

# BENCO NEWS QUARTER 1

Jan. – March 2025

## A Message from the Benco Board of Directors

On behalf of the Benco Board of Directors, I'd like to extend a heartfelt shout out to several Benco residents and staff.

Since the launch of the Home Modification Project in the fall of 2023, the Board has received monthly updates on this significant undertaking. It has been a monumental effort! We have been impressed and proud of this project; it had a lot of moving parts!

At each Board meeting, Sarah provided detailed recaps of the project's logistics and progress. From the very beginning, it was clear that patience, perseverance, flexibility, and talents at all levels were essential to making this project a success.

A special commendation goes to our Administrative Staff.

Sarah worked tirelessly to secure the ARPA Home Modification Grants—an intricate and time-consuming process that often requires specialized expertise.

Fortunately for Benco, we have our own skilled grant writer. I'd also like to acknowledge Jesse and Laura for all of their communication and coordination. In addition, thanks to Katy, Suzanne and Bryn who chipped in where needed for the project.

We also want to extend our deepest gratitude to our Home Modification Teams: Jesse, Laura, Ian, Emilia, Jenn, Christine, Micha, Michele and Reyman. These folks put the plan in action making sure that it was thought out thoroughly and executed as smoothly and undisruptive as possible. Great job!

A huge thank you to our staff and residents who endured temporary relocations and disruptions throughout this transition. Your patience and resilience have been invaluable. We know this wasn't easy, but you were team players and it has not gone unnoticed.

We're not quite finished, but the finish line is clearly in sight! Bravo to all involved—your dedication and hard work are truly appreciated.

—Julie Hansen, Benco Board President

## Benco Advocacy

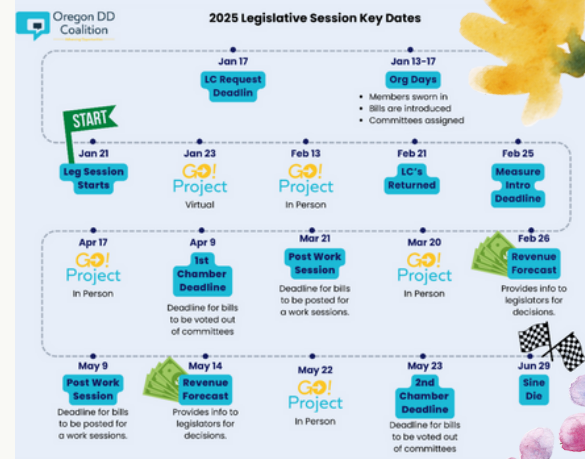
Join us in advocacy at the  
Oregon State Capitol on

April 17th, 2025

10a-2:30p

RSVP:

[sarahf@bencocorvallis.com](mailto:sarahf@bencocorvallis.com)



The 2025 legislative session sets the State of Oregon's budget for the 2025-2027 Biennium. This directly impacts Benco's funding.

Keep up to date with information by joining in on advocacy efforts!



# MONTHLY REVIEW

FUN



## January

### Employee of the 2024 Year

Garrett Mercer, DSP II at  
Garfield & RHA

### Employee of the Month

Micha Fa'amusili, APC at Stone  
Street

### Benefit Renewals

Benco hosted benefit renewal  
sessions and enhanced health  
insurance benefits for plan  
participants!

### Home Modifications

- Glecher project finished!
  - Gleicher staff & residents remain at their relocated homes (Stone & Garfield).
- RHA project started.
- 29th fence finished & bathroom started.
  - 29th fence was part of the ARPA Grant & the bathroom was fully funded by Benco + a donation.

## February

### Employee of the Month

Peyton Miller, LS at Garfield

### Home Modifications

- RHA project finished & residents/staff moved back.
- Garfield project started and residents & staff relocated to Gleicher.
- Sequoia project started & finished.

### Leadership Training Series

PCs, APCs & Lead Staff had the opportunity to go through a 5- week leadership training series.

The next round will begin in May.

### Mid February Snow

Thank you to all of the staff who navigated the slick roads and worked at Benco programs through the snow and ice!



