



**OREGON  
EMPLOYEES  
CHARITABLE  
FUND DRIVE**

**JULY  
2015**

# YOUR GIFTS AT WORK

## Get involved in Oregon

**Black United Fund** -- Join BUF for a Mural Ribbon-Cutting Celebration, Aug. 8th, 2-5 p.m., 2828 NE Alberta Street, Portland. [Learn more...](#)

**Children's Trust Fund -- Virginia Garcia Memorial Foundation** needs volunteers to help serve its 39,000 patients at locations in Washington and Yamhill Counties. [Learn more...](#)

**Equity Foundation** -- Want to help at-risk and homeless youth in Portland? See what **New Avenues for Youth** is doing, and how to volunteer! [Learn more...](#)

**Habitat for Humanity** -- Join a work crew, or get a group together to help build homes in the Salem area. [Learn more...](#)

**United Way of the Mid-Willamette Valley** -- Help **Lutheran Community Services NW** in Portland or McMinnville by tutoring students, being a companion to a senior, or adopting a refugee or immigrant family. [Learn more...](#)

**Work for Art** -- Have you used your Arts Card? Well, there's still time! See what shows, museum exhibits, and more arts and culture outlets have 2-for-1 tickets right now! [Learn more...](#)

For more volunteer ideas, visit the "Make an Impact" page at [ecfd.oregon.gov](http://ecfd.oregon.gov).

*Your Gifts at Work in Oregon is produced by the participating nonprofits of the Charitable Fund Drive. It does not necessarily reflect policy or views of the State of Oregon. If you have story ideas or want to respond to articles in this newsletter, please e-mail us at: [cmoteam@earthlink.net](mailto:cmoteam@earthlink.net).*

## The Fund Drive needs you!

The Charitable Fund Drive is aiming to raise more than \$860,000 for Oregon charities this fall, but we can't raise a dollar without the help of State and University employees leading the way.

Help reach the Fund Drive goal of informing all State and University employees of their opportunity to use payroll deduction for their charitable giving -- become a Site Coordinator! Site Coordinators are the face of the Fund Drive in their office. They plan fun events, get the word out to their co-workers, and engage others in the joy of giving back.

If you want to know how you can help, contact the Charitable Fund Drive at [cmoteam@earthlink.net](mailto:cmoteam@earthlink.net) or at 503-636-4058. Or, look up who your Agency's overall Coordinator is for 2015 ([list online here](#)) and contact them directly.

## Give a gift, change a life

After serving a 16-year prison sentence, John was released on a summer morning in 2014. He reported to "intake" at the Marion County Parole and Probation Office, who encouraged him to visit Community Action's DeMuniz Resource Center to learn about the support he could get to "reenter" the community.

John's criminal offense had resulted in the death of his brother, and family tensions remained high. After 16 years, housing and employment were on his mind. On his first visit to the DeMuniz Resource Center they were able to help him find a place to live. But the community he left behind in 1998 was different now - and so was he. At the Resource Center, he found people who understood the journey

**This program has cut the rate at which released prisoners return to jail. The Statesman-Journal published a recent study of the program's success. [Learn more...](#)**

he had been on - and the one he was poised to enter. No one told him it would be easy, but they did say they would be there to support him. John owned his past; and he was beginning to get a handle on his future.

His risk assessment and employment screening helped Marion County Reentry Initiative partners design a plan to carry him into his role as a productive member of the community. Within just a few months of his

release John learned how to work with the Parole and Probation Division, he learned what it would take to get his GED, and he had the idea to get his Commercial Driver License. With support and resources from the De Muniz Resource Center, John gained employment and a steady income, and he was able to set longer term goals to complete his training and obtain a Commercial Driver License.

To many, it all sounds so simple; so straightforward. However, for many coming out of prison it is anything but simple. With support from the DeMuniz Resource Center John was not only able to envision a plan for his future, he was able to achieve it.

*Community Action's DeMuniz Resource Center receives support from United Way of the Mid-Willamette Valley through a 2013-2015 Collaborative Grant.*