



January 2018



*Over 1,200 Kids Had a Very Happy Holiday
Thanks to Our Generous Donors!*

December's Holiday Giving Campaign was a great success

Over 50 corporate and individual donors made the season bright for more than 1,200

children and youth in Morrison programs this year. A very enthusiastic thank you to everyone who participated!

Get to Know Morrison

Featured Staff: Patricia Weekley

January's featured Morrison staff member is Equity, Inclusion, and Sanctuary Director Patricia Weekley. Patricia originally hails from Missouri and brings over 25 years of racial and social justice advocacy to her relatively new role at Morrison. Although she comes from a business background and is new to nonprofits, Patricia is using her vast experience to re-imagine our equity and inclusion efforts. Her vision is to refocus the department on trauma-informed and anti-racist models with the goal of achieving equitable outcomes for our staff and our clients.



Patricia is happy to talk to people in the community about the important work that Morrison does and uses every opportunity to provide information about Morrison's services. She has been with Morrison for just over 8 months so she also uses these conversations to test and deepen her knowledge of what Morrison has to offer.

Patricia has studied social justice movements for decades and has observed numerous changes in the systemic approach to equity, from transactional to transformational. She is inspired by the shifting focus from diversity to equity and on outcomes instead of simple compliance with mandated workplace diversity campaigns. This shift in perspective helps give people, especially in dominant culture, a lens to see inequalities that they may not be positioned to see and then take steps to correct it. Patricia fully understands that equity work is a huge undertaking and celebrates the little successes that add up to big changes.

Patricia, like the rest of Morrison's employees, is concerned with clinical outcomes for the children, youth, and families in our programs. Despite not having a clinical mental health background, her work has a huge impact on those outcomes. For example, a priority of hers is to ensure that Morrison's staff is reflective of the populations we serve because concordance, or a "match" between the identities of clinician and client, is critically important to successful treatment.

Patricia is happiest when she is helping, so in addition to her important job at Morrison, she spends her spare time as a dedicated board member of Constructing Hope and as a volunteer in our community. As the head of Morrison's Sanctuary Model implementation, she is also committed to self care and being "stress-free," so she unwinds by dabbling in interior decorating and enjoying small theatre and jazz performances.

Thank you, Patricia, for your commitment to equity and inclusion at Morrison and we look forward to the positive impact you will have on our organization and the community we serve.



On March 14, 2018, we will host our 5th Annual [Silver Linings Luncheon](#) in the Governor Ballroom at the Historic Sentinel Hotel in downtown Portland. More than 300 of our city's most prominent business and community leaders will gather to celebrate the programs and services Morrison Child and Family Services provides.

Silver Linings is an opportunity to increase public awareness of Morrison's community impact. It is also a chance to visit our program gallery and to meet the staff who work directly with the children and families we proudly serve. Every year, we present a video to share a behind-the-scenes view of one of our programs. This year, we highlight our [SAGE Youth Residential program](#).

To learn more about how your company can sponsor our event or how to join us as a guest, please contact Deanna Kavanaugh at 503-258-4244 or deanna.kavanaugh@morrisonkids.org.

Carl Morison Legacy Society

Morrison Invites You to Learn More About Planned Giving

To sustain Morrison's impact on our communities, we invite our supporters to consider a planned gift to Morrison by becoming a member of the [Carl Morison Legacy Society](#). Including a gift to us in your will, living trust, or an account designation is a flexible donation option that allows you to make an impact. The promise of a future gift to Morrison will cost you nothing now, but it can make a huge difference to the children, youth, and families who will be served by Morrison programs in the future. You can help the next generation thrive.



Contact Kinsey Wright at kinsey.wright@morrisonkids.org to learn more about how you can support Morrison Child and Family Services with a Planned Gift.

Sustainability Tip of the Month

Start January Sustainably

A new year is the perfect time to set goals that will shape the upcoming year. Unfortunately, most New Year's resolutions are long forgotten by February. The best way to ensure that resolutions transform from intentions to actions is to be specific, have a timeline, and to hold yourself accountable. People often use New Years resolutions to focus on their health, but this year we encourage you to consider the health of the planet, too!



To celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday on January 15th, this month's sustainability tips are inspired by the important intersection of equity and sustainability. Equity is when everyone has access to the opportunities necessary to satisfy their essential needs, advance their well-being, and achieve their full potential. Equity is essentially about fairness. In a sustainability context, this means fair access to resources for present and future generations. It also means fair protection from risk.

Historically, people from marginalized and under-served communities are disproportionately impacted by climate change, drought, pollution, and more. A 1987 report entitled *Toxic Wastes and Race in the United States* showed that race was "the single most important factor in determining where toxic waste facilities were sited in the United States." This report and related activism led to the creation of the term Environmental Justice, a movement that focuses on the crucial juncture between sustainability and equity. Environmental justice is the struggle for a healthy and clean environment for everyone.

To start your New Year sustainably with results that will last all year long, here are some ideas that require short-term effort but have long-term results:

1. Energize your new year with sustainable power: many utilities offer renewable energy options at a reasonable cost.
2. Make a grocery list and stick to it to reduce over-spending and food waste.
3. Focus on quality over quantity: "fast fashion" is among the most wasteful and resource-intensive

industries, so when outfitting your family this year, consider clothes that will stand the test of time, instead of unraveling by next season. Remember the three Rs: reduce (buy fewer, more durable clothes), reuse (shop at thrift stores or clothing exchanges), and recycle (donate rather than trash your old clothes).

4. Reduce your waste: Many cities offer the option to reduce the size of your curbside garbage receptacle. Getting a smaller trashcan reminds people to reduce, reuse, recycle, and compost before tossing items into the garbage bin.
5. Foster empathy: an easy way to make sustainability and equity a reality is to imagine the people and places impacted by our lifestyle choices. Who made the item you are purchasing? How far did it travel? Is there a greener option?

As Dr. King said, "We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied into a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly...We aren't going to have peace on Earth until we recognize this basic fact of the interrelated structure of all reality."

[Donate Now](#)

Contact

[Media Contact](#)
[Set an Appointment](#)

Stay Connected



[Join our mailing list.](#)

Our Mission

At Morrison Child and Family Services, we partner with families and communities to provide effective and responsive services for children and youth coping with adversity and trauma.

[2016 Annual Report](#)
[Board of Directors](#)
[History](#)
[Programs](#)
[Jobs/Internships](#)