## OIS Update

Benco is contracting with an independent instructor to conduct monthly OIS workshops at the Benco office!

Happy  
Valentine's  
Day

SHOUT OUT TO:  
Benco's Grant Ave Program!  
They are always so festive!







# DSP QUARTERLY MEETING!

April 18th

## March

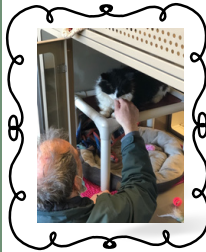
### Home Modifications

- Garfield project finished & kitchen cabinets were painted and entire program cleaned! Residents and staff moved back to Garfield.
- Gleicher was cleaned and preparing for residents & staff to move back on April 3rd.

### Through the ARPA grants:

- The 29th Street program received a new fence.
- The RHA Program received a new fence & two bathroom remodels adding accessible showers.
- The Sequoia Program received one bathroom remodel, adding an accessible shower.
- The Gleicher Program received widened doorways, a bathroom remodel, adding an accessible shower, new flooring throughout the entire home (excluding the kitchen), the addition of a sliding glass door for exit through the living room and an accessible ramp which leads from the backyard to the sidewalk.
- The Garfield Program received widened doorways, a bathroom remodel, adding an accessible shower, new flooring in many rooms within the home, new thresholds for smooth transitions, and a new accessible ramp from the front door to the driveway.

Benco invites DSPs to join our quarterly meeting! Our goal is connection & collaboration – meet new faces from other programs and share ideas & insight. Our Spring topic is: **COMMUNITY INTEGRATION!** Friday April 18th 2pm at the Benco Main Office Contact Laura Lonski, Benco RD with any questions.



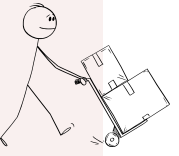
SO MUCH FUN!

## TEAM BENCO!

Benco participated in the Polar Plunge to support Special Olympics! Team Benco came in 4th place for top fundraisers, raising just over \$1,600 for the cause. Reyman Woitt was the 6th highest fundraiser for the Corvallis event. Corvallis raised just under \$30,000!



# THANK YOU



## A Message from Benco's Executive Director

I want to give a BIG SHOUT OUT and THANK YOU to Jesse for his work to get contractor quotes, assistance in identifying the Scope of Work, ongoing communication with contractors, myself, and the programs regarding projects, organization, and navigation. Laura has also been an integral part of this process, supporting PC's and the programs through necessary changes and identifying person centered plans within each project. In addition, each PC impacted by these projects stepped up and helped with challenging conversations and navigating through the unknown. THANK YOU!

This work impacted 23 residents, 6 homes and management teams, and 64 employees (not including admin staff). Your flexibility, understanding, patience, problem solving, and fortitude over the last 5 months is impressive and Benco is so grateful!

These home modifications will allow more people to age in place, in the homes they have come to know as their own. It allows Benco to better provide services to people with mobility needs and to make care needs easier on staff to help facilitate by having the appropriate space to do so. It adds privacy to two homes and provides Benco homes with wonderful updates that add to the value of the space and our mission of Caring Without Limits!

-Sarah Frazzini, Benco Executive Director

## DSP Certification

*Congratulations!*

### JANUARY

Nikki McDonough - DSP I

Garrett Mercer - DSP II

Jen Huff - DSP III

Sarah Haight - DSP III

Cameron Beagley - DSP III

### FEBRUARY

Dominique Christensen-

Marchant - DSP III

### MARCH

Jaden Gebauer - DSP I

Congratulations to:

Diana La Bonte & Aleen Haddad  
for renewing their DSP III  
certifications!

Applications for the next round of  
selections for the DSP  
Certification program will be  
reviewed in April!

*Party*

**DSP ANNUAL BANQUET DATE WILL  
BE ANNOUNCED SOON!**

# SPRING FLING

Drop in anytime!

**APRIL 30TH 1P-3P  
BENCO MAIN OFFICE**

Crafts  
Outdoor Games  
FUN!

