

OP's Crisis Services Program Gets 25-Thousand Dollar Boost from the Oregon Community Foundation

(Portland, Oregon) Oregon Partnership's Crisis Services Programs – which helps tens of thousands of Oregonians each year in crisis counseling and treatment referral – has received a 25-thousand dollar grant from the Miller Charitable Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation.

The grant will allow Oregon Partnership to upgrade its database management software that supports the Crisis Services Program, including the four crisis lines that are operated 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

“Thanks to The Oregon Community Foundation, we will now have the database that we've always needed,” says Leslie Storm, Crisis Services Program Director. “We'll be better able to compile valuable information that will result in better service for those seeking help and to identify trends that can benefit our entire state.”

Last year, OP's crisis lines received more than 20-thousand calls from those seeking assistance in drug and alcohol problems and others contemplating or threatening suicide.

Oregon Partnership's crisis lines consist of:

***HELP Line** - An Alcohol and Drug Crisis Line. Trained volunteers provide confidential crisis counseling and referral to individuals in need. 1-800-923-HELP

* **Suicide Intervention** - The only suicide line in Oregon certified by the National Suicide Prevention LifeLine Network and serves as a national suicide intervention model. 1-800-273-TALK.

“Our staff and volunteers are trained in crisis counseling, suicide prevention, and motivation counseling,” says Storm. “Each caller asking for assistance is offered a return call by staff member to insure that the crisis has de-escalated.”

* **YouthLine** - Teen volunteers helping teens. 877-515-TEEN.

***Linea de Ayuda** - Spanish speaking line. 877-515-7848.

The Oregon Community Foundation is a statewide nonprofit organization that administers permanent charitable funds established through gifts and bequests from individuals, families, businesses and other organizations.

The grant to Oregon Partnership was approved at the May 7, 2008 OCF board of directors meeting. Terms of the grant include a nine-month evaluation by OP of the database management system.

Oregon Partnership is the state's leading non-profit that partners with communities, educators, law enforcement, treatment providers and families to prevent alcohol and drug abuse in Oregon.

Over the past 15 years, OP has provided annual substance abuse prevention programs and treatment referral services to more than 300,000 Oregonians.