Garage of Blessings
Needs Met, Lives Changed.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Garage of Blessings Purchases Permanent Home in Oak Harbor

Nearly three years of planning, community investment and generosity culminate in a new home for the grassroots nonprofit.

OAK HARBOR, WA — September 26, 2026 — Garage of Blessings has officially purchased a new building in Oak Harbor, marking a significant milestone for the 100% volunteer-operated nonprofit and establishing a permanent home for its work serving Whidbey Island neighbors. The new property, located at **1381 SW Barlow St., Oak Harbor, WA 98277**, was previously home to the beloved Island Pet Center, operated by the Knoll Family.

After years of serving the community from a leased location at 800 SE Barrington Drive, Garage of Blessings now has a permanent home of its own. The milestone is the culmination of nearly three years of planning, preparation and community support. During that time, Garage of Blessings leadership and supporters explored the organization's long-term facility needs, quietly built support for the vision and worked toward the financial foundation necessary to make a permanent home possible. Earlier this year, Garage of Blessings brought that vision to the broader community through a public capital campaign, inviting neighbors to invest in the organization's future. A significant catalyst in making the purchase possible was a **$200,000 contribution of equity from the Knoll Family**.

> "Every once in a while we are given a unique opportunity to do something so good, with a lasting legacy for the community. This is that unique opportunity. I am proud to support Garage of Blessings in this purchase of a permanent home. Their mission is sound. Their execution is proven. Their impact will only continue to grow."
>
> — **Brian Knoll**

Garage of Blessings expressed its gratitude not only to the Knoll Family, but also to the many neighbors who participated in the organization's capital campaign and helped create the financial foundation for the purchase.

> "This is truly a dream come true", said **TJ Harmon-Fisher, President of the Garage of Blessings' Board of Directors**. "Our organization has been seeking a permanent business location for many years, and thanks to the unwavering dedication of our volunteers and the generosity of our community… that vision is now a reality! We are deeply grateful to everyone who invested in the next chapter of the Garage of Blessings and for the faith expressed by our donors continuing financial support."

The organization also recognizes **North Whidbey Hearts and Hammers**, a local nonprofit that provides repairs and improvements for homeowners experiencing financial or physical challenges. The organization's skilled volunteers and supporters are generously assisting the Garage of Blessings by completing renovations needed to prepare the building for its new purpose.

No Immediate Change to Current Operations

While the purchase marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter, Garage of Blessings is not moving immediately. The organization will **continue normal operations at 800 SE Barrington Drive** while work is completed at the new property.

Garage of Blessings
Needs Met, Lives Changed.

There is currently no official move-in date. Garage of Blessings plans to share updates with the community as renovations progress and the transition takes shape. The organization is also planning a **Grand Opening celebration anticipated for late-October**, with details to be announced as plans are finalized.

> "There is still work to do before we open the doors at 1381 SW Barlow," said **[TJ Fisher, Board President],** and we'll be sharing the journey with the community on social media and our website, www.thegarageofblessings.com. We look forward to welcoming you into our new home on Grand Opening Day soon!"

Community members are encouraged to follow Garage of Blessings on Facebook and check their website for updates, behind-the-scenes progress, the eventual move-in announcement and Grand Opening information.

A Permanent Home for Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Garage of Blessings is a grassroots organization built by neighbors, for neighbors. Through its **Free Community Thrift Store** and **Pantry of Blessings**, the organization provides tangible resources, basic human care and hope to neighbors in need at no cost. The purchase of a permanent home provides greater stability for the organization and establishes a place from which Garage of Blessings can continue its mission for years to come.

Needs Met. Lives Changed.

About Garage of Blessings: Garage of Blessings is a 100% volunteer-operated nonprofit serving neighbors in need on Whidbey Island. The organization provides tangible resources, basic human care and hope through its Free Community Thrift Store, Pantry of Blessings, community blessing events and other programs and services.

Garage of Blessings is built by neighbors, for neighbors, with a commitment to providing needed resources with dignity and without barriers.

New permanent home:
Garage of Blessings
1381 SW Barlow St.
Oak Harbor, WA 98277

Current operations:
800 SE Barrington Drive
Oak Harbor, WA

Media Contact

TJ Fisher, Board President
The Garage of Blessings
Oak Harbor, Washington
garageofblessings@gmail.com
https://www.thegarageofblessings.com/