



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**\$250,000 Grant Awarded through the Oregon School-Based
Health Network by PacificSource Health Plans’
Charitable Foundation**

*Seven school-based health clinics around the state and
the Network will benefit after loss of state support*

Eugene, Ore. – The PHA Charitable Foundation Inc. of PacificSource Health Plans today announced it has awarded a quarter of a million dollars to support seven school-based health centers statewide and the Oregon School-based Health Network. The \$250,000 cumulative award continues the foundation’s eight-year history of funding school-based health centers and school health initiatives.

“We are immensely grateful to the PHA Foundation and to PacificSource Health Plans because this year has brought funding challenges for the school-based health centers in Oregon’s elementary, middle and high schools,” says Maxine Proskurowski, Secretary of the Oregon School-based Health Network, the administering body for the granted funds.

She adds, “The state’s funding of \$2.3 million was eliminated in February this year, so half or 22 of the health centers in Oregon have closed. This award will increase the number of surviving clinics to 29 current sites around Oregon. It will also allow the surviving clinics to maintain their current level of health services in the school setting.”

The \$250,000 grant award will be administered as follows:

- The majority portion of the total grant will be awarded to seven school-based health clinics around the state, to provide funding matches and to help the clinics obtain additional, sustainable funding mechanisms. The awardees include:
 - Oregon City High School
 - Springfield High School-based Health Center
 - Eugene School District 4J School-based Health Centers
 - La Grande High School-based Health Center
 - Taft High School-based Health Center (Lincoln City)

- Ashland High School Health Center
- Crater High School Health Center (Medford)
- The remaining portion was awarded to the Oregon School-based Health Network to fund a two-year coordinating position that will allow the network to find sustainable sources of funding and provide guidance so the school-based health centers can also obtain sustainable funding.

“Our goal with this important award is to help as many of Oregon’s children as possible to get good health care,” says PacificSource Health Plans President and CEO and PHA Foundation President Ken Provencher. “Continuing support of school-based health clinics is a priority for the PHA Foundation, and this year, we were delighted to grant these funds as a tribute to the long-standing service of board member Richard Hansen.” Mr. Hansen retired this year after 13 years of service on the Board of Directors of PacificSource Health Plans and a term on the PHA Foundation Inc. board.

About Oregon’s School-based Health Centers (SBHC)

School-based health services include primary care, dental services, education, and behavioral health counseling for students and health programming support to instructors. In school year 1999/2000, the majority of state funding for school-based health centers came from the State General Fund. Oregon has 44 operating centers, 5 more than in school year 1997/1998. Most of these centers (28) provide services to high school students. Centers are eligible for payment through Medicaid and SCHIP, and state law requires that Medicaid managed care provider networks include SBHCs. The criteria used to determine where SBHCs will be located are percent of children uninsured, and percent of low-income children. For more information, visit www.healthinschools.org/sr/OR.asp.

About the Pacific Hospital Association (PHA) Charitable Foundation Inc.

PacificSource Health Plans incorporated the foundation as a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit entity in 1992 for funding charitable and educational purposes that meet the nonprofit designation under the General Revenue Code. The foundation provides resources and funds to programs or individuals to attempt to improve the health status or meet health care needs, with an emphasis on children and youth in Oregon communities. The PHA Foundation’s particular areas of focus is funding of programs and projects that address the health care needs of children and youth in Oregon communities. The foundation has awarded approximately \$410,000 in grants, awards and scholarships since its incorporation.

About PacificSource Health Plans

PacificSource Health Plans is based in Eugene, Ore., with satellite offices in Portland and Bend, Ore. The 200-employee organization provides health insurance solutions to Oregon businesses and individuals and has done so since 1933. PacificSource currently provides personalized medical and dental coverage to over 127,000 members. For more information, visit www.pacificsource.com.

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