



SERENITY LANE'S

Fifteenth

Community Service Awards

2025

Wednesday | October 22, 2025

11:30am-1:00pm | Venue 252

Presenting Sponsors





A Word from Serenity Lane's President & CEO

Welcome to the 15th Annual Community Service Awards, a cherished tradition that brings together leaders and advocates who embody the spirit of recovery and transformation within the Substance Use Disorder treatment community. This year, the challenges facing our field have continued to evolve – whether through new substances, a society buffeted by constant change, or the quiet weight of loneliness. What will never change is the power of people who refuse to give up on one another.

In the past year, we have witnessed remarkable perseverance and collaboration. This community has shown that hope thrives where compassion leads the way. Today's honorees represent the very best of this spirit—they have stood by others at their lowest moments, guiding them toward possibilities that once seemed out of reach.

Each person recognized today continues to demonstrate resilience in the face of adversity. Your daily acts of kindness remind us that recovery is not only achievable, but transformative—not simply for individuals, but for families and entire communities. They remind us that healing is possible, that recovery is real, and that no one is ever truly alone when a community stands beside them.

Thank you for your devotion, your courage, and your belief in the dignity and worth of every person. The stories shared today will lift us up, reminding us that together we move forward—stronger, brighter, and committed to supporting one another.

It is our honor to celebrate those whose efforts light the way for others. Please join me in congratulating our extraordinary awardees.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pete Kerns". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Pete Kerns



Welcome

Emcees

*Mary Reilly, Windermere Real Estate
Matt Templeman, KEZI*

Invocation

Lydia Beinbauer, Healthcare Chaplain, Serenity Lane

Welcome from Serenity Lane's President and CEO

Pete Kerns

Growing Hope Through Partnership

Corynn Gilbert, Bushnell University

Community Service Awards

Community Leadership Award

Community Youth Leadership Award

Remarks From Our Sponsors

Unsung Hero Awards

Community Service Awards

Emergency Services Professional Award

Health Care Professional Award

Mental Health Professional Award

Dwight Lee Spiritual Advisor Award

Addiction Professional Award

Lifetime Achievement Award

Presented by Pete Kerns

Words of Gratitude



2025 COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

Community Leadership Award
Community Youth Leadership Award



***“For your exemplary work in the field
of drug and alcohol treatment,
education and prevention.”***

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Lifetime Achievement Award



Senator James I. Manning Jr.
District 7

Nominated by Cheryl Gifford
Applegate Psychology and Associates, LLC



It is with great pride that we honor Senator James I. Manning, Jr. for his outstanding leadership and advocacy in the field of behavioral health and substance use disorder. Nominated by Dr. Cheryl Gifford, she notes:

“Senator Manning has served in the Oregon Senate since 2016. During this time, he has consistently been a voice for individuals struggling with behavioral health and substance use disorders. His leadership has shaped critical legislation to improve access to care, reduce homelessness, support job and skills training, and expand childcare—removing barriers for families seeking recovery and stability.”

Senator Manning’s path to public service began with roles in law enforcement, corrections, and ultimately a distinguished 24-year career in the U.S. Army. His military service included appointments as Military Diplomat to Australia and New Zealand, Assistant Inspector General, and Chief Administrator Supervisor for U.S. Army Southern Command.

Following his honorable retirement in 2007, Senator Manning and his late wife Lawanda settled in Eugene, where he became deeply involved in community service. His nonprofit work includes leadership roles with Pearl Buck Center, United Way of Lane County, and the Bethel School District. He co-founded a nonprofit that provides scholarships to underrepresented students.

He also served as Chair of the Oregon Commission on Black Affairs, the Eugene Police Commission, and mediated over 300 small claims cases in Lane County.

Since his Senate appointment in 2016, he has championed issues related to veterans, behavioral health, and social equity.

Senator Manning’s unwavering commitment to underserved communities has had a profound and lasting impact on the lives of countless Oregonians.

