. He always used object lessons from his sons on parenting, and I appreciated that he never tried to pretend like he had it all together, but he encouraged us to trust God with everything.

Life wasn't easy at Patch for me. I had a hard time facing my problems and dealing with them appropriately. Yet, the staff never gave up on me. I learned so much about myself, like how far I could actually push myself, and how much I could handle. Wilderness taught me that 9 days without running water is a long time, but it's bearable. I learned to appreciate what I had, and to trust God for everything. I learned to value speech and to realize how fortunate we are to be able to speak freely on anything. I learned to push myself physically, especially during group builders, when I knew that my group depended on me.

Life after Patch hasn't been easy. If anything, I've been harder on myself because I know that I can do better, because I have



already proved it. I went through a phase where I wanted to try everything, to see what the World had to offer, but so far, none of it has made me as happy as the structure of Patch. The world needs a few more rules, and I've learned to never sacrifice who I really am for what others want me to be. My friend told me that I am the 1% in the world that is honest at any cost. I'd like to believe that that is true, because that's how everyone should be. 100% themselves. And with God's help, that's who I'm trying to be ...

Thank you to Project Patch and all those who are affiliated with it in any way, for giving me another shot at life, and most importantly, for loving and never giving up on me. ~ **Laura Ross**

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It took me a long time to realize that Project Patch helped me. When I first got out of Patch, I used to have nightmares

that they'd drag me back and put me back in the program. I used to wake up crying: "I'm done, they let me leave."

But the older I've gotten, and the more I've had to deal with in life, love and relationships, I realize Patch gave me a lot of tools to get by. It's been 11 years since I left Project Patch and I STILL miss the staff greatly.

The youth ranch team taught me many things about life, values, and self-esteem. They also taught me about a loving caring God, who forgave me for my mistakes no matter how many I made.

Because of these people and others, I have had the confidence to pursue my dreams, raise my son, and find the love of my life. Because of their wisdom and guidance, I had the foundation and building blocks to build a relationship with my Savior that has lasted to this day.

So, thank you Project Patch; I may not have liked you at the time, but you did so much to help me! ~ **Felicity White**

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Just had to write a note and say: "Thank You, Patch" for all that you did in my life. Thanks for putting up with me for almost 2 years and giving me the tools to make it in this world.

This year has brought some major blessings in my life, but I would never have gotten what I've gotten this year if it wasn't for the faith and support you guys gave me. You truly do make a difference.

Although we might not show our appreciation at first, I just want to say, as the years go by, we realize how much you guys as staff members, counselors, and mentors really do help and make a difference! THANK YOU!!!!!! ~ **K.T.**

# PATCHSnaps

## Ranch residents enjoying various spring activities!



## Wish List

Below is the current wish list for Project Patch. If you are interested in helping us fulfill these needs, please call us at 360-690-8495, or email [info@projectpatch.org](mailto:info@projectpatch.org).

### Youth Ranch

- Expand Christian music collection (iTunes) — Various
- Drill Doctor (1) ½ Funded-Thank you! — \$30
- One more girl's bicycle — \$70
- Hockey Sticks — \$300
- Orchard Fruit Trees — \$320
- 5 Bikes for boy's dorm — \$350
- Laptop computer — \$400
- Cheese grinder/shredder for mixer — \$500
- Hay baler feeder converter (alfalfa to grass) — \$500
- 4-6 nice guitars (2-3 each dorm) — \$750
- Truck tires — \$800
- Repaired air-leak in fire suppression system — \$800
- Therapist Continuing Education — \$2,500
- Two-Post Car Lift (10,000-lb. capacity) — \$2,950
- New carpet for the office — \$4,100
- Phone system & wiring — \$10,000

### Family Center

- Rock polishing supplies — \$50
- Light-weight folding tables (6-8) — \$240
- BBQ (propane) — \$600
- Folding chairs (11-24) — \$750
- Basketball & Volleyball Equipment — \$800
- Deck furniture (table w/ chairs) — \$1,200
- Greenhouse (used) — \$2,000
- Wi-Fi enabled commercial copy machine/printer (1) — \$2,500
- Gravel for roads — \$3,500

### Vancouver Office

- Kitchen floor repair — volunteer, material, donations



## Sharing to Empower

What would it be like if churches and schools helped families thrive and were a source of hope for teens? It would make a huge impact, not only in this world but for eternity.

Chuck Hagele, along with other staff, has been partnering with churches and schools to present seminar designed to help parents, grandparents, and mentors be more effective with kids. Seminars topics include: "Raising Life-Ready Kids," "Help! Technology is Invading My Home," "Mentoring for Impact," and "Parenting Again."

Recent comments include: "Loved it! I could have used another whole day in session!"

Consider the impact you can make on your church, school, or community by partnering with us to host a seminar in your city. For more information, call us at: 360-690-8495, or go to [www.projectpatch.org/seminars](http://www.projectpatch.org/seminars).

## Piecing It Together



by **Chuck Hagele,**  
Executive Director

Kids go through a stage where they ask a really annoying but great question, "Why?" I think one of the reasons adults are bugged by this question is that we often don't know why ourselves.

As Project Patch enters our 30th year of ministry to teens and families, we thought it was important to ask and answer some very important "why" questions. Our discussions and prayer led us to three enemies: families being pulled apart, hopelessness robbing teens of a future, and churches paralyzed by fear.

Why does Project Patch exist? We exist to build thriving families, restore hope to teens, and empower supportive communities. We have seen the impact that can be made when teens find hope, families work together, and when churches are supportive.

Thanks for being a part of this great work. I hope you are encouraged as you read about our Youth Ranch, Family Experience, and seminars. Your generosity, prayers, and work make it possible.

