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DHS offices moving starting December 5 to remodeled former hospital

Roseburg, Ore. — Oregon Department of Human Services programs for child welfare, self-sufficiency, and aging and people with disabilities in Roseburg will move to 738 W. Harvard Avenue in December, the site of the former Douglas Community Hospital.

- DHS Aging and People with Disabilities offices will close Friday, Dec. 2 at noon and reopen at 1 p.m. on Monday, December 5 at the new location.
- Child Welfare and Self Sufficiency offices will close at noon on Friday Dec. 9 and reopen at 1 p.m. on Monday, December 12 at the new location.

The DHS Vocational Rehabilitation office is not moving. Also, the Douglas County Area Agency on Aging is not affected by this move.

The former hospital site was remodeled to house most DHS programs in one location. The site provides better customer service because clients will only need to travel to one location and staff will be able to collaborate more easily. About 250 employees will work at the site. Main phone lines as well as direct staff lines will remain the same. Current clients have been notified of the move.

“We are making every effort to make this a seamless transition, and believe this will be a more accessible location for our consumers,” says Merry Bayly, Aging and People with Disabilities program district manager.

The move provides a unique opportunity for a more supportive environment for families. “This will be a much nicer space, better equipped to serve both Child Welfare and Self Sufficiency customers” says Desta Walsh, Child Welfare and Self Sufficiency district manager. New observation rooms will allow children to visit with their parents without having a DHS staff member present in the room, and the outside play area for children also provides a new opportunity for quality visitation.

Local businesses and community members have pitched in to make the space a more inviting environment. So far, cash donations to decorate and equip visitation areas are at \$15,000.

“Our community has really pitched in to make this new location a great place for the people we serve,” says Walsh.

The following list acknowledges the individuals and organizations who provided support as of Nov. 21.

DHS-Child Welfare, visitation area sponsors

Private citizens:

Bob and Sheryl Bartlett

Angie Hayne

Paula Heburd

Maureen Williams and friends

Patti Zachary

Businesses:

Altrusa

Architrave Health

Blue Heron Vineyard

Bowers Industrial, Inc.

Douglas C.A.R.E.S.

Fabform Industries, Inc

Floors By Design

Honda of Roseburg

Mercy Community Gifting Committee

Real Deals Home Décor-Roseburg, OR

Riverview Estates Mfd Hope Park, Hutchins-Kearney family

Roseburg Forest Products

Ten Down Bowling

West Harvard Furniture

Individuals interested in learning more about the services provided by these programs can find information at oregon.gov/dhs or by calling:

Aging and People with Disabilities programs: 541-440-3580

Child Welfare: 541-440-3373 or toll free 1-800-305-2903

Self-sufficiency program: 541-440-3301

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