Hi {FIRST_NAME|Friend},

Earlier this month, our friends at Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital contacted us about partnering with them and the Portland Timbers on a service project at our very own Raices Cooperative Farm! We were beyond excited to learn that a handful of Timbers players would be coming to learn about the Raices program and even get their hands dirty with a little work. Lucky for them, and us, the second greenhouse was recently completed by the Hood River Rotary Club and needed to be furnished with tables. In addition, the outside of the garden’s storage shed has long since been begging for a vibrant mural.

We kicked off the day with introductions of the players and volunteers, as well as an overview of the Raices program by my co-workers Anna Osborn and Joel Pelayo. Then the volunteers split up. Some, including goalkeeper Steve Clark, put their carpentry skills to the test on the greenhouse tables. Steve even learned how to use a staple gun! Others, including defender Zarek Valentin, tapped into their artistic sides, adding life to the mural in a well-organized paint-by-numbers project orchestrated by local artist Hugo Arias. Still others, including midfielder Andres Flores, visited with Raices members, chatting about their crops, their families, and more.

As their time at the garden came to an end, we were impressed! The volunteers built two greenhouse tables and completed the mural! Many, including the players, left with fresh-from-the-garden beets, cucumbers, and tomatoes to take home.

We’re so grateful for the Timbers’ commitment to our community, and we appreciate the opportunity to partner with Providence, Hood River Rotary, and the Timbers organization on this exciting project!

Sincerely,

Janet L. Hamada, MSW
Columbia Gorge Hotel
Executive Director

P.S. See more pictures of the Timbers at the Raices Cooperative Farm on our Facebook page!

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