

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 13th Annual Race for the Roses

Sunday, April 3, Oregon Convention Center

The race is on! Join more than 5,000 runners and walkers at one of Portland's favorite 5K, 10K and half-marathon races and support Albertina Kerr's essential community programs.

Visit [Race4theRoses.org](http://Race4theRoses.org) to register or to volunteer

### Snapshot Series: A Glimpse into Albertina Kerr - The Kerr Games

Wednesday, April 27, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.  
Multnomah Athletic Club

See our programs for youth in action. Join us for a brief presentation and lunch, then cheer on our youth group home residents as they play sports.

RSVP at [rsvp@albertinakerr.org](mailto:rsvp@albertinakerr.org) or 503-262-0175

### Kerr Bikes Community Ride

Tuesday, May 10, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.  
Portland Waterfront at Salmon Street Springs

Join us for a three-mile community bike ride along Portland's waterfront. Bring your own wheels or check out (free) one of our fun rentals and learn more about how Kerr Bikes helps support Albertina Kerr's community programs.

[KerrBikes.org](http://KerrBikes.org)

### Albertina Kerr Golf Classic

Thursday & Friday, September 15 & 16  
Pumpkin Ridge Golf Club

Dinner and auction on Sept. 15 and a day on the Ghost Creek course on Sept. 16. Shotgun start at 1:30 p.m. \$2,000 per foursome, includes hole sponsorship, cart play, dinner for golfer and guest, drinks, boxed lunch and hors d'oeuvres. **Save the date!**

### Albertina's Restaurant & Shops

Reservations: 503-231-0216  
[KerrShops.org](http://KerrShops.org)

Check out the new menu, outdoor patio, open seating and upcoming events:

#### Earth Day Dinner

Thursday, April 21, 7 p.m.

Enjoy a bounty of Pacific NW ingredients prepared by guest chefs Brian Landry and Bryan Szeliga. Reservations required.

#### Mother's Day Tea

Saturday, May 7, 1:30 p.m.

Treat mom to an afternoon of tea and tasty treats. Reservations required.

#### Kerr Bikes [KerrBikes.org](http://KerrBikes.org)

**Now Open for the Season!** Visit us on the Portland Waterfront at Salmon Street Springs. Open seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., weather permitting.

SPRING 2011

# KERR CONNECTIONS

A Newsletter for Donors, Volunteers & Friends of Albertina Kerr

## HEALTH & HEALING FOR KIDS IN CRISIS PSYCHIATRIC CARE

*One of only a few programs of its kind in the state, Albertina Kerr's Crisis Psychiatric Care program provides short-term, 24-hour mental health care, support and resources to children and teens in imminent danger of harming themselves or others.*

More than just a place of refuge, Crisis Psychiatric Care provides comprehensive care for kids in crisis that includes mental health assessment, therapy and medical care. With a team approach, therapists, mental health professionals, advocates and nursing staff work cooperatively with each child and their families to best address issues surrounding a crisis.

Nurse manager Patty Harrison said "We're one of the last resources for kids in crisis outside of a hospital setting. Albertina Kerr's Crisis Psychiatric Care is important because we provide short-term stabilization and resources so a

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## Giving Children a Reason to Smile

Crisis Psychiatric Care depends on generous support from Kerr Angels like you. From donations that support day-to-day functions to the supplies kids need to feel comfortable during a time of crisis. It all makes a difference.

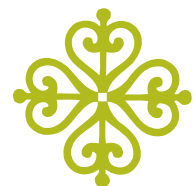
What can you do? Consider making a donation to Crisis Psychiatric Care or hosting a supply drive in your community. Everyday items can lift a child's spirits and make them feel welcome in their new environment.

Here are some ideas of items that help make a child's transition a little easier:

- Sweatshirts, T-shirts and sweatpants for boys and girls in all sizes
- Slippers and pajamas for boys and girls in all sizes
- Small toiletries like shampoo, toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Portable CD and MP3 players
- Books and stuffed animals

To make an online donation visit [AlbertinaKerr.org](http://AlbertinaKerr.org). To learn more about supply drives, contact Community Relations Manager Stephanie Bolson at [stephaniebo@albertinakerr.org](mailto:stephaniebo@albertinakerr.org) or 503-262-0187. 🐦

*We envision a community* where all children and adults with developmental disabilities and mental health challenges will thrive in nurturing homes and inclusive communities.



ALBERTINA  
KERR

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[AlbertinaKerr.org](http://AlbertinaKerr.org)

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child and their family can be supported and successful. So a child can be a kid again.”

According to the U.S. Surgeon General, approximately 20 percent of the nation’s children and youth have a mental health disorder or emotional disturbance. The national Youth Risk Behavior Survey, conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, shows that 17 percent of 9th through 12th grade students report they have seriously considered suicide; eight percent report attempting suicide, and two percent report a suicide attempt that resulted in injury.

Established in 1997 and one of our largest programs today, Crisis Psychiatric Care has demonstrated successful outcomes in assessing, stabilizing, treating and coordinating after-care for youth in crisis. These services result in children safely returning home in a more stable condition with a plan for appropriate follow-up. This increases the likelihood that the families remain intact.

