



**OREGON  
EMPLOYEES  
CHARITABLE  
FUND DRIVE**

**Get involved  
in Oregon**

- *United Way of the Mid-Willamette Valley* — Mar. 26-27, 2012 — **Marion-Polk Homeless Connect** is a resource fair that connects those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness with community help. 150 volunteers needed for many roles (even translator or bike mechanic!) [Learn more at hand-sonmwv.org...](http://sonmwv.org...)
- *EarthShare Oregon* — See (and help) some of Oregon's most amazing desertlands. Take a Volunteer Vacation with **Oregon Natural Desert Association!** Trips through mid-October. [More info...](#)
- *Community Health Charities*— Be a **Children's Cancer Association** "Chemo Pal" to a child going through cancer treatment. [Learn more and find other health volunteer opportunities using the VolunteerMatters365 search.](#)
- *Children's Trust Fund of Oregon* — **Child Abuse Prevention Month Pinwheel Gardens.** Come help place pinwheels and build awareness of child abuse at locations including: 1) Three Rivers Casino, Florence, April 6th and 2) Chinook Winds Casino, 10 a.m. April 7th. For more info, call 503-222-7102 .

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 non-profits 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 [cmoteam@earthlink.net](mailto:cmoteam@earthlink.net).**

# Your Gifts at Work in Oregon

March  
2012

## Your donations are bringing a Salem family of four home

by Becky Willhite, Habitat for Humanity Oregon

Monica Hale is a mother to two children, Naomi (4 1/2 years old), and Ian (2). Monica moved to Salem in 2001 to participate in the Youth With A Mission School, an international organization that conducts outreach, mercy work and English education in countries around the world. Monica and her husband, Ryan, have served in China, India, Australia, Kenya, Tanzania, and Azerbaijan (a small country near the Caspian Sea). They continue to work for Youth With A Mission and live on campus where housing is limited. They dreamed of owning their own home, but did not know how they could afford a home on their current income. They are very thankful to Habitat for Humanity for the opportunity to become home owners.

**The Habitat for Humanity mission is to provide safe, decent and affordable housing for families in need.** A cornerstone to becoming a Habitat for Humanity home owner is contributing "sweat equity." Sweat equity provides meaningful interaction between the Habitat for Humanity organization and our partner families. It increases pride in ownership and provides family members with a real understanding of the construction of their home and awareness of maintenance issues. A family selected for a Habitat for Humanity home will be asked to fulfill 500 hours of sweat equity.

Monica had never used a hammer before the Habitat for Humanity training. When asked what it felt like to try that tool for the first time she responded with a loud and boisterous, "It was awesome!" But her new favorite tool is a drill and her husband, Ryan, loves the skill saw.

They hope to move into their new home this spring of 2012. Monica looks forward to the security that a safe, affordable and decent home will bring to their family. For more information on Habitat for Humanity Oregon, please go to [www.habitatorregon.org](http://www.habitatorregon.org).



One of Habitat for Humanity Oregon's most recent housewarming events involved the whole family!

## Need help? Dial 2-1-1!

Oregon now has 17 counties offering live information and referral services to anyone who dials 2-1-1 on their phone or visits [211info.org](http://211info.org).

Now available in:

- Central Oregon (Deschutes, Crook and Jefferson counties)
- Columbia River Gorge (Sherman, Gilliam, Hood River, Wasco, and Wheeler counties)
- Lane County
- Linn, Benton and Lincoln counties
- Portland Area (Multnomah, Washington, Clackamas and Clark counties)
- Marion & Polk counties
- Yamhill County

(Plus, 2-1-1 is coming soon to Douglas and Josephine counties)