



For immediate release
Nov. 8, 2019

Contact: Julie Wurth, La Clinica communications officer, 541-512-3153, 541-840-6513,
jwurth@laclinicahealth.org

La Clinica opens community pharmacy

La Clinica is opening two community pharmacies inside its primary care health centers to help provide affordable prescriptions and personalized care all community members. The first La Clinica Community Pharmacy opened this week inside La Clinica Phoenix Health Center, 3617 S. Pacific Highway. The second will open in January at the La Clinica Wellness Center, 730 Biddle Road., Medford.

La Clinica can tap into a federal prescription discount program to buy medication at federally negotiated low prices. Then it passes the savings on to La Clinica patients. Patients who don't have insurance that covers prescription drugs or who face high co-pays can get large discounts.

"We know it is the right thing for our patients," said Traci Fossen, La Clinica's chief quality officer, who oversees the pharmacy.

In addition to helping make prescriptions affordable for many La Clinica patients, the pharmacies will be conveniently located inside health centers where people already get care, easing transportation challenges. The pharmacists and technicians will work closely with care providers, consulting on medication options or getting quick answers to questions or refill requests.

La Clinica will reinvest some savings it gets from buying discounted medication through the federal program in patient care. Some of the money will be used to enhance pharmacy services. Some will be dedicated to paying medical and dental bills for patients who can't afford services.

La Clinica's pharmacies are operated under contract by High Country Rx Relief LLC, an Eagle Point-based company owned by pharmacists Zane and Karen Smith. The Smiths' company specializes in setting up pharmacies that provide deeply discounted medication for patients and an additional revenue source to federally funded health centers.

About La Clinica

La Clinica offers wellness-focused medical, dental, mental health, and substance use disorder care at 21 sites: six primary health centers, East Medford Dental Clinic, 13 school-based centers, and in a mobile center. Although its mission focuses on providing access to low-income people, La Clinica is open to everyone. La Clinica was founded in 1989 to serve the primary and preventive care needs of migrant and seasonal farm workers in Jackson County. In 2001, in response to an increasing need for affordable primary health, La Clinica expanded its scope to serve every member of the community. All services are offered regardless of a patient's ability to pay, and on a sliding-scale basis for the uninsured and low income.