

NONPROFIT  
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## Why We Need VIM

*The straight forward answer is that, without the Volunteers in Medicine Clinic, several thousand of our neighbors and many families would have nowhere to go when they are sick, injured or in need of basic health care services.*

Our current situation is that thousands of Deschutes County families—our neighbors, friends and co-workers—simply can't afford to purchase health care from what has become the most expensive health care delivery system on the planet. Government can help, but our tax dollar cannot afford the purchase price either.

Many have indicated that there is a train wreck waiting to happen in the U.S. health care system. They haven't been watching, because it has already happened.

What makes this a particularly sad tragedy is that 35 years of legislative efforts at the Federal level have had little overall effect in stopping the train wreck. State efforts have fared a little better, and for a time we had a fairly robust Oregon Health Plan, but that also became far too expensive.

You may be surprised to learn that, in Deschutes County, 28,000-30,000 people are now uninsured. When people without health insurance show up in the emergency room, we all pay with higher premiums, deductibles and co-pays. As businesses, we pay with increased absenteeism or lower productivity.

There is however, one shining example of hope, of real action, of local self-determination—Volunteers in Medicine. By providing care to low income, uninsured people in our community they make a profound difference in the lives of many. At the same time, they contribute to building a stronger economy by providing services to ensure a healthy workforce.

This local initiative was borne from the goodwill of people who care; doctors, nurses and support personnel who volunteer their time, skills and, most importantly, have the heart and compassion for helping others. VIM does not rely on governmental action or legislative willpower, but depends on those willing to volunteer their time, expertise or resources. VIM relies on members of a community who show they truly care.

It is with humble thanks and tremendous appreciation that I offer my gratitude to each and every volunteer, medical partner and donor who has made a difference in the life of another. ↪

**DANIEL W. PEDDYCORD, PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR, DESCHUTES COUNTY, OREGON & VIM BOARD MEMBER.**



**OUR MISSION—To understand and serve, on an outpatient basis, the health and wellness needs of the medically underserved in Deschutes County, Oregon.**

### VIM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Bob Barr  
Mike Bonetto, Ph.D.  
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Robert Hakala, MD  
Judi Hofman  
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### The VIM Team

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Medical Director  
**Charlie Ayers, MD**  
Assistant Medical Director  
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Executive Assistant

The design and printing of this newsletter possible due to the generous support of Columbia River Bank.



> CLINIC: 541.330.9001 > DONATIONS: 541.330.9054 > WEBSITE: WWW.VIM-CASCADES.ORG

## tasty tidbit!

Before passing on the cranberry sauce this holiday season, consider:

- CRANBERRIES CONTAIN SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS OF ANTIOXIDANTS AND OTHER PHYTONUTRIENTS THAT MAY HELP PROTECT AGAINST HEART DISEASE, CANCER AND OTHER DISEASES.
- PRELIMINARY RESEARCH INDICATES THAT CRANBERRIES MAY IMPROVE NEUROLOGICAL FUNCTION.
- THE CRANBERRY IS ONE OF THREE MAJOR FRUITS NATIVE TO NORTH AMERICA. OTHERS INCLUDE THE BLUEBERRY AND CONCORD GRAPE.
- NATIVE AMERICANS POUNDED CRANBERRIES INTO A PASTE AND MIXED WITH DRIED MEAT AND FAT AND CALLED THIS MIXTURE 'PEMMICAN.' THESE DRIED CAKES TRAVEL WELL BUT YOUR AUNT'S SAUCE IS PROBABLY TASTIER.
- ONLY COOK CRANBERRIES UNTIL THEY POP BECAUSE OVERCOOKING WILL GIVE THEM A BITTER FLAVOR.

# holiday blessings



Imagine that you are facing the Holiday Season without health insurance. Imagine now that you are sick and have nowhere to turn. As you count your blessings this Holiday Season, surely your health ranks near the top of your list. But for thousands of your neighbors who cannot afford to see a doctor, good health is not a given. You can help the uninsured working families in our community this Holiday Season by making a gift to Volunteers in Medicine. Best wishes from all of us at VIM and thank you for your support.

