A Letter From Art Koebel,
Executive Director of Home Life

Integration, diversity and a highly supportive neighborhood is what the Home Life CoHo House is all about. This Corvallis CoHo project will be the first in the nation to be ADA wheelchair accessible and include individuals with developmental disabilities in every aspect of the community. Home Life clients who live in CoHo will be active decision makers in neighborhood events and will have true integration into all levels of community living.

Since 1972 Home Life has been a leader in Corvallis by providing safe and community-integrated living for adults with developmental disabilities. Though Home Life currently serves over 40 adults, there is still a great need for housing and housing supports. In Benton County alone there are 70 adults with developmental disabilities on a five-year waiting list in need of housing services. In some cases, elderly parents pass away before permanent living arrangements can be made for the family member with disabilities. This need drives us to ask for your help to build the Home Life CoHo House.

Many people and organizations have already collaborated on this project, including the Corvallis Cohousing Community (or CoHo), City of Corvallis, Benton County, community leaders, parents, volunteers and more. The Home Life CoHo House represents a long-time passion and commitment to providing integrated, affordable housing for our most vulnerable citizens.

I am deeply grateful for the leadership and vision of the Home Life board of directors. Their encouragement, dedication and commitment will help make this home a reality. Home Life has been the pioneer in providing quality living arrangements for individuals with developmental disabilities for the last 33 years. Please join us in making the Home Life CoHo House something of which we can all be proud.

Sincerely,

Art Koebel

The Home Life CoHo House is part of an international movement to create a stronger sense of community and improve each resident's quality of life through collaboration and cooperation.

The Home Life CoHo House will provide community integration for adults with developmental disabilities, where they will be able to enjoy active, productive, and independent lives.

Home Life programs and services provide opportunities for each person to be a part of the same valued life experiences other citizens know.

For more information on the Corvallis CoHo project visit www.cohousing-corvallis.com
Our Next House

Location:
The Home Life CoHo House will be one of the 33 houses in the Corvallis Cohousing community on 6.8 acres near the corner of SE Crystal Lake Drive and Alexander Drive.

Size:
1,400 square foot house with 4 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. This house and the showers will be ADA accessible.

Amenities:
Full kitchen, laundry room, and patio or garden area. The CoHo community offers a common house for an occasional group meal and many social interaction opportunities.

Staffing:
There will be a full-time, live-in roommate and paid support staff, both employed by Home Life.

Fee:
Residents will pay a fee, based on income, to cover utilities, support services and maintenance.

Cost:
The fund raising goal is $420,000, which includes the cost of the house, furnishings, maintenance, and a wheelchair-accessible van.
Dear Home Life Clients, Staff, and Parents:

As the President of the Home Life’s Board of Directors, and on behalf of the board, I want to take this opportunity to bring you up to date on our progress in hiring a new Executive Director. As many of you know, Art Koebel is retiring after 20 years of dedicated service to Home Life, and it is the board’s responsibility to hire a replacement.

In March, the Executive Director position will be advertised in *The Oregonian* newspaper, on the Oregon State employment website, and on Monster.com. A committee of board members and other community leaders will review applications in late March and invite the best applicants for interviews. The hope is to conduct interviews in early April and make an offer to the best applicant by late April or early May.

This change in leadership is of personal interest to all of us, and our goal is to make this transition with as little disruption as possible. Home Life’s greatest strength is our excellent and dedicated staff, and we are committed to making sure our next Executive Director is competent, compassionate and compatible with staff and clients. I will continue to give you updates throughout the hiring process, and thank you for all that you do.

Sincerely,

Wayne Lystra
President, Home Life Board of Directors
Greetings from the Executive Director:

I hope this newsletter finds you well rested and excited about all the Spring activity going on all around us. This Springtime is busy for all of us around Home Life. As you will see in other parts of this newsletter, the Home Life CoHo House Project is in full swing. We are working hard to raise $420,000 to build a home, furnish it, and purchase a wheelchair-equipped van for four new clients. The home is part of the Co-Housing project that is being built in South Corvallis and we are excited to be part of such a warm, friendly, and integrated neighborhood. Look for more details inside this edition of the Newsletter.

