

# Family Living

## Dress For Success Oregon Helping Women Help Themselves

### MISSION

Dress for Success Oregon (DSOR) is a non-profit agency whose mission is to provide interview appropriate clothing to low-income women seeking employment? The clothing is a symbol of our faith in women's ability to succeed. Our services are available at no charge and by referral only from member organizations including women's shelters, homeless shelters, job training programs and incarcerated women's programs.

### THE PROBLEM

IMAGINE. You have an important job interview, but nothing to wear. This is the sad reality for many low-income women who have all the tools to get the job—except the interview outfit. Low-income women seeking employment face a nasty catch-22: if they don't have the appropriate clothing for an interview, they will not be hired, but without the job, they can't afford the clothes. How can you pull yourself up from your bootstraps if you don't own boots?

### SERVICES

The clientele of DSOR will include a diverse group of women from throughout the Portland metropolitan

area. Job training as social services agencies will refer all clients. So far, our member organizations include Clark Community College-Life and Career Options, Employment County Aging and Disability Services, Oregon Vocational Rehabilitation, Proteum Foundation and Steps to Success.

To make certain our clients receive personal attention and leave our office with increased self-confidence, each client will meet one-on-one with a trained volunteer at an appointed time. We will provide one outfit for job interviews, and additional outfit upon job confirmation at no charge to the client or member organization.



Israel Ireland models an outfit she picked-out at Sears for Fashion Takes Action. Israel is a client of Dress For Success Portland Office.

### ORGANIZATION

DSOR is a newly formed Oregon non-profit corporation, located in northwest Portland, founded by Barbara Attridge and Karen Fishel, as co-directors in June 1998. Barbara has over 20 years experience in business

as a CPA and controller working with small business and government. Karen has over 15 years experience working for non-profits as a fundraiser and special event coordinator, as well as serving on several non-profit boards including the March for Dimes.

## Multnomah County Wins Federal Grant

A three-year \$2,250,000 federal grant will allow Multnomah County to provide more services in more locations for youth with substance abuse problems. The County's Department of Community and Family Services (DCFS) will administer the grant. The County will receive \$750,000 per year for three years, starting in 1999.

Multnomah County is one of forty recipients of grants from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Center for Substance Abuse Treatment. SAMHSA is a part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

"We are honored that SAMHSA will fund our program," said Lorenzo Poe, Director of the County's Department of Community and Family Services. "This grant will allow us to better collaborate with staff in the County's Health and Community Justice Departments to serve youth

with substance abuse problems."

The grant will focus on youth between the ages of 11 and 18 who have two or more diagnosable disorders, one of which is substance abuse. Currently, the treatment system is unable to provide needed services to assure youth are referred and remain in treatment. The grant enhances the current treatment delivery system.

Cross-trained staff from the County's behavioral Health Division, Alcohol and Drug Assessment and Referral Program will be stationed at three juvenile probation offices and thirteen school-based health clinics. Staff will link current health and medical services with mental health and alcohol and other drug assessments at each location.

Approximately \$250,000 per year of the grant funds will be spent to expand the treatment capacity of existing youth substance abuse and mental health providers. Youth who are diagnosed with substance abuse problems will enter a service track designed to move them quickly from assessment to treatment. Services include case management by assessment team members and treatment by providers with expertise in providing effective substance abuse services to youth with other diagnosable disorders such as health problems or mental health disorders.

The grant targets services to youth whose families cannot pay for services due to lack of insurance, underinsurance, lack of ability or knowl-

edge to coordinate benefits, or an inability to pay service co-payments.

"This grant will be especially helpful for working families with low incomes who may not qualify for the Oregon Health Plan," said Floyd Martinez, Director of the DCFS Behavioral Health Division. "Many families move in and out of insurance eligibility due to fluctuating income or a lack of ability to pay premiums. This grant will allow youth in these families to receive quicker diagnosis and treatment."

For more information, contact the grant's Project Coordinator, Jim Peterson, at Multnomah County Department of Community and Family Services, phone (503) 248-5464, extension 26436.

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## Shriners NEWS & NOTES Hospitals Aid Children

(NAPS)—Across the nation and in Canada, Shriners Hospitals for Children are helping youngsters in need to live healthier and not be afraid to dream.



Natalie Cinman, center, is one of thousands of children Shriners Hospitals have helped.

They do this by offering excellent, no-cost medical care to children with orthopaedic problems or burn injuries.

Since 1922, Shriners Hospitals have provided care to about 600,000 children. Known as experts in pediatric burn care, Shriners focuses much of today's research on improving the quality of life of burn survivors. Here are some tips to help prevent burns:

- Keep children away from electrical ranges, ovens, grills and heaters.
- Don't allow cords to dangle from countertops where young children may tug on them and pull a hot appliance off.



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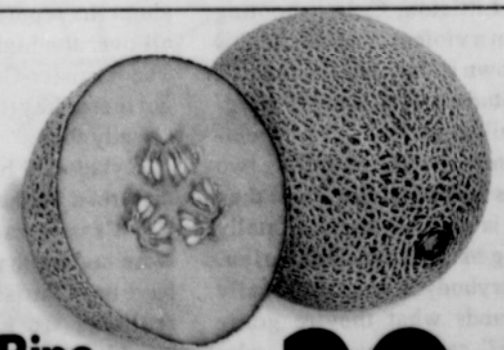
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