

# Medical van will be returning to Sisters

By Sue Stafford  
Correspondent

The Mosaic Medical Mobile Community Clinic is returning to Sisters. They are now seeing patients at Ponderosa Heights Apartments, every Tuesday evening, 6-8 p.m.

"We are very excited to be bringing the van back out to Sisters," said Mobile Outreach Coordinator Nancy Russell North.

Previously, the van came to the Kiwanis Food Bank from 9 a.m. to noon on Thursdays, but lack of sufficient patients resulted in cancellation of the van. It is believed that evening hours for the van at the new affordable apartments will prove more convenient for patients.

"We will be located at Ponderosa Heights in conjunction with our partnership with HousingWorks. We are very excited that this location is close to the woods where many of the homeless currently camp. We are also excited to be offering evening hours," said North.

Mosaic's Mobile Community Clinic is a full-service primary care clinic offering medical services to those in the community experiencing barriers to traditional healthcare. They can provide nearly all care that is provided in a brick-and-mortar building, including blood work.

Services available include family care, pediatrics, women's health, medication assistance (help qualifying patients get brand-name medication for a reduced cost), and coordination of specialty care to connect patients to all the services they need, including dental help.

The team includes

community health-workers who help with connecting patients to community resources: transportation services to appointments/treatment; inpatient and outpatient detox and treatment facilities; chemical-dependency counseling; pain management; behavioral health; homeless shelters; transitional residential programs; and housing locations.

The clinic offers reduced rates based on a sliding scale for those without insurance or who are under-insured. Program participation is income-dependent and an application is required to determine eligibility.

"We see all patients regardless of insurance status or life circumstances. Nobody will ever be turned away because of inability to pay," said North.

They accept most private or commercial insurance and can bill most insurances. They are also able to assist with Oregon Health Plan signups or re-enrollment.

"We do not schedule appointments on the Mobile Community Clinic, so patients can just walk in and are served on a first-come, first-served basis," North said.

Mosaic Medical welcomes all races, religions, countries of origin, languages, genders, abilities, and sexual orientations.

Ponderosa Heights Apartments are located at 601 N. Brooks Camp Rd., on the corner of Brooks Camp and McKinney Butte roads. For more information, call 541-383-3005. Please call or check website ([www.mosaicmedical.org](http://www.mosaicmedical.org)) for updated scheduling information if Tuesday is a holiday.

# County fair welcomes new director

Deschutes County has hired Geoff Hinds as the new director of the Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center.

Hinds, who will assume his post in early June, replaces Dan Despotopulos, who is retiring after serving as the Deschutes Fair & Expo Center Director for more than 19 years.

"We're extremely excited to bring Geoff on board," said Deschutes County Administrator Tom Anderson. "While our finalists offered a great diversity of skills, accomplishments, and attributes, Geoff's qualifications as an innovative manager of fair and event facilities combined with his demonstrated success introducing fiscally sound events of regional and national scale impressed our hiring team."

Hinds has served as the chief executive officer of the San Bernardino County Fairgrounds and Adelanto Stadium in Victorville, California, for the past six years. In his current role, he oversees multiple event facilities, directs the San Bernardino County Fair and manages a minor league baseball stadium. He has also served as the chief executive officer of the Tulare County Fair and as the Fair

and festivals manager of the San Mateo County Event Center. Hinds earned a bachelor's degree from Whittier College.

As Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center director, Hinds will lead the day-to-day operations and marketing of the 320-acre Fair & Expo Center, which, in addition to the annual fair, hosts more than 400 events each year. The facility includes 200,000 square feet of event space, 120,000 square feet of covered livestock and equestrian arenas, 400 horse stalls and a 105-space RV park complex.

His arrival marks the first Fair & Expo Center director transition the County has

undertaken in close to 20 years.

"As the County makes this transition, the Board of County Commissioners and Deschutes County Fair Board would like to acknowledge the substantial work of retiring Fair & Expo Center Director Dan Despotopulos," said Deschutes County Commission Chair Phil Henderson. "In nearly 20 years as our Fair & Expo director, Dan has built solid community partnerships and leaves behind an appealing event facility, a vibrant annual fair and a solid strategic plan to bring Deschutes County Fair & Expo into the future."

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**Good Friday, April 19:** Stations of the Cross, 3:00 p.m.  
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**Holy Saturday, April 20:** Easter Vigil, 6:00 p.m.

**Easter Sunday, April 21:** Mass 7:30 & 10:00 a.m.

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