You should know that we have also recently acquired another house, located at 2740 NW Hayes Street. The home was donated to us by the Robinson family. Their son, Mat, lives there and we envision two or three other people living there as well. The house is beautiful and the backyard gorgeous. We are very appreciative to the Robinsons for their generous donation.

Last but not least, your Executive Director is stepping down after 20 years in this position. It has been exciting to see so many of the clients grow, live, and learn on this journey of life. Home Life is quite different since I arrived back in 1984. We’ve had some ups and downs over the years, but managed to stay true to our mission of supporting individuals to enjoy active, productive, and independent lives. I’ll miss all of you, and thanks for all the memories.

More Volunteer Opportunities

Telephone Dates

Home Life has created a new idea for volunteers: telephone dates. This will allow clients to receive support over the telephone on a more regular basis, and gives volunteers the chance to offer their time and energy in a less time-consuming fashion. Volunteers can arrange to be callers at any time their schedule allows. We ask that volunteers be familiar with the client with whom they speak, and that they record the date, time, length, and topics of conversation on tracking sheets. Extra tracking sheets are in an envelope on the 25th Street carport bulletin board. If you are interested, please contact Christine Newell at (541) 753-9015.

Spring Fitness Class

Sessions will begin on April 5, 2005. They are held at Corvallis Fitness Center from 3:15 p.m. to 4:15 p.m., and cost $1. One-on-one and group assistants are needed to help clients enjoy stair stepping, weight lifting, and stretching. If interested, contact Christine Newell at (541) 753-9015.

Swimming Buddies: The Duplex is looking for one or two volunteers to accompany three clients to the Osborn Aquatic Center. Two, one-time swim passes are available.

Nutritionist, Group Educator: Our Supported Living staff would like to be educated on the low glycemic diets, control and treatment of diabetes, and basic nutrition. We’re looking for a grad student or senior in nutrition or the health field who would be willing to teach a one-time class on these topics.

Summer Intern, Group Work: Mumford House is seeking an intern for the summer who would serve as a part-time Community Transition Specialist (CTS). Duties would include working with the clients in the community. Valid driver’s license required.

Home Life ladies really enjoy their monthly tea parties, organized by volunteers Milena Hermansky and Alison Petti
Special Thanks!

Peer Health Advocates — Home Life is greatly appreciative of OSU’s Peer Health Advocates for choosing to help us through a service learning project. PHA and Home Life have designed a disaster preparedness handbook for Home Life to keep at each site. Thank you so much, PHA, for the hard work and dedication that you have contributed over the past term!

Harding School — Students from Harding School deserve a showering of thanks for their hard work at Home Life’s Hayes Street house. Participants include Kira Altendorf, Theo Hanson, Richard Rudolf, Michael Shanks, and Austin Warren. Due to their efforts, the once spectacular garden will soon be looking at it once did. The students will be working every week until the end of the year.

Beta Alpha Psi — On behalf of the Home Life board, clients, and staff, we would like to thank OSU's Beta Alpha Psi accounting fraternity for the wonderful work they did at the Duplex. Thanks to Home Life volunteers and this group, the yard is now raked, edged, weeded, and generally well groomed. Those accounting students really know how to get work done! Thank you Becky Thomas, service director!

Volunteer Appreciation
The following individuals are Home Life volunteers who have helped us with our socials, special events, one-on-one client development, Bowling Buddies, fitness class, computer system, website, and newsletter. Thank you very much, volunteers!

Brent Baker
Jeff Benes
Jayme Bolding
Ralph Busby
Tara Carlson
Allison Carnahan
Ryan Einbender
Nylah Golden
Erinne Goodell
Carla Jean Hall
Milena Hermansky
Stephanie Hoyt
Amanda Johnson
Nathan Koenigsknecht
JoAnne Machin

Nathan Miller
Lynn Mori
Kyle Nemes
Lucy Nguyen
Cecilia Peters
Lloyd Peterson
Alison Petti
Sarah Rajnus
Julia Reays
Arielle Reid
Ted Richardson
Robin Silbernagel
Bob Sinclair
Yutaka Uchiya
Pam Wegner

Central Linn School District will be collaborating with Home Life in a service learning project to help high school science students learn by teaching Home Life clients about basic science in a garden setting. We’re looking forward to a day of fun in mid-April.