We are honored to present him with this award in recognition of his extraordinary service.



COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Community Leadership Award



Clint Riley
Deflection Program Coordinator
Lane County Behavioral Health
Deflection Program
Eugene, Oregon

Nominated by Greg Rikhoff, Lane County Government



Clint Riley has devoted over three decades to public safety and service, including 29 years with the Lane County Sheriff's Office, where he retired as Jail Commander. Witnessing firsthand how addiction drives incarceration, Clint recognized that we can't arrest people into wellness. He helped pioneer in-jail treatment interventions and, after retirement, led the creation of the Lane County Behavioral Health Deflection Program—an innovative initiative that diverts individuals into treatment instead of jail. With over 100 partners and 11 police agencies involved, the program connects people to housing, peer support, and recovery services without requiring formal assessments or mandates. Clint's trauma-informed, person-centered model fills critical gaps and has already helped hundreds begin to rebuild their lives. Now in his 34th year in corrections, Clint believes true public safety comes from healing, not handcuffs. His work continues to shift systems—making recovery possible where once there was only punishment.

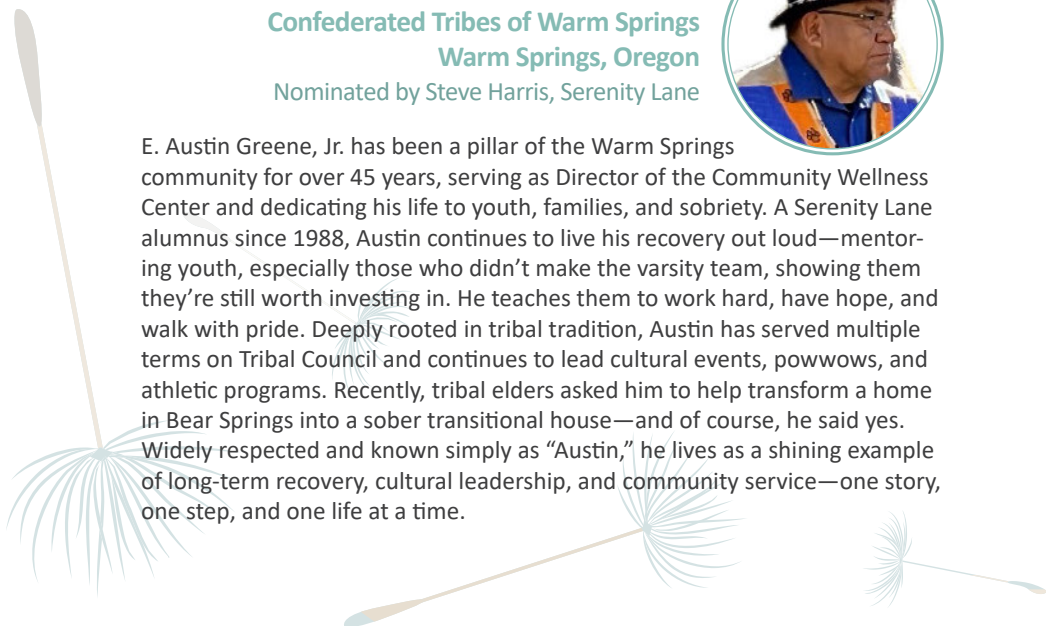
Community Youth Leadership Award

Austin Greene
Recreation Director
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
Warm Springs, Oregon

Nominated by Steve Harris, Serenity Lane



E. Austin Greene, Jr. has been a pillar of the Warm Springs community for over 45 years, serving as Director of the Community Wellness Center and dedicating his life to youth, families, and sobriety. A Serenity Lane alumnus since 1988, Austin continues to live his recovery out loud—mentoring youth, especially those who didn't make the varsity team, showing them they're still worth investing in. He teaches them to work hard, have hope, and walk with pride. Deeply rooted in tribal tradition, Austin has served multiple terms on Tribal Council and continues to lead cultural events, powwows, and athletic programs. Recently, tribal elders asked him to help transform a home in Bear Springs into a sober transitional house—and of course, he said yes. Widely respected and known simply as "Austin," he lives as a shining example of long-term recovery, cultural leadership, and community service—one story, one step, and one life at a time.



