



Contact
Jody Weyers
Development Director
jweyers@operationfreshstart.org
(608) 244-4721 x123



Jack Osteraas **Heritage Society**



"I don't think Jack ever envisioned that 50 years later, Operation Fresh Start would still be here and hundreds of young people would go through it each year, and that there would be this many houses built. I just always want us to remember and honor Jack for the vision."

— Connie Ferris Bailey
Former OFS Executive Director

A commitment to ensuring the future of the organization and the legacy of its founder by including Operation Fresh Start in your will or estate plan.

About Jack

Jack Oстераas had a vision to improve his community. With experience as a police officer and juvenile detention counselor, he founded OFS in 1970 as a way to provide young people the opportunity to learn basic work skills, prepare for the high school equivalency exam, and secure and retain employment. Crew members contributed to the community by renovating sub-standard housing into safe, affordable homes for low-income families.



Then and now, OFS recognizes that the hands-on work of building affordable housing and maintaining green spaces is transformational—both for the community and its young adults.

Operation Fresh Start empowers emerging adults on a path to self-sufficiency through education, mentoring, and employment training.

Since 1970, OFS has empowered more than 9,000 emerging adults.

“Supporting pathways for people to get where they need to go to be a productive citizen in our society improves their quality of life and benefits everyone.”

— Mike & Lee Ann Dillis



As a former leader at Findorff, Mike Dillis had firsthand experience seeing emerging adults go through Operation Fresh Start training and become well-prepared to start a career in construction.

Mike and Lee Ann, his wife, decided to become Heritage Society members after witnessing the transformation experienced by OFS participants.

They value the way OFS teaches emerging adults life skills that will be valuable no matter what career they decide to pursue.

Your commitment through this legacy gift will ensure the future of Operation Fresh Start and the legacy our founder, Jack Oстераas, created back in 1970 with the first crew and first home!

As a member of the Jack Oстераas Heritage Society, you will receive:

- Recognition in OFS Annual Report and on the website
- Invitations to special youth builds, park dedications, and graduation ceremonies
- Invitation to yearly social for Jack Oстераas Heritage Society members
- Engraved “In Memory” paver located in the Jack Oстераas Garden area upon the gift being realized

