“It’s always been a goal to show in this gallery,” said one artist. Community members came together to support FFLC. Several works of art by 28 artists will be on display at White Lotus Gallery in Eugene. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of art will go to the creation of this show. Many thanks to White Lotus Gallery. The gallery is open Tuesday through Sunday. The art can also be viewed at www.wlotus.com/food-is.

An Innovative Approach to Affordable Housing

Many people in Lane County spend 30% to 50% of their limited incomes on housing. That leaves little money left for groceries. A lack of affordable housing is one reason people turn to FFLC for help with food.

Emerald Village is a local nonprofit that creates self-managed communities of low-cost tiny homes for people in need of housing. Emerald Village in Eugene is one of five projects. The site opened in 2018 with 22 units on just over one acre. Each unique home includes sleeping and living space, a kitchenette and a bathroom. Emerald Village provides safe and stable housing for very low-income people as well as a space in which people can shape their housing in an empowered and collaborative way.

We met Chris in January. One of the first residents, he pays $414 a month. That includes rent, utilities and a parking space. Before Emerald Village, Chris lived in Opportunity Village — another Squaresville project. Before that he lived in his car:

“They say you’re only one paycheck away from needing help. I used to hear that pinching way.” Chris said. “There is no such thing as the Other. We’re not talking take-care-of. We’re talking responsibility. You could put a bunch of people in tents and bring them home every day and you could call it a village. But it’s really a village when it’s just like a neighborhood.”

Emerald Village is one of more than 100 community partners that FFLC supports to meet its mission. FFLC Partner Agency Services Manager Shannon Dennehy works closely with residents to make sure they get the food and other supplies they need. The site receives about 1,500 pounds of food and other supplies from FFLC each month:

“We love to see program flourish when they are run by the residents,” Shannon said. “It’s really in the spirit of FFLC’s mission to engage the community in creating what they need. We want to see people choose the food that are meaningful and nourishing to them.”

To learn more about the community partners we work with to distribute food and to make a gift today, go to www.foodforlanecounty.org/donate.

Buy Tickets Now For Chefs’ Night Out, April 3 at the Lane Events Center

Join us at the Lane Events Center on Monday, April 3, for Chef’s Night Out, presented by King Estate Winery. Enjoy delicious food and drink from some of Lane County’s finest restaurants, breweries, wineries, coffee houses and distilleries.

General Admission tickets are $45. Purchase VIP Early Entrance tickets for $75 or RF0 tickets for $150 if you’d like to get in even earlier than General Admission ticket holders. Thanks to your ticket purchase and our generous sponsors, proceeds from Chef’s Night Out go directly to our mission of creating a community of support and food security.

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In February, more than a hundred food secured their health by donating to Eugene Disc Golf Club’s 2023 fundraiser. Thank you to Eugene Disc Golf, the players, and all who participated.

WHEN FOOD-SECURE HOMES MUST SPEND MORE ON FOOD, THEY HAVE LESS TO SPEND ON GOALS AND OBJECTIVES.

FFLC is also experiencing the impact of inflation. In addition to higher food costs, we are seeing increased expenses for staffing, shipping, and distributing food. We are also purchasing select food items to supplement the free food donations that we typically collect and distribute. For all those reasons, $1 now provides two meals.

The rising cost of food means that $1 now provides 2 meals. Thank you to those who are driving the funding towards food insecurity.

FFLC relies on food and fund donations from all sources. Thank you to those who are driving the funding towards food insecurity.

Ways to Donate

Thank you to KLCC and Kasey General Construction. On February 25, KLCC staff and KLCC supporters will be participating in the one-day fundraiser to cover breaking news at Lane Community College. With the help of generous donors and volunteers like you, FFLC and its community partners will respond to the growing demand for food. We are also purchasing select food items to supplement the free food donations that we typically collect and distribute. For all those reasons, $1 now provides two meals.

The event raised a record $16,000 for FFLC, which included a matching gift of $8,000 from an anonymous donor and a $500 match from a local business. Thank you for your generous donation!

The Empty Bowls Sale is Friday, May 5, at The Market Alley at 5th Street Public Market, 150 Pearl St., Eugene. You’ll find an assortment of local, natural, vegan, and free from food items. Proceeds go to help local people, and we hope you’ll consider this ongoing support.

Thank you to all who turn to us for help.

FOOD FOR LANE COUNTY (541) 343-2822 dmwoodward@foodforlanecounty.org

770 Bailey Hill Road, Eugene, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The submission deadline is May 1. Questions? Please contact FFLC Events Coordinator Dawn Marie Woodward at (541) 343-2822 or dmwoodward@foodforlanecounty.org.

THE RISING COST OF FOOD MEANS THAT $1 NOW PROVIDES 2 MEALS.

The emphatic support of KLCC listeners and readers for FOOD For Lane County’s Vital Work is heartfelt and true, said KLCC General Manager Jim Borden. “Building community connections and raising awareness of important issues like food insecurity are central to KLCC’s mission. We’re grateful for this ongoing partnership.”

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