Thank You

To Our Presenting Sponsors





2025 Unsung Heroes

Brenda Eileen Vogel
Quality Research Associates

Callie Rumley
PacificSource Community Solutions

Colleen Smith
Restored Connections Peer Center

Desirae Diehl
Emergence Addiction and Behavioral Therapies

Jody White CRM, PSS
Relief Nursery

Denver Harris
Eugene Mission

Sara Herbert
Serenity Lane



***"I'm an Unsung Hero in the fight against
the disease of addiction."***

 SERENITY LANE

Unsung Hero

AWARDS



Brenda Eileen Vogel
Drug and Alcohol Evaluator
Quality Research Associates
Eugene, Oregon
Nominated by John Ford, Serenity Lane

I'm honored to receive this award. Working with people who struggle with substance use has shown me how strong and resilient they truly are. I hope more people understand that recovery takes time, support, and compassion. One of my favorite sayings is, "Changing our lives one day at a time." It's amazing to see how even the darkest times can become our greatest assets.

Callie Rumley
Behavioral Health Strategist
PacificSource Community Solutions
Bend, Oregon

Nominated by Deputy Neil S. Marchington
Deschutes County Sherriff's Office



Callie goes far above and beyond hosting the Central Oregon SUD forum. This forum brings diverse stakeholders into a huge room to learn, listen, and network to find solutions that serve recovery and the recovery community. Callie also maintains an email forum where stakeholders can look for help and advice any-time. We learn so much through her sustained efforts.





SL SERENITY LANE
Unsung Hero
AWARDS



Colleen Smith

Board Member, Fundraising Committee
Restored Connections Peer Center
Eugene, Oregon

Nominated by Stephanie Cameron, Restored Connections Peer Center

Twenty years ago, I didn't know who I was or where I was going. I was lost—fired from my job, on the verge of losing everything, and afraid of being truly seen. Then someone in the addiction field told me, "Faith without works is dead." I didn't understand it then, but that truth became my foundation. Today, I put faith into action through advocacy, service, and showing up. From my role as Senior Director of Community Relations at Willamette Family to Board Member and Fundraising Lead at Restored Connections, every step is built on faith, listening, and service.

I'm grateful to those who believed in me and the community that helped me heal. To anyone walking this path: I see you, I hear you, and I walk beside you. Thank you, Stephanie Cameron, Restored Connections, Eva Williams, and the Willamette Family team—it's an honor to serve and grow with you.

Desirae Diehl
Substance Use Disorder Counselor
Emergence Addiction and Behavioral Therapies
Albany, Oregon

Nominated by Shawnell Saylor, Emergence Addiction and Behavioral Therapies



I am very honored to be receiving this award, as the work that we all do is so important. I am grateful to have the opportunity to assist people in finding their way to recovery and working to make their lives better. My hope is to continue to develop resources and community partnerships to best serve our populations.



 SERENITY LANE

Unsung Hero

AWARDS



Jody White CRM, PSS

Peer Support Specialist

Relief Nursery

Eugene, Oregon

Nominated by Kelly Sutherland, Ray Brown
and Thalassa Montemurro, Relief Nursery

It is an honor to accept this award and I am grateful. I am still very new in this line of work and I'm always on my toes learning something new. My favorite part of my job so far is hearing someone's genuine laughter for the first time in probably years. I would like to thank Kathy Awesome and the powers of the universe for leading me in this direction.

