

Service opportunities combine experience, helping community

Students can get involved in many volunteer projects around the Eugene area

By Ashley Griffin
Freelance Reporter

University students have the opportunity to make a difference by taking any of dozens of community service volunteer opportunities in Eugene.

Students with various career goals can receive field-specific benefits from volunteering, and many opportunities exist for social workers or education majors who plan to work with children. Future educators can gain hands-on teaching experience by assisting Eugene-area schools that have reading or tutoring programs.

Organizations like Committed Partners For Youth and the Boys and Girls Club of Emerald Valley also allow volunteers to gain valuable lessons in both youth development and working within a nonprofit program.

"Our goals are to provide an ongoing relationship and a safe place for young people to learn and grow," Boys and Girls Clubs Executive Director Joy Douglas Doctor said.

Aside from educational opportunities, Eugene's Child and Family Center coordinator Jennifer Jabson said volunteering will also provide students with a solid reference for future job applications.

"Our students may receive a letter of



Jessica Waters Photo Editor

Bob Cox has been volunteering in the Food for Lane County warehouse and kitchen on Bailey Hill Road since before Christmas.

recommendation from the supervising scientist and team coordinator that could support efforts to be accepted to a graduate program, secure employment and other efforts," she said.

Further social work opportunities exist for students interested in decreasing community violence. Wom-

enspace is a local organization dedicated to decreasing violence through an advocacy center, a domestic violence legal clinic, a 24-hour crisis line and an educational program. Womenspace can help a prospective

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