



# LANE COUNTY GOVERNMENT NEWS

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## **Donations Needed for Homeless Outreach Event**

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publishing them.*

One of Lane County's largest community events that reaches out to help the area's homeless is in need of donations. Planning is underway for the fourth annual **Project Homeless Connect for Lane County** event set for **Thursday, March 18** at the Lane Events Center and Fairgrounds.

Organizers are seeking coats, hats, gloves, socks, sleeping bags, children's clothing and backpacks. Items should be in good, clean condition. A variety of personal hygiene products are also needed, including hand sanitizers, shampoo, soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste. Donations may be dropped off at St. Vincent de Paul store locations in Eugene, Springfield and Florence. Items must be labeled "Project Homeless Connect."

Businesses, organizations, schools or churches interested in collecting items prior to the event may request donation barrels for their respective venues.

Project Homeless Connect for Lane County is a one-day, one-stop event that provides critical services and basic necessities to people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. The event offers free onsite medical exams, dental checkups, vision care, hot meals, haircuts and basic provisions. In addition, more than 80 local service agencies provide information on housing, employment, education, legal counsel, addiction treatment, and a variety of other services available for youth, families, seniors and veterans.

Last year's Project Homeless Connect event served 1,548 guests with the help of 652 community volunteers and more than 400 professional service providers, from doctors and nurses to counselors and hairdressers.

Project Homeless Connect is part of a nationwide movement working to help meet the needs of people who are homeless, while engaging the local community in finding solutions for ending homelessness.

For more information about Project Homeless Connect, visit [www.homelessconnect.org](http://www.homelessconnect.org) or contact Judy Riedl, Project Homeless Connect Coordinator, at 541-682-3798 or [Judy.riedl@co.lane.or.us](mailto:Judy.riedl@co.lane.or.us).

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*Lane County Government provides for the safety and security of Lane County's 343,000 community members through public safety, public works, human services, elections, vital records and other systems*