



**GENTLE  
LION**

**2018 Year End Annual  
Program Review**

# This is Only the Beginning!

In early 2018, Gentle Lion's doors opened with the audacious goal of redefining what it means to be a man. A year of learning, growing, and challenging both ourselves as well as our community has our team inspired more than ever. We are excited to review Gentle Lion's first year's accomplishments!

## 2018 MILESTONE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Introduction of Gentle Lion and Gentle Lioness **PROGRAMS**
- **HOSTING** and **SPONSORSHIP** of Gentle Lion luncheons, seminars, speaking engagements, and events
- **KEY PARTNERSHIPS** with the Central Oregon Veteran's Council, Pregnancy Resource Center, Cleansing Stream, the Bend Ministerial Association, Broken Shackles Prison Ministry, Teen/Adult Challenge, Christian Men's Network, Central Oregon Good Friday Prayer Breakfast, Celebrate Recovery and Home For Good Oregon
- Gentle Lion Deer Ridge Correctional Facility **CURRICULUM** roll out
- Gentle Lion – a **GIVING** organization!

## Letter from the Executive Director:

After nearly a decade as an approved treatment provider for the Deschutes County District Court System, God put on my heart to provide “pro-active” educational classes, prior to men getting in trouble and immersed in the judicial system, and to do it at no charge to the participants (**Gentle Lion team pictured above with inmates at Deer Ridge**). A tall order that stretched my faith, but one that a good Marine obeys, especially when the order comes from God. Little did I know the challenges we’d confront and the successes we’d enjoy as we addressed the “manhood crisis” in our culture would be as varied as the men we served. A primary tenant of Gentle Lion is to encourage men to find that best sustainable version of “self”; a man who understands his mantle of responsibility as a husband, father and co-parent.



It is personally rewarding for me, to witness men coming to our Bend headquarters (the ultimate man-cave), on their own volition and free will, searching for the right answers of what it really means to be a man. A man who knows how to cherish his wife, a man who knows that his greatest gift to his children is to allow them to bask in his unconditional love and protection. It is so powerful to see men linger after class, talk, bond and pray together - to become vulnerable and give real access to their motives and desires, to enter into wounds

and find healing in the experience of sharing those wounds with other men. Men who take 100% responsibility for their past mistakes, yet look to their future to receive Christ's forgiveness and love.

I know I don't have all the answers. I'm merely a flawed, broken man who's tasted the dirt. Yet I take my most sanguine comfort, knowing that God loves me and accepts me as I am. And I do so much better when I'm serving others.



We at Gentle Lion are a humble organization that has been blessed to have the opportunity to serve others, believing we can help stop the systemic problems that are being passed down from generation to generation.

As outlined in the 2018 Year-End Annual Synopsis, so much has been accomplished in such a short period of time. Yet we have so much more to look forward to, not only in 2019, but for years

to come. We certainly anticipate continuing this journey with all of our Gentle Lions and Lionesses, as collectively we create a community where every man, woman and child are treated with the dignity, love and respect that God intended for every individual He put on this earth.

May God Bless you. May peace be with you.

Semper Fidelis,

**Lamont D Boileau Jr. – (aka “Major B”)**

Executive Director

Gentle Lion

## **OUR VISION**

Gentle Lion is a faith based, pro-family, patriotic organization helping men, women and children live rich, full and meaningful lives. Our top priority is to help men understand their mantle of responsibility, creating better husbands, better fathers and stronger families. Gentle Lion is designed to address the *current fatherhood crisis in our nation.*

We focus on helping a man find the best sustainable version of himself. The residual benefit: a family who basks in his emotional strength, commitment and unconditional love.



2018 has been an exceptional year as Gentle Lion has moved from a vision into a brick and mortar ministry. Through weekly classes, luncheons, weekend seminars, speaking engagements and community gatherings, Gentle Lion is poised to challenge men and women to find the best version of themselves. We could not be more thrilled with the progress we've witnessed since the doors opened, February 15, 2018 for the initial Gentle Lion Launch! Since then, nearly 2500 participants have connected with the Gentle Lion experience.

Accomplishments for 2018 include the successful rollout of Gentle Lion's Tuesday morning Breakfast Burrito group as well as Wednesday afternoons Lunch Bunch. Courses have included Max Lucado's Anxious for Nothing, Anger Stress Management / Impulse Control, and the 33 Series, Authentic Manhood- providing a Biblical Definition of Manhood. We emphasize the importance of "breaking bread' with the guys. Our goal every week is to feed men physically, emotionally, and spiritually – giving them tools to walk out the door a little better than they walked in. We pride ourselves that attendance has steadily increased from week one to near capacity for every class offered. It speaks volumes when men, on their own free will, arrive at zero-6:30 on a cold, rainy winter morning to hear the Good News and take in doctrine, learning to be the fully-equipped man God intended them to be. Men are finding value, coming back every week, as they invite their friends to come join us (**seen at right**).



The Gentle Lioness program was released with great success. Guest speaker, Shelley Maurice-Maier launched two ladies 8 week courses: Beacon of Hope and Crossing the Healing Bridge (**pictured at right**). Both programs have challenged women to face painful pasts, reestablish trust in relationships, and recapture the richness of life and love. We are anticipating 2019 will bring Shelley's new



book as well as course material for a third Gentle Lioness series. Shelley's contribution to the Gentle Lioness program has proven to be invaluable.