Tsunami Relief — Home Life’s own volunteer, JoAnne Machin, ventured across the ocean to help tsunami survivors with the Navy’s Mercy Corps on the United States Nursing Ship (USNS) for Project Hope this February to offer her skills as an experienced OR nurse. We are extremely proud of JoAnne, and hope the experience was even better than she’d expected. Thank you, JoAnne!!

Meet TB

At 23, TB is one of Home Life’s youngest and newest clients. He moved into the Duplex last year and lives with roommates E. and A. TB is full of energy and imagination, and there are times when staff have trouble keeping up. TB is very nice and always thinks very hard about any question asked of him.

TB is a very agreeable guy who enjoys swimming, playing pool, sports in general, and his stuffed animals. His favorite color is blue, and his room reflects this, as well as his love for Harry Potter illustrations. TB goes out for men’s group with the Supported Living clients and has made friends there. He says he enjoys “all the girls” at the Duplex, which means not only C. and L., but also the female Duplex staff. TB has grown especially close to L. since he moved in, but he also likes his roommates. “E. and A. are pretty quiet,” he said.

TB works at Colorwheel Gardens, where he goes out with a landscaping crew or works in the greenhouse, depending on what he’s scheduled for. He usually has somewhere to go when work is through — his usual activities include basketball practice for the Special Olympics team, men’s group on Mondays, and watching belly dancing on Wednesdays. He says he also enjoys going out to eat, and he will sometimes go out with C. and L. TB went to Disneyland near the end of 2004 and says he hopes to go back.
Program News and Updates

Supported Living
In the last few years we’ve gotten used to seeing K. driving around town in his old yellow Mustang. He drove it everywhere and the color was hard to miss. But now he has finally acquired a long-desired new car. It’s a ’99 gray Pontiac Grand Am. K. is very happy with it; unlike the old car, his Pontiac is actually able to pass other cars on the freeway!

As usual, Supported Living clients and staff have been very busy. There are several outings each week, and recently we have taken trips to see OSU basketball and wrestling. We have many more trips planned for the summer and fall.

In the coming months Supported Living will be restructuring. There are two reasons for this: we want to offer our existing clients the best services possible, and we want to expand the private pay program, where we work with under-served clients who are still on the county’s wait list for services.

Duplex
Erin Bowers, the Program Coordinator at the Duplex for two years, left to take a job as a case worker in Linn County. We will miss her, but we know her talents are being put to good use in her new position. Joelle Rodriguez, Assistant Program Coordinator, has also left. Jaime Mori, formerly a 24-hour staff person at 25th Street, is currently the Acting Program Coordinator and is doing a fine job during this transition period.

And while we’re on the subject of change, C. has made some changes lately as well. If you’ve seen her lately, you may have noticed her new hair color. She has garnered compliments everywhere she has gone, and the general consensus is that she makes a good redhead.

25th Street House
Day of Caring is coming . . . The clients and staff hope to get a little bit of color into the house this coming Day of Caring (April 29) as well as some outdoor yard work completed. We’d like to thank United Way and the volunteers for always making this a successful event.

Hikes, Picnics & Things. . . With the nice weather on the horizon, our folks have been getting out with the CTS and going on hikes around Bald Hill and Silver Creek Falls. Afterwards, these activities tend to lead to a picnic in the area. We are really enjoying the fresh air and exercise.

Recently our clients went to a chicken farm in Junction City where they saw 35,000 baby chicks. No one had experienced this before and it seemed like MD had the best time running down the aisles laughing and talking.

Volunteers . . . We want to thank all of the volunteers who have been coming to 25th Street and being great friends to our clients. Everyone has been getting out in the community and really building friendships. Thank you!

Mumford House
This will be a summer of change at Mumford House, as we will build a new office, get a much needed paint job, re-shingle part of the roof, and spruce up the back yard a bit. We will also be going on several outings and everyone will be going to camp again.

The new office, which will be located on what is now a small portion of the back porch, will house the Services Coordinator. This is a new position at Mumford that is being funded through a HUD grant we obtained. The Services Coordinator will work with outside agencies to get our clients into the community more and to provide them with services they need. The Services Coordinator will work with Mumford clients for the most part, but will work with all Home Life clients on an as-needed basis.

