



BMCC PENDLETON

2411 NW Carden Ave. ♦ PO Box 100 ♦ Pendleton, OR 97801  
(541) 276-1260 ♦ [www.bluecc.edu](http://www.bluecc.edu)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## BMCC AmeriCorps VISTA Warming Station Project a Success

Pendleton, Ore. – The Pendleton Warming Station is now a little warmer thanks to AmeriCorps VISTA employees Terri Ehrlicher-Clark and Veenah Schultz and many generous donors including individuals from the Pendleton community, staff and students at BMCC, and businesses like Grocery Outlet and Safeway who not only provided product donations but shared their locations as donation drop off sites and project visibility.

The AmeriCorps VISTA Warming Station Project goal was to collect donations to benefit at least 25 homeless individuals who will visit the Pendleton Warming Station when it opens this season. Running from October 1-22, 2016, the following donations were collected and delivered to the Warming Station: bedding in the form of pillows, pillow protectors and sleeping bags, warm clothing like coats, hats, socks, boots, shoes, toiletry items and snacks.

Additionally, the project will solicit feedback from those who visit the Warming Station this season through a survey. Questions will ask how many times have they visited the Station, how the Warming Station has helped them, what other service points do they feel would be helpful, and would they be willing to share the story of their circumstances. The feedback from this survey will help both the warming station and the project organizers to better understand the needs of the community.

What's next? BMCC's AmeriCorps VISTA staff hopes that this event will become an annual event. Warming Station Director, Chris Clemens, expressed appreciation of the donations and attention. The Warming Station is currently located at 116 SE 12th St, Pendleton. It can currently accommodate 13-17 guests per night. However, they are preparing to move to a new location, previously the home of the Pioneer Relief Nursery at 715 SE Court in Pendleton. This new location will be bigger, providing more space for guests. The new location will, hopefully, have a shower, more warm places to sleep and more space to provide each with a small snack. Free meals are provided by other organizations in the Pendleton community including the Salvation Army and the Methodist Church. These are provided throughout the year.

**BMCC BAKER COUNTY**  
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The Warming Station is open to serve from November to March when temperatures dip below 32 degrees. Last season the shelter had 534 visitors. And over 2000 hours of volunteer time was invested. It takes a minimum of five people to operate the shelter. All who work at the warming shelter are volunteers. For more information about the Warming Station, visit their website at <http://www.n2npendleton.org/>

To learn more about the BMCC AmeriCorps VISTA project contact Terri Clark at [teclark@bluecc.edu](mailto:teclark@bluecc.edu) or Veenah Schultz at [vschultz@bluecc.edu](mailto:vschultz@bluecc.edu). Photos are included.



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