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Gary Schmidt
County Administrator:

Pacific NW Search and Rescue (PNWSAR) is currently working on replacing our 17-year-old light duty pickup with a search and rescue heavy-duty truck. This truck will be a critical upgrade to deploy resources, equipment and allow better communication with the team members; it holds a multitude of much needed essential equipment and is able to deliver those resources over rough terrain.

The total project cost is \$80,000. We have secured nearly half of this; we are requesting your donation of \$40,000. Combined with our other outstanding requests this will allow us to reach our goal prior to the worst of the season ahead.

‘When people need help they need it right now’

This is the driving principle for the Pacific Northwest Search and Rescue team (PNWSAR). An all volunteer, self funded, 501C3 non profit enterprise Over a hundred PNWSAR volunteers respond to calls for help from all over Oregon and beyond if needed for the past three decades. Our mission is dedicated to saving lives by providing search and rescue assistance for people at no cost to anyone.

We provide ground search teams, water rescues and other resources to the official agencies responsible for search and rescue activities in our region. We are on call 24 hours a day and 365 days a year. We respond quickly when called by a Sheriff Office at any time, day or night, and in challenging weather and terrain. When you get lost in Clackamas County’s wilderness, we are the people that come find you.

Often times this is at grave personal risk, through extremely volatile weather and dangerous terrain, and at times takes multiple days in the wilderness to reach the person(s) in need.

We focus our training on the development and maintenance of wilderness navigation, search techniques, patient evacuation, and survival skills. All field operations volunteers are trained to exceed the Oregon State Sheriffs’ Association search and rescue certification standards. We have a mountain bike team, swift water teams, embedded FAA-licensed search drone pilots, and certified rope rescue technicians to augment our ground searches when needed. We also train to develop skills that will be utilized in command post and base camp functions during a SAR incident.

For over 30 years our specialty is finding, treating and transporting patients over any terrain, on or off trail, day or night. We use our specialty teams trained to respond to any mission: drones, atv's, mountain bike, trail runners and even psychological first aid. In extremely difficult locations we call out our swift water and technical high angle rope teams. Clackamas County has extremely

rugged mountainous terrain made more difficult from the wildfires, wind storms and flooding that has happened throughout the years.

PNWSAR often can face challenges such as having more than one search and rescue going on at the same time or hiking 10-20 miles in any type of weather, which may require rescuers to camp in harsh conditions overnight. Mobility of the equipment is essential

Our team is headquartered in Clackamas County, PNWSAR is a non-profit all volunteer organization. We rely entirely on donations and grants for our funding. 100% of our funding is for rescue operations, equipment, training and certification. Our individual rescuers pay for our own gear, food, gas and SAR equipment.

A donation from Clackamas County of \$40,000 would help us finalize our efforts to obtain this vital equipment so we may serve the county and the pacific northwest safely and stay focused on saving lives.

Below is a link to our video brochure featuring our swift water team in action.

https://youtu.be/_hYgw0ME7w

Thank you for your previous support of Search and Rescue. It has made a world of difference for us.

Sheri Magallen