Denver Harris

Program Director

Eugene Mission Life Change Program

Eugene, Oregon

Nominated by Douglas L. Jeffery, Eugene Mission
Life Change Program Participant



I'm truly honored and humbled to receive this Unsung Hero Award. Serving as the Director of the Life Change program at the Eugene Mission is not just a role- it's a calling. Every day, I have the privilege of walking alongside individuals as they courageously pursue healing, dignity, and hope. This award may carry my name, but it belongs just as much to the incredible team I work with, the resilient guests we serve, and the wider Eugene community that supports transformation and second chances. To be called a hero is deeply moving—but the real heroes are those who rise each morning determined to change, even when it's hard. Thank you for recognizing this work and for reminding us all that quiet, faithful service matters.



SD SERENITY LANE

Unsung Hero

AWARDS



Sara Herbert
Wellness Coordinator
Serenity Lane
Coburg, Oregon

Nominated by Christopher Coronado, Serenity Lane

Sara is the Unsung Hero of Serenity Lane for a multitude of reasons. The largest being she keeps the treatment atmosphere fun and interesting. We all know recovery isn't easy and can be dull and saddening, but with Sara being the wellness facilitator there are hardly dull and saddening moments due to the amount of effort she puts in making the environment fun and engaging. Sara is constantly bringing new activities and projects to the forefront of the community, whether it be serving ice cream to patients on Thursday or starting the "patient legacy" program where residents get to see their projects come to fruition after completion of treatment if they attend events as alumni. She headed renovating our garden boxes for all counselors and provided soil and bark chips to elevate the overall atmosphere of the garden section. She is constantly more than accommodating in making yoga for patients and staff available and she also takes residents off site to morning hikes to the local mountains around the Eugene area.



2025 COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

Emergency Services Professional Award

Health Care Professional Award

Mental Health Professional Award

Dwight Lee Spiritual Advisor Award

Addiction Professional Award



***“For your exemplary work in the field
of drug and alcohol treatment,
education and prevention.”***

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Emergency Services Professional Award



The Police Alcohol Recovery Team (PART) Portland Police Department Portland, Oregon

Nominated by Steve Harris, Serenity Lane

The Police Alcohol Recovery Team (P.A.R.T.) is a volunteer group within the Portland Police Bureau made up of members with personal experience or knowledge of substance use disorder and recovery. These dedicated individuals provide confidential, peer-based support to fellow officers who may be struggling with addiction—often long before they feel safe speaking openly. Operating outside the bounds of HR and EAP, P.A.R.T. creates a trusted space to ask questions, explore treatment options, and begin the recovery journey. In a profession where seeking help can feel especially difficult, P.A.R.T. members help normalize the conversation, reduce stigma, and offer guidance with empathy and understanding. First responders face higher rates of substance use than most professions, and the work of P.A.R.T. is critical in helping those who serve find healing. For their quiet leadership, peer advocacy, and deep compassion, we are proud to recognize the P.A.R.T. team with this award.



Health Care Professional Award

Dr. Adam Frederick Medical Director Intel Health for Life Centers Hillsboro, Oregon

Nominated by Maureen McCarthy, Serenity Lane



Dr. Adam Frederick is a compassionate and dedicated physician whose work embodies the highest standards of patient-centered care. Board-certified by the American Academy of Family Physicians, he completed his medical education at Albany Medical School and residency at the University of Utah. Dr. Frederick is known for meeting patients where they are—with empathy, respect, and a commitment to holistic, judgment-free care. His leadership extends beyond clinical excellence; he is a steadfast advocate for individuals navigating substance use and recovery, and a trusted mentor to his colleagues. Whether supporting a patient's physical and mental health or fostering dignity and hope in the face of stigma, Dr. Frederick's impact is transformative. Outside of medicine, he enjoys running, hiking, snowboarding, and pop culture. He is a proud father of two, dog dad to a golden retriever, and has skydiving on his bucket list.

