



## Storytelling Project – Volunteer Opportunity

### **Description:**

Community Partners for Affordable Housing is a nonprofit developer who is renovating the Joyce in downtown Portland, which will provide 66 units of permanent supportive housing. As part of this development, we are hoping to share stories from past residents of this historic property when it operated as the Joyce Hotel.

Having historic significance, The Joyce Hotel has always been a place where those who had nowhere left to go could stay. When no other landlord would rent to you, there was always The Joyce. Some residents were ex-cons who couldn't find a place to live, some were disabled or in need of mental health services. Located in the heart of the LGBTQ community of Portland, there were folks there who identified as transgender before the word was well known and ostracized because of who they were, and during the AIDS crisis of the 80s and 90s, some gay men with end-stage AIDS found a home there when every other place closed their doors out of fear. It was not where you went, but it's where you ended up; either way, it was home.

As we prepare to reopen the Joyce, we want to highlight stories from the people who previously lived there. This is an unpaid volunteer opportunity.

Responsibilities include:

- Running an ad in Street Roots to find past Joyce Hotel residents
- Setting up interview times
- Collecting stories
- Taking pictures, if amenable to people
- Compiling stories and pictures into a printed mini-book for distribution at The Joyce grand opening

Desired skills and knowledge:

- An interest in storytelling
- A willingness to comply with ethical storytelling best practices
- Comfort around people experiencing homelessness or formerly homeless
- Familiarity with design / illustration programs

Sharing stories from past residents will highlight the significance of The Joyce in providing people with a place to call home, where people can get off the streets, and start to rebuild their lives.

The volunteer will be supported by CPAH's Communications Manager and will work remotely. The project will start this fall and wrap up by April 2023.

Background check is required. You must be at least 18 years of age or older to participate in this opportunity. Open until filled.

To apply, email [info@cpahoregon.org](mailto:info@cpahoregon.org) with your interest and any relevant experience and skills.

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