To promote a child’s overall health, Crisis Psychiatric Care also includes a thorough medical assessment during what is usually a two week stay. On-site nursing staff meets with each child within the first 24 hours. Nurses then tailor a care plan to maintain consistent medical treatment and meet each child’s individual health needs.

Often, children come to Crisis Psychiatric Care with physical health issues that have gone undiagnosed. Screenings can help identify health issues such as early onset diabetes or early stages of hypertension. With this knowledge, nurses at Crisis Psychiatric Care can connect the child with ongoing treatment.

### BETH PUTZ, CRISIS PSYCHIATRIC & FOSTER CARE SERVICES

Since 1998, Beth (pictured above) has been working with children and families to make our community a better place. Today she heads up Albertina Kerr’s Crisis Psychiatric Care as well as our Foster Care services.

She is also an emerging leader who is currently taking part in the prestigious Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Ladder to Leadership fellowship program, an innovative course aimed at developing the future leaders of community health care.

Every day, Beth and her team are helping children emerge from crisis and return to their homes and communities with the support they need to be successful.

Patty feels that providing on-site medical assessment is an important element to promote a child’s healing.

“We believe that if a child is not physically healthy, this will affect their mental health,” she said. “Providing basic nursing care truly makes a difference to their well being.”

Before a child leaves the program, professionals in Crisis Psychiatric Care make sure that a firm support system is in place for families that allows the children to ease back into the community. Along with mental health resources, the nurses work with families to connect with necessary follow-up care such as visiting a primary care doctor. Coordinating these tools, skills and resources gives children the best chance at thriving in their own homes, schools and communities. ✨



*JFR Foundation Trustees (L to R): Shirley Rippey, Robin Holbomb, Jack McMurchie, Jan Dimick, Jeff Rippey and James Rippey*

### Support for Crisis Psychiatric Care

The JFR Foundation has long been a significant supporter of Crisis Psychiatric Care. In fact, Jim and Shirley Rippey generously supported the campaign to build the current facility 14 years ago.

Created in 1993 to support the Rippey’s philanthropic interests in education, human services and youth development, the foundation has supported nonprofits throughout Oregon. It was also the recipient of the Outstanding Foundation Support Award at Kerr’s 103rd Annual Meeting.

The Collins Foundation and the City of Gresham’s Community Development Block Grant program are also helping fund facility improvements such as new washers and dryers, playground equipment, carpet and storage, as well as safety and security upgrades.

Major support for Crisis Psychiatric Care also includes Kaiser Permanente, Morgan Stanley, PacificSource Health Plans, the Rose E. Tucker Charitable Trust, Julia Sims, The Swigert Foundation, Union Pacific Foundation and the Wessinger Foundation.



## NEWS & UPDATES

### Spotlight on Kerr: Generosity Under the Big Top

More than 300 guests enjoyed the sights, sounds and tastes of an old-fashioned carnival at the annual Spotlight on Kerr gala. The Winter Carnival on February 18 featured games, sweet treats and a live auction. Thanks to the planning committee, generous sponsors and other Kerr Angels, more than \$216,000 was raised for essential programs and services. Thank you to all who attended and volunteered! [View photos at AlbertinaKerr.org](http://AlbertinaKerr.org).

**Platinum Sponsor:** Precision Castparts Corp.  
**Gold Sponsors:** Ater Wynne LLP, CareOregon, Concepts in Community Living & JFR Foundation, Kaiser Permanente, Providence Health & Services – Oregon Region, Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon, Union Bank. **Silver Sponsors:** Acme Business Consulting LLC, Black Helterline LLP & McDonald Jacobs PC, Comcast, CresaPartners – Portland, Gary McGee & Co., Howard S. Wright, Integra Telecom, Inc., Mercer Health and Benefits, Perkins & Co., Portland Trail Blazers, Swagelok Northwest (US), Thrasher Family/Compli, U.S. Bank, David L. Wilson, DMD, PC.



*Spotlight on Kerr guests (L to R): Lynn Kelly, Kirsten Chambers, Susan Ford and Jen Tate.*

## GET INVOLVED

### Let Your Voice be Heard

Oregon’s governor and state legislators are currently faced with making difficult decisions about funding for essential services for people with developmental disabilities and mental health challenges. Let them know what YOU think is important and why these services matter.

### Remember 26! Give to Albertina Kerr on Your Tax Return

This year, doing your taxes can make a difference in the lives of local kids, families and adults. Help support Albertina Kerr’s vital community services by donating all or part of your tax refund through Oregon Charitable Checkoff. Spread the word to your friends and family: Just fill in the number 26 in the charitable giving section.

*Learn more about how to make a donation or advocate on behalf of the people served by Albertina Kerr at [AlbertinaKerr.org](http://AlbertinaKerr.org).*

### 13th Annual Race for the Roses on April 3

Get your wings at this year’s Race for the Roses half-marathon, 10k and 5k. Invite your friends and family to join you to enjoy Portland’s most vibrant sights and breathtaking views—while supporting Albertina Kerr’s work in the community. Register today! Entry fee prices increase on March 22. *For more information or to volunteer at the event, visit [Race4theRoses.org](http://Race4theRoses.org).*