- **\$50**—provides 3 patients with medications for one month
- **\$75**—provides one week of medical supplies for our 60 volunteer nurses and doctors
- **\$100**—covers one new patient visit, including most lab tests and medications
- **\$250**—provides medication, monitoring equipment and diabetes education to one patient
- **\$500**—brings the NW Medical Dental Van Team to the VIM Clinic for one full day

Enclosed is my Gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

DONOR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

DAY PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EVE PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

[RETURN TO VIM: 2300 NE NEFF ROAD, BEND, OREGON 97701]

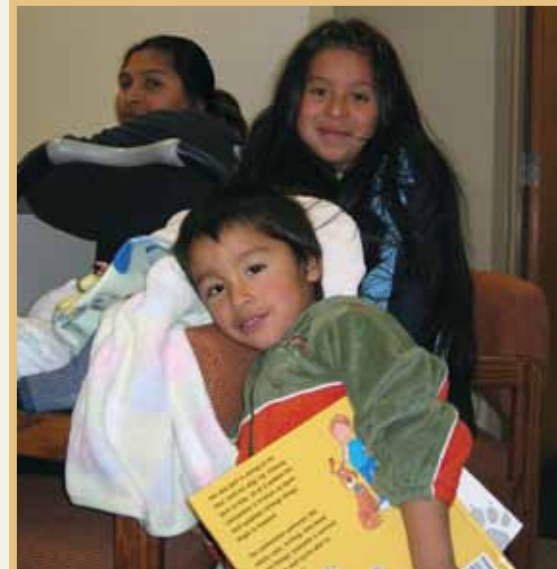
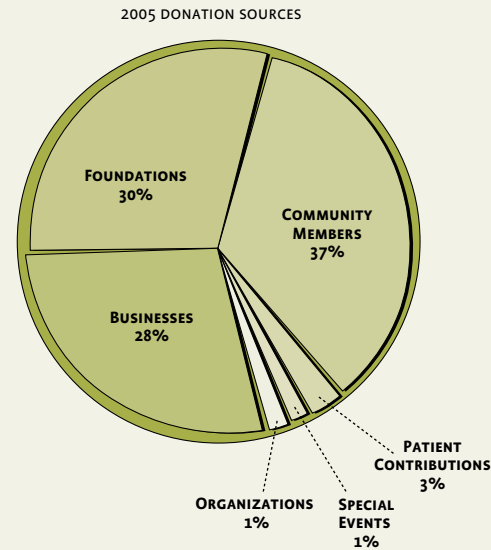
## Annual campaign is 72% of the way there

**Volunteers in Medicine Clinic of the Cascades is a pure non-profit**, meaning that we are not supported by federal or state subsidies, insurance receipts, membership fees or service fees (although patients make modest donations). Consequently, we must raise our operating budget each year from charitable individuals, local businesses, corporations, organizations and foundations. Our fundraising goal for this year is \$380,000.

Our fundraising efforts involve gifts from staff, Board of Directors, VIM volunteers, local businesses and organizations, community

members and foundations. Collectively these efforts are known as the "Annual Campaign" —our once-a-year effort to secure funding for programs and operations. Since beginning our Annual Campaign this August, we've raised \$291,800 in cash and pledges toward our \$380,000 goal.

If you would like to make a gift now, please find a pledge cut-out in this issue of the newsletter. If you would like more information on VIM's fundraising efforts, please contact Bill Kemp, Development Director (330-9054). ↘  
(Note: Many gifts will qualify for the Carver Challenge Grant. See article below.)



### Dear Friends and supporters of VIM,

Every week, we receive a patient letter sharing how much better they feel because of VIM services and the kindness of our volunteer caregivers. Every once in a while, people share how their entire life has been transformed as a result of access to quality health care services. The letter below came in about 3 weeks ago and I thought all of you who support the Clinic with your donation of time and dollars would like to know the difference you are making. On behalf of the Board and the VIM team, I appreciate and thank you for all you do and wish you a healthy, happy holiday season.