We are having a very good Spring so far, thanks in large part to our volunteers. Milena and Allison, both OSU students, have done a fantastic job working with L. and J. J is now going on walks with a new volunteer. And on the United Way’s Day of Caring, coming up on April 29, volunteers will provide a lot of services for us, including painting our huge living room. They do a great job every year and we are very thankful for them.
**Planned Giving**

Home Life has been able to serve the developmentally disabled population in Benton County for over 30 years because of generous donations from our supporters. The government funding we receive is not enough to cover all the basic services we offer, and we look to donations, grants, and corporate gifts to make up the difference. Each year we try to raise about $15,000 through donations.

There are many good reasons to consider giving to Home Life. Our staff work hard to ensure our clients have access to all the community resources everyone else does, and we schedule numerous outings for those who want to participate. We do our best to help our clients live in an environment where they can actively participate in society and be happy.

Home Life meets or exceeds all the state requirements for licensure, and over the years we have earned a reputation as one of the best quality programs for developmentally disabled adults in the state. State and county officials review every aspect of Home Life every two years; they review our financial accounting procedures as well as issues surrounding client care. We have always received excellent comments, and any minor problems that are noted are quickly corrected.

Our supporters are very valuable to us and if you choose to give to Home Life, we want you to be aware of the most advantageous ways of doing so. Cash donations are always appreciated, but giving in other ways could help you maximize tax breaks to your advantage. Here are some options:

- **Appreciated Stocks, Bonds, Mutual Funds, or Real Property**
  When you donate any of these to Home Life you will avoid capital gains tax as well as receiving the tax deduction you are entitled to with any charitable gift. And as a charity, Home Life will not have to pay a capital gains tax, either.

- **Insurance Policy, IRA, or Retirement Plan Beneficiary**
  These can be designated to Home Life. If Home Life owns the policy, it will not be subject to inheritance tax when you pass on.

- **Charitable Remainder or Lead Trusts**
  You can use cash, appreciated stocks or property to fund trusts that will provide a designated income for you and/or your loved ones. Trusts can be structured for either an immediate or a deferred payment over a number of years. Home Life then receives either the balance of the trust or initial payments upon completion of the trust.

- **Charitable Bequest in your Will**
  You may name Home Life to receive a bequest through your Will. This positively affects the inheritance taxes on your estate. You can choose to state a specific gift amount, provide a percentage, or assign the remainder of your estate.

Please remember that if you choose to give using one of these methods, it is important to first discuss the matter with your legal and financial representatives to determine how your gift will impact you specifically.

Our full legal name is Home Life, Inc. and our tax ID number is 23-7230042. If you have questions or would like to make a gift, please contact Art Koebel, Executive Director, at koebel@peak.org or (541) 753-9015.

### Board of Directors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wayne Lystra</td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob Tatum</td>
<td>Vice President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joel Howe</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Matzke</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erik Ohlen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Pullen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terry Wadlow</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben Wald</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pam Wald</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich Wittrup</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Koebel</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ray Shimabuku</td>
<td>Program Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamie Johnson</td>
<td>Staff Development Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonnie Ellis</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
News from Home Life

Bowling Buddies

Bowling Buddies will be held on Saturdays from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at HIGHLAND BOWL on 9th Street. Volunteers should sign up with Christine at (541) 753-9015. Volunteers can arrange to assist as their weekend schedules allow.

Home Life Wish Lists

25th Street House
- 14"-Blade Ceiling Fans
- Kitchen Table which seats 4-6
- Bookshelf – 7 ft. tall, for the staff office
- Carpet and Padding

Mumford House
- 4-Drawer Dresser
- Pillows
- Large Crockpot
- Fill Dirt (for the back yard)
- Lawn Mower
- Deck Chairs
- Assorted Notebooks

Supported Living
- Recliner
- Bookcase or netting to hold stuffed animals
- Large-sized raincoat, shorts, and pants for men & women

Duplex
- New American Flag (standard size)
- Screen Door
- Rocking Chair

If needed, we can usually have larger items picked up. Please call (541) 753-9015 to make arrangements.

Home Life assists adults with developmental disabilities to enjoy active, productive, and independent lives.