

news Briefs

more and more money to expensive deputies and jail beds.

ShelterCare already has a waiting list of eight to 12 weeks to get into shelter. This wait will grow even longer, as it is left with only six of its 11 units. ShelterCare is exploring other funding options — looking for grants and soliciting even more private donations. Ban said that no matter how well ShelterCare copes, the cuts will make a lasting impact.

Data collected by the McKinney-Vento Educational Programs shows that more than 22,000 children in Oregon will face homelessness during the year. The National Center on Family Homelessness computed that a single parent working at the state's minimum wage would, taking into account other basic living expenses, need to work at least 70 hours per week to afford a two-bedroom apartment priced at fair market rent.

"Local community members came together and felt that we needed a shelter that served families where they could live together," said Ban. ShelterCare opened a shelter for families in 1970.

Families can stay in the shelter for up to sixty days (though sometimes longer in cases of special circumstances). Families receive aid in housing searches, as well as employment counseling that is part of a long-term stabilization program. Families are provided with food, clothing and household necessities. Shelter helps get kids back to school. ShelterCare claims a 70 percent success rate of families who stay in shelter and successfully transition to stable long-term housing.

To make a donation, contact ShelterCare at 686-1262 or mail to ShelterCare Administration, P.O. Box 23339, 1790 West 11th, Ste. 290, Eugene Or. 97402. You can indicate if you want the donation to go specifically to the Emergency Housing Program. — *Philip Shackleton*

TWO-DAY FREE MEDICAL CLINIC

A non-profit that provides medical care in the third world is coming home to work in Lane County.

The Cascade Medical Team Foundation (CMTF) is offering free medical care to

Eugene-Springfield area residents without health insurance, 8 am to 5 pm Saturday and Sunday, April 16 and 17, at Peace Health Medical Group, 1162 Willamette St. (east entrance).

According to CMTF, more than 66,000 individuals in Lane County do not have health insurance and are ineligible for the Oregon Health Plan. "There is a huge need in the community because when people are uninsured they put off seeing a doctor," foundation board member Rick Kangail explains.

Formed in 2002, the Cascade Medical Team (CMT) is a local, all-volunteer organization that travels to Guatemala's highlands annually providing medical care, filters for clean drinking water and energy efficient cooking stoves to the Mayan people in the region. In conjunction with its parent organization HELPS International, and the support of PeaceHealth and McKenzie Willamette hospitals, the team has provided medical and dental care to more than 14,000 Guatemalan adults and children.


In June 2010, CMT decided to bring their services to Oregon for the first time, hosting a free medical clinic in Coburg. "We saw a huge need in our own community — we are calling the clinics "Cascade Medical Team Comes Home," Kangail said.

Several services will be provided at the weekend clinic including, basic dental care and minimal teeth cleaning (Saturday only), general medical care and examinations for on-going symptoms. There will be connections available in the community if patients need follow-up care, and a free on-site limited pharmacy for medicine prescribed at the clinic.



The medical care will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis, "We have many wonderful volunteers from the Rotary and other community members so the process will be well organized and we don't foresee a long wait," Kangail said. CMT recommends bringing past medical records if possible.

Health care professionals interested in volunteering medical services can contact Margie Groshong at 934-4129 or megroshong@yahoo.com. Community members interested in volunteering, go to: www.211lane.org

For more information on CMT and to donate visit: www.cmt-oregon.org — *Heather Cyrus*



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— *Rafael Aldave, Eugene*

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