

U of O students award \$10,000 to Eugene nonprofit agencies

by Bend_Weekly_News_Sources

EUGENE - Two Eugene nonprofit agencies received \$10,000 in grants today from a University of Oregon freshman class. The Relief Nursery and Sponsors, Inc. each received \$5,000. The grants are funded by Wells Fargo & Co. and Weyerhaeuser Company.

The students, instructor Paul Elstone and senior executives from Weyerhaeuser and Wells Fargo presented the grants to the agencies.

Students in the Freshman Seminar in American Philanthropy learned about the process of fund raising and giving away money by screening applicants for the grants and then making the hard decisions about which of several non-profit agencies to fund, according to Elstone.

"The financial support of Wells Fargo and Weyerhaeuser enabled the students to experience firsthand the joy of philanthropic giving and making a difference," he added. "This collaborative effort between the university and local businesses has generated a total of \$35,000 for Lane County agencies over the past five years."

The Relief Nursery is a child abuse and neglect prevention organization whose mission is to strengthen families and keep children safe. Last year the Relief Nursery provided comprehensive family support services to more than 1,000 children and 740 families in Eugene, Springfield and surrounding areas. The agency will use the grant to fund its general operations and leverage matching grants.

Sponsors, Inc. provides re-entry services to men and women after their release from Oregon prisons. Services include transitional and long-term housing, employment assistance, case management, drug and alcohol screening and assistance with permanent housing. The group will use its grant to fund rent subsidies for men in the Transitional House who have successfully completed the Success through Education Achievement program.

Founded in 1852, Wells Fargo is a diversified financial services company with \$482 billion in assets, providing banking, insurance, investments, mortgage and consumer finance through more than 6,000 stores and the Internet across North America and internationally. Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. is the only bank in the U.S., and one of only two banks worldwide, to have the highest credit rating from Moody's Investors Service, "Aaa," and Standard & Poor's Ratings Services, "AAA."

Weyerhaeuser Company, one of the world's largest integrated forest products companies, was incorporated in 1900. In 2006, sales were \$21.9 billion. It has offices or operations in 18 countries, with customers worldwide. Weyerhaeuser is principally engaged in the growing and harvesting of timber; the manufacture, distribution

and sale of forest products; and real estate construction, development and related activities.

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