Dr. Frederick is a true champion for health, healing, and humanity.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Mental Health Professional Award



Debbie Nieradka
Veteran Peer Support
Deschutes County Behavioral Health
Bend, Oregon

Nominated by Michelle Adams, Deschutes
County Health Services



Debbie Nieradka is a dedicated Peer Support Specialist on the Deschutes County Behavioral Health adult outpatient team, where she focuses on supporting veterans navigating mental health and substance use challenges. A combat veteran herself, Debbie brings lived experience, deep empathy, and fierce advocacy to her work—meeting individuals as equals and offering hope where it’s often hard to find. She works with both clients engaged in care and veterans in the community who are not yet connected to services, helping them access vital resources, treatment, and VA benefits. Debbie also partners with the Deschutes County jail to support incarcerated veterans, building trust and connecting them to support before release. Her impact extends beyond individuals to systems, pushing for trauma-informed housing solutions and long-term treatment options for combat vets. Through compassion, persistence, and lived understanding, Debbie is changing lives and challenging barriers—one veteran, one conversation, and one connection at a time.

Dwight Lee Spiritual Advisor Award

David Hickerson
Program Director
Emergence Addiction and Behavioral Therapies
Albany, Oregon

Nominated by Shawnell Saylor, Emergence Addiction
and Behavioral Therapies



David Hickerson has served the Linn-Benton recovery community for over 40 years, most recently as Program Director at Albany Emergence. A Navy veteran and person in recovery, David blends clinical leadership with a deep spiritual presence—quietly guiding others toward purpose, healing, and hope. With a background in psychology and biblical studies from Western Baptist, David inspires others not by preaching, but by showing up—first in the office, last to leave, and always ready to help. He’s believed to have directly impacted over 2,500 lives, and generations beyond, through tireless dedication, compassion, and humility. David’s leadership has helped shape numerous counselors, improved countless families, and sustained a standard of excellence in care. He believes treatment gives people the hope they were once denied—and he’s helped ensure they get multiple chances to find it. As he enters retirement, David leaves a legacy of quiet strength, spiritual grounding, and profound service.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Addiction Professional Award



Cheyenne Salazar
Lead Counselor and Outreach Coordinator
Cielo Treatment Center
Portland, Oregon
Nominated by Kate York, Serenity Lane



Cheyenne plays a vital and multifaceted role at Cielo Treatment Center, where she feels privileged to witness the full arc of recovery—from addiction to healing. With a deep commitment to culturally specific programming, she ensures that each person’s journey honors their heritage and belief systems, helping them reconnect with their internal compass. Inspired by a family legacy of recovery and her own personal experiences, Cheyenne brings profound empathy and insight to her work. Of mixed heritage—European on her mother’s side and Indigenous Mexican Yucatecan on her father’s—she understands the complex identity challenges many clients face. She believes recovery can be a powerful space to blend one’s identity rather than fragment it. Cheyenne embodies this philosophy in her practice. Outside of work, she finds joy and balance through music, playing multiple instruments, team sports, outdoor adventures, and most recently, boxing. She brings the same passion and resilience to her clients as she does to life.



Seeds of Hope



Thank You

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Angie Delaplain

Suzanne Graf

Pete Kerns

Ami Saries

Lisa Steele

Mike Dyer

Kathryn Hill

**Thank you for joining us for the
15th Annual Community Service Awards!**

For information about the awards or Serenity Lane please visit

serenitylane.org



Seeds of Hope



Serenity Lane is a non-profit substance use disorder (SUD) treatment facility founded in 1973 and serves Oregon communities with a range of services, including detox, residential, outpatient, mental health and medication-assisted treatment.

Serenity Lane's mission is to transform lives through the treatment of addiction. We believe that recovery from addiction is possible.

Our commitment is to provide excellent patient care, be sensitive to the needs of our patients, affirm the dignity and worth of our patients and their families, foster a spirit of partnership with the communities we serve, coordinate patient care with other healthcare providers, and empower patients and their families to grow in their recovery.

Our vision is to enable individuals and families to achieve lifelong recovery, to become the people they aspire to be, and to live in service to others.