Over the course of 2018, Gentle Lion has hosted a number of weekend seminars and community gatherings designed to diversify Gentle Lion



accessibility, increase awareness, and find synergy with community partners. We are very happy with the results. Christie Hill delivered an impactful weekend seminar – Journey to Intimacy, which dove deep into the Song of Solomon. Attendees explored an often misunderstood book of the Bible over the course of a weekend.

We have been diligent to create awareness of Gentle Lion through an online presence, by launching our website this year at [GentleLion.org](http://GentleLion.org). This site includes information details regarding Gentle Lion's vision and purpose, registration for events and classes, contact information and an ongoing blog that is regularly updated to share what has been happening in and through Gentle Lion. We have created Facebook and Instagram accounts, which engage in the social media platform.

The screenshot shows the homepage of GentleLion.org. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for App, Imported, Kiplinger - Personal, Champions, Call Team, Name Change, DSAI Search Form, Call Team Us Generic, Talent Dog (Living), DeSales County, and Wells Fargo Account. Below the navigation bar, there is a large banner with the text "BETTER HUSBANDS, BETTER FATHERS, STRONGER FAMILIES". To the right of the banner, there is a photo of a lion and a cub standing on a rocky outcrop. At the bottom of the page, there is a logo for "GENTLE LION" with a lion icon.

Additionally, we have created an email account, which services 250 subscribers, sending out periodic updates and announcements about classes, events and ministry opportunities. Our staff has spoken at community-wide events to include the **Good Friday Prayer Breakfast (at left)**, local churches, men's groups and the monthly Bend pastoral meeting. We have created a wide range of Gentle Lion products, including print materials, flyers, journals, coffee mugs, t-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, bracelets and hats. All of these channels of communication are ways to help spread the word about Gentle Lion in a relational, organic fashion.

Gentle Lion was proud to host 30 pastors from the Bend Ministerial Association, along with two Veterans luncheons. Gentle Lion also



presented at the Central Oregon Veterans Council on April 11<sup>th</sup> and participated at the Veterans Stand Down at the Deschutes County Veterans Expo in Redmond on May 9<sup>th</sup>. We are enthusiastic to continue to engage with our veteran's community and determined to find ways to support them in 2019. We stand with

the firm belief that no veteran should feel neglected or isolated – Gentle Lion will always be a safe place for our military.

Our Community Impact Gatherings included events like Faith, Food, and Football, designed to bring the men of Gentle Lion together – this was a night of good ol' fashion fun, barbequing and watching a football game (**seen at right**). Building the Gentle Lion community is very important to our organization as it breeds kinship, unity, accountability and the identity of an “authentic man”. As we continue the pursuit of redefining manhood – growing community support is paramount to our success. We look forward to developing more initiatives like this in 2019.



Gentle Lion's journey began in February, 2018 – little did we know, 9 months later on November 19<sup>th</sup>, a pilot program would be released at Deer Ridge Correctional Facility. We are extremely excited and encouraged by the opportunity of Gentle Lion's prison ministry. The 36-week Authentic Manhood program is underway, and the prison chapel has been filled with inmates hungry for the doctrinally sound instruction that creates a realistic hope for the future. We have ambitious goals for the prison program that include;

- Helping the inmate function more positively within the prison environment.
- Providing “take-away” tools that encourage healthy relationships as well as conflict resolution.
- Redefining what it means to be a man in today’s society.
- Assisting with the transition and re-entry process into society upon sentence completion.



Our goal is to reverse the systemic problems they have experienced in the past. This is just the beginning of Gentle Lion's prison ministry. Additionally, our long-term goals include statewide prison participation, in conjunction with Scott Patterson and Home for Good Oregon. We are optimistic to forecast statewide engagement in the next 3 to 5 years.

Gentle Lion – a giving organization! We have and will continue to be committed to being a giving organization. Gentle Lion has been fortunate to have the opportunity to give to local charities, non-profits, as well as specific sponsorships to qualified individuals (**together while supporting and attending**

**the Franklin Graham Outreach).**



It is imperative that Gentle Lion's vision of an emotional healthy man or woman is shared by like-minded community partners – if we are to experience long-term success. The spiritual war will have to be fought on all fronts. Gentle Lion will continue supporting organizations that align with our mission and vision. We look forward to continuing to grow both our partnerships as well as monetary support in 2019.

What is to come? 2018 has been an exceptionally encouraging year and has fueled our team's energy for 2019. The future is bright and Gentle Lion is positioned to take advantage of this year's impact. Partnerships with local organizations like Teen / Adult Challenge, Broken Shackles Prison Ministry, as well as the Pregnancy Resource Center (**at right**) will continue to drive our curriculum and expand our horizon. As the Gentle Lion community grows, so will our impact, as we look to develop our new programs. Finding "a sustainable best version of self" is a journey with no finish line, but a journey worth embarking on. Those who wish to join us will discover they are at their best when they are serving others. Living a rich, full and meaningful lives, with Jesus Christ at the center, is an opportunity too big to miss!

So as brothers and sisters in Christ, let's lock arms and take that journey together.

Here we come, 2019!



May God Bless you and thank you for the opportunity to serve,

-The Gentle Lion Team