



**Date:** May 20, 2010

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**DHS offices in The Dalles moving to improve services for seniors and disabled**

To be more accessible to the community and meet increasing local needs, the Department of Human Services (DHS) Seniors and People with Disabilities (SPD) and Vocational Rehabilitation Services programs in The Dalles are moving from 700 Union Street, to 3641 Klindt Drive in the Port of The Dalles Industrial Park. The move will take place June 3.

“This move is important so that we can provide better service for those people who count on us,” said Lydia Dale, SPD district manager. Dale said that the new space will have a lobby/waiting area and more intake rooms with better access for people in wheelchairs or using walkers.

Services will not change. SPD administers SNAP benefits (formerly known as food stamps), Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program, Medicaid and Oregon’s long-term care system, which provides a variety of supports and services from in-home supports to comprehensive skilled nursing care. Vocational Rehabilitation assists individuals with disabilities in getting and keeping jobs that match their skills, interests and abilities.

The local SPD can be contacted at 541-298-4114. The Vocational Rehabilitation number will be 541-298-5573. The joint office serves Hood River, Wasco, Wheeler, Sherman, Gilliam and Columbia counties.

The 9,950-square-foot space is being leased by DHS.

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