



NEWS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release

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Volunteers Needed to Help with Project Homeless Connect Event

Eugene, Ore. - Volunteers are needed to assist with an event that helps meet the needs of homeless citizens living in the local community. Planning is underway for the third annual Project Homeless Connect for Lane County to be held on Friday, March 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Lane Events Center at the Fairgrounds.

The one-day, one-stop event invites citizens who are homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless, to come and receive basic necessities and services. Guest services include free medical exams, dental checkups, vision care, hot meals, haircuts, hygiene supplies and giveaways of basic provisions. Information on housing, employment, education, addiction treatment, legal counsel and services available to youth, families, seniors and veterans will also be provided.

Last year more than 600 community volunteers, along with 281 professional service providers, turned out to help the 1,158 guests that attended the event.

Volunteers are needed to assist with a variety of tasks including setting up, greeting guests, helping guests navigate the service areas, assisting professional service providers and distributing giveaways like socks, sleeping bags, coats, hats and gloves.

“With many local agencies experiencing an increase in requests for services, we’re projecting we’ll have even more guests this year so the need for volunteers will be great,” said Megan O’Connor, PHC’s volunteer coordinator. “Outside the professional service providers we’ll need for the event, most of the volunteer positions require no special training and an orientation session will give volunteers all the information they’ll need to serve.”

Anyone interested in volunteering for Project Homeless Connect for Lane County may register at www.homelessconnect.org. For additional information about volunteering as an individual or group, contact Megan O’Connor at United Way of Lane County at (541) 741-6000, ext. 104 or moconnor@unitedwaylane.org.

Project Homeless Connect is part of a nationwide movement to connect homeless citizens with services and basic needs, while engaging local communities in finding solutions for homelessness.

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