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This exhibit began as a way to document, through photographs and mixed media, a mural project at The Dining Room, FOOD for Lane County's downtown community meal site. It quickly grew to include photographs I have taken as marketing coordinator at FOOD for Lane County.

In my five years at FOOD for Lane County, I have met and photographed people who are hungry, have been hungry or are helping those who are hungry by donating time, money, food and more.

I hope these photographs reveal more about the subjects than their faces. In their eyes and their stories there is frustration, sadness and fear. But there is also hope, courage, joy and gratefulness.

I see and hear in the faces and stories of the people I've met what I see in all of us. That we are more alike than we are different. When we slow down enough to ask, "What makes you happy?" "What do you need?" "Where do you hurt?" and listens to the answers, we begin to understand each other. Understanding each other brings us closer to finding solutions to hunger and poverty in our community and in our world.

Hunger exists in every community in Lane County, but it is rarely seen, because hunger looks different here. The hungry are your neighbors and mine. They have jobs. They are retired. They are disabled. They are homeless adults and teens. They are military veterans. They are children. And every one of them deserves to be beautifully framed.

Thank you to the people pictured here and thousands more whose faces and circumstances too often go unseen. Thank you to FOOD for Lane County for its commitment to ending hunger in Lane County and to the thousands of people who support that mission. It is an honor to share these photos with you.

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