

Children's Trust Fund starts up its tax return check off campaign

The Children's Trust Fund supports 34 local programs in Oregon, including "Caring Options," a respite care program operated by Community Action Team in Columbia County.

Caring Options offers compassionate, competent respite

care to people and families in Columbia County who are living with a disability. Project funds are used for stipends for respite care for children who have one or more forms of a disabling condition.

The Children's Trust Fund of Oregon's annual Income Tax Return Check-off Campaign is once again underway. The campaign raises funds to prevent abusive and neglectful treatment of children through-

out Oregon.

The campaign encourages Oregon residents to direct a portion of their state income tax refund to support programs that provide outreach, education and support services to improve parenting skills, provide crisis intervention services and teach self-protection skills to high risk children and their parents. One hundred percent of donations go directly to local programs around the state.

Supporters can check line 28 or 54 on their state income tax returns to make a donation.

Those not receiving refunds can make donations directly to the Children's Trust Fund office

at 800 NE Oregon Street, Suite #1140, Portland, OR 97232. The Children's Trust Fund relies heavily on contributions made by Oregonians checking the box designated for "Child

Abuse Prevention" on the state income tax form. The success of the campaign plays a vital role in the prevention of child abuse and neglect in Oregon. A contribution to the Children's Trust Fund can save a child's life.

For more information, contact Joe Jefferson at the Children's Trust Fund, 731-8355.

Grant will provide equipment for specialized optometry instruction

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porting program instructional needs and helping us to prepare students more fully as they deliver eye and vision care services in our community-based clinical facilities."

In addition to providing needed equipment in two core third-year optometry courses, Casser said the funding will also provide equipment that will be used by course instructors for patient care activity in

the College's optometry clinics throughout the Portland metro area and in Forest Grove. The equipment will be used in courses focusing on strabismus ("eye turn") and amblyopia ("lazy eye"), which are most commonly detected in children, and visual perception problems associated with learning disabilities, traumatic brain injury, stroke, and developmental abnormalities. According to Casser, much of the equipment to be purchased with the grant is too costly for private practices, so the University clinics will be able to better treat patients referred to Pacific's facilities.

"This project involves many faculty members and students

in the classrooms and clinics. To more fully integrate the two aspects of our program is exciting," said Casser. Much of the equipment will be in place for the spring semester, which begins in January.

"Northwest Health Foundation, which funds health projects throughout Oregon and Southwest Washington, was especially pleased to make this grant award because it fits our funding interests in training health professionals and addresses and advances the health of children in our community," said Northwest Health Foundation President Thomas Aschenbrener.



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