



Relief Nursery dream nears fruition

Treasure Valley Children's Relief Nursery is a community-based child abuse prevention program, modeled on a 25-year highly successful Relief Nursery in Eugene. Thanks to the insight and hard work of former board chair Aaron Hartman, and a great deal of collaboration between several community partners, organizers hope to see this dream come to fruition in Malheur County in January 2009.



The local TVCRN will provide early intervention services to high-risk families with children ages 6 weeks to 4 years.

“Our major goal will be to keep children safe, and families together,” said board secretary Charlene Pelland.

The Board plans for the Relief Nursery project to be sustained through continued collaborative efforts of several partners, including Treasure Valley Community College, its Foundation, TVCRN, and the Malheur Commission on Children & Families. Board

chair Christine Crysler noted that local fundraising efforts have been under way, and will continue. These include applying for grants to public and private organizations.

“Some may ask whether we need such a program in our community,” Pelland said. “Regretfully, we do.”

Malheur County statistics for 2007 show 244 children – nearly 30 of every 1,000 – were victims of child abuse or neglect. This rate was 91 percent worse than Oregon’s average, and nearly half the victims of abuse or neglect were under age 6. And, a total of 173 children in the county have been in foster care at least once during the past year.

Crysler explained that the TVCRN is committed to helping families succeed by providing several services:

Therapeutic Classroom Program

This creates a safe, predictable, empowering environment where at-risk, distressed infants and children can thrive. The majority of infants and children will receive

therapeutic support because they are experiencing social, language, intellectual, emotional and physical delays. TVCRN has created a unique environment with TVCC, called a ‘lab school,’ Crysler said. This lab school will be placed in the Nursery to provide specialized training in therapeutic intervention to TVCC students studying early childhood education.

Outreach Program

To be effective, child care providers will need to impact parents beyond the four walls of the nursery, Pelland said.

“Our goal is to provide outreach crisis intervention and ongoing services for high-risk families in five areas:

- Parent support and referral
- Parenting skills classes
- Home visits
- Respite care
- Basic needs support.





You can make a difference

Imagine a world in which children and families who needed a little help to be successful, got that help. Children and their families are our priority. Supporting TVCRN is a way to help care for the families in our community who need it most. We need board members/advisors and financial support.

For information or to donate, please contact Sara Serrano at 541-881-4874. We are so grateful for your support!



Treasure Valley
Children's Relief Nursery®

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The Children's Relief Nursery wants to thank
Tami Anderson
for the design of the TVCRN logo.



We also want to offer a very special thank you to
Aaron Hartman,
Past President of TVCRN Board of Directors, for
his time, dedication and the many hours he
contributed in making the Treasure Valley
Children's Relief Nursery a reality.



Finally, we thank the
Commission on Children & Families
for its continued support of TVCRN.

Congratulations to our Doll House Raffle Winner!

Claudia Wilcox was the winner of the beautiful log cabin doll house. The drawing was held June 2.

Special Acts of Kindness:

- Thank you to **Central Rent to Own** for transporting the dollhouse.
- A big thank you to **Four Rivers Cultural Center** for displaying the doll house and selling raffle tickets.
- A big thank you to the **Staff and Inmates at Snake River Correctional Institution** for hand crafting the beautiful doll house – all 300 pounds!
- Thank you to the **SRCI Prison Advisory Committee** for designating TVCRN as the recipient of the doll house.
- A very special thank you to the **TVCC Foundation** for its assistance with our doll house raffle.
- Thanks, too, to the **Ontario Chamber of Commerce** and its members for supporting our fundraising activities.