### Upcoming Seminar Dates and Locations for 2014:

- June 19 and 20 — Upper Columbia Conference Camp Meeting — Spangle, WA
- July 16 - 18 — Oregon Conference Camp Meeting — Gladstone, OR
- In the works — Boise, ID
- In the works — Seattle, WA

Be sure to check our "Events Calendar" online at [www.projectpatch.org](http://www.projectpatch.org) for current information on upcoming seminars and other events.

## Celebrating 30 Years!

*continued from page 1*

gym, office, chapel, wood shop, and staff housing.

Then, in 2006, God pre-planned the Project Patch Family Center in Goldendale, Washington. Carlyle Mason not only designed the buildings, but also led the team of volunteers and staff to make it a reality. Whew! What a struggle! The gift of land was amazing and the devil didn't seem to like it. He threw every sort of stumbling block in our way imaginable. There was the county planning committee, a couple of neighbors - just to name a few, who opposed the entire project. But, ah! God conquered them all! Perhaps there will be a time to tell the remarkable intervention of the Lord in every stumbling block the devil put in our way.

The experience of seeing God work through Patch has been the most inspiring thing I've ever seen. Time and space cannot begin to tell of the young people who have changed their lives and chosen to live instead of die. They no longer are ruled by negative behaviors, like: stealing, rebellion, suicidal ideologies, running away, intent to do harm, prostitution, and all kinds of abuse and callousness. The list could go on and on as every young person has a different story.

I've seen families restored, and most importantly, lives redeemed. The repercussion of lives changed is now seen in the marriages, community, workplaces, and churches around the world. Our graduates are responsible, caring adults who are living lives they never thought possible.

I would be remiss if I told you all have changed their ways. I grieve over those who choose to live a different life than what God wants them to live. The only thing I can say is, we have done our best - and God has been more faithful than I ever imagined.

Thirty years of miracles is only the beginning of a journey to build thriving families, restore hope to teens, and empower supportive communities.

## Three More Ways to Help

Amazon has a new program called **AmazonSmile**. This is a donation program in which (on some orders) Amazon will make a donation to your favorite charity. **Project PATCH** is registered for this new program. Please remember **PATCH** when making qualifying orders through Amazon!

Patch has also signed up for the **Fred Meyer Community Rewards Program**. That means that if you make purchases at Fred Meyer, they will make a donation to **PATCH** with no penalties of rewards to the customer, meaning that you still earn your fuel points, etc. Just ask at the Customer Service desk at any Fred Meyer for your Rewards Card.



One more unique way to help **PATCH** is by sharing the proceeds of saving pop cans. A friend of **PATCH** drops by a donation almost every month from their own recycling endeavors. So far this year they've donated over \$700! We're pretty sure they give every penny, because the checks are for amounts like \$67.62 or \$78.12 every time! And those pennies DO add up!

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## In This Issue:

- Celebrating 30 Years!



### ▲ Tom Sanford, Founder of Project Patch

- Building Thriving Families
- Restoring Hope to Teens
- Empowering Supportive Communities
- Jay's Success Story
- AlumNotes: Stories of Lives Changed  
~ In Their Words

## Invite us to Speak

Interested in having a PATCH staff member speak for your group? Visit [projectpatch.org/seminars](http://projectpatch.org/seminars) to request a speaker today!

## PATCH Prayer Warriors

Sign up to become a Prayer Warrior for Patch and receive monthly emails with updated requests and praises from all three Patch locations (Garden Valley, Goldendale, Vancouver). Then, join us in prayer for these special requests throughout the next month. Sign up today by visiting [projectpatch.org/signup](http://projectpatch.org/signup).

## Wish List

We maintain a list of things we need and want at each of our locations, so supporters know how they can best provide for our needs. Check out our current list on page 6 of this newsletter.

## Patch Blog

It's easy to stay connected with Patch through our blog, written regularly by Executive Director Chuck Hagele. Twice weekly he'll share a thoughtful post focused on parenting, family issues, and more. Subscribe to receive posts via email or through your RSS reader. Check it out today at [blog.projectpatch.org](http://blog.projectpatch.org).



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### Help Us Save Money!

If you are interested in receiving this newsletter in electronic form rather than hard copy, please let us know by emailing [info@projectpatch.org](mailto:info@projectpatch.org).

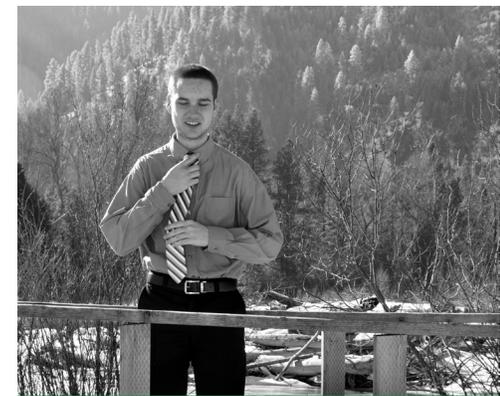
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## Jay's Success Story

by Jay Hamilton

My life was pretty much hopeless until I came to Patch. Stealing, lying, using drugs; that's what I lived for every day. It gave me a rush that I fell in love with. Even if I wanted to kick all of the junk that I was into there was no way I could do it by myself. It was while I was coming down off of a marijuana high when I asked myself how I got here. How had I fallen from what I knew I was capable of? I knew that my parents wanted to send me to some kind of rehab center in Idaho for a year. Seeing no other way out of my addictions, I eagerly accepted. My first impressions of Patch were: "Aww, there's a church," and: "You gotta be kidding, vegetarians?"

When I had arrived it was hard transitioning to all of the customs of Patch, but luckily there were plenty of other residents who helped me get through my orientation and set me up for success in the program. They made me feel at home even though I hadn't experienced that feeling for two months



▲ Jay gets ready to graduate!

*continued on page 4*