**Christine Winters**  
—EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF VIM

### Dear VIM,

*I wanted to say thank you and to tell you just how much it has meant to me to have all of your help in a time of need. I never thought I would be in a place in my life where I needed help to get on my feet again but now I can tell you how putting my pride aside has been the best thing in order to get where I needed to be.*

*Because of your help, I have a fresh start. Not only was I able to get medical help but I was touched by the true concern of your staff for what I was going through.*

*Your N.W. Medical Team (Dental Van) also helped me with my smile so I could interview for a new job and "YES" I got the job. I will have full insurance in three months and make enough money to support my family. Thank you! I mean "THANK YOU ALL"*

*I can't imagine where I would be if it were not for the care and concern of all of you at VIM. I'm back on my feet, I am able to help myself and soon I hope to give back. God bless you all and thank you!*

**(Patient Name Withheld)**

## Carver challenge

**Founding Board member, Medical Director Emeritus and current Development Team Chair, Dr. Ron Carver and his wife have issued a \$100,000 Challenge to VIM supporters!!**

The purpose of this challenge is to encourage:

- 1) **new gifts to VIM**
- 2) **increased (larger) gifts to VIM, and**
- 3) **"lapsed donors" to renew their support for the Clinic.**

The Carvers will match dollar-for-dollar new

gifts to VIM, an increased gift over last year (the net increase will be matched), or a renewed gift (gifts from donors who have not made a donation since 4/1/05.)

To make a gift, use the tear-out pledge form in this newsletter. ↘

➔ *"All of us at VIM are thrilled. This is a remarkable challenge from a family that has already done so much for VIM. We very much appreciate the Carver's generosity and support!"* —VIM BOARD MEMBER

### WHERE DOES YOUR DONATION GO?

Unlike many non-profit organizations which rent their program space, VIM is fortunate enough to own its own building and leases the land for just \$1 per year. Consequently, very little of VIM's budget is used to cover "overhead expenses," allowing most of the money we raise to go directly into programs which benefit our patients. Your generous charitable support provides for:

- 1) the recruitment and training of our volunteers and the recruitment of medical professionals in our community who provide direct, pro bono patient care;

- 2) insurance to cover our practitioners, volunteers, board of directors and property;
- 3) medical supplies and equipment for our volunteer caregivers;
- 4) discounted pharmaceuticals for our patients;
- 5) computer hardware, software and IT support for our electronic medical records and other applications;
- 6) lights, heat, water and phone;
- 7) coordination of efforts and supervision of patient care by a dedicated team of paid staff.



## Come wine and dine at the 2007 Gala

**Volunteers in Medicine is proud to be this year's beneficiary of the CENTRAL OREGON VISITORS ASSOCIATION 2007 Gala to be held on Monday, January 15, 2007.**

The event will be moving to the new Riverhouse Conference Center this year. In recent years, the

**If you are interested in attending the Gala, please contact Bill Kemp, Development Director at 330-9054.**

Gala has averaged more than \$100,000 in funds raised for the beneficiary. Most of the funds will go to VIM's newly established endowment program, while 15% will be used to build VIM's Planned Giving program to help ensure the long-term sustainability of the Clinic. Individual tickets sell for \$100 and tables for \$1,250. ↘



### VIM CHECKUP

Since opening...

**14,100** PATIENT VISITS COMPLETED

**58,450** VOLUNTEER HOURS DONATED!

**18,500** MEDICATIONS DISPENSED AT A VALUE EXCEEDING ONE MILLION DOLLARS

## Outside Our Walls

Much of the care provided to patients is only possible because of the wonderful medical community who do their part to help increase access to care for the uninsured. **In 2006:**

- ➔ **518** imaging and diagnostic studies were conducted by our friends at St. Charles Medical Center, Central Oregon Radiology, CMI, BMC, Neurology Associates, Dessert Orthopedics, and The Center.
- ➔ **2,393** lab tests were completed by Labcorp and Cascades Healthcare Community.
- ➔ **323** specialty consults and surgical services were donated with the help of The Center, Bend Memorial Clinic, Retina Clinic of the Cascades, Koller Clinic, Central Oregon ENT, Bend Anesthesiology Group, Advanced Surgical, Bend Dermatology Clinic, Desert Orthopedics, Bend Urology, The Cardiology Group, Therapeutic Associates, Healing Bridge, and many others who have said "YES" when we have called on them to lend a healing hand. ↘