This holiday season

Give a lasting gift to the community

Gifts have enabled La Clinica to grow to meet our community’s need for affordable healthcare services. Today, we are the medical and dental home for more than 30,000 mostly low-income patients. By supporting our vision to provide affordable health care to all, regardless of income or insurance status, you’re not only caring for our community but your investment helps reduce overall healthcare costs by preventing unnecessary ER visits and identifying disease early.

We need your help now more than ever. There are many ways to give. Use the enclosed envelope, donate securely at http://laclinicahealth.org, or call our development office, 541-535-4551, for other options. Please let us know if you’d like your donation to support our children’s campaign.

La Clinica is a 501c3, private non-profit organization, and your gift is tax deductible.

La Clinica’s board of directors has taken the significant step of endorsing Oregon Ballot Measure 101. Learn more on Page 3.

Oregon’s most vulnerable

Unsettled politics threaten care

Swirling state and national politics are creating unpredictability for La Clinica and other community health centers and threatening care for the state’s most vulnerable residents.

In Oregon, voters in January will decide Ballot Measure 101, which would maintain Oregon Health Plan coverage for all residents who have it now. The measure’s failure could mean most adults would be cut from the state plan, and La Clinica could lose about a third of its annual budget.

Nationally, Congress has delayed reauthorization of health center funding at levels established under the Affordable Care Act. Strong bipartisan support exists for health centers, which provide effective care more inexpensively than others, but lawmakers so far have yet to agree on how to restore the funding. Without it, La Clinica leaders expect to lose 6 to 10 percent of the organization’s budget by late spring.

“Our concerns this year about being able to maintain care for our patients are much more urgent than usual,” said CEO Brenda Johnson. “We ask our supporters and community partners to help us maintain services, both by contributing financially and educating themselves about legislative action that impacts our work.”
La Clinica’s Happy Smiles outreach to schools improves the dental health of thousands of Jackson County children every year. In at least one case, it has done even more. Jonathan Aripe was a first-grader at Jackson Elementary in Medford when he was introduced to the team and its message of oral health. La Clinica’s presentation to the kids included dental care goodies, an illustration about soda and decayed teeth that has stayed with him to adulthood, and a glittering Tooth Fairy. Jonathan was hooked. “I was never scared of the dentist,” he said. “I knew the dentist was my best friend, and I loved the dentist because of that.” But there’s more here than a tale of dental devotion. This fall, when he was introduced to the team and its message of oral health, Jonathan joined the staff of La Clinica, assigned as a dental assistant to the very team he loved as a child. “I think Happy Smiles was why I wanted to be a dental assistant,” he said. “Being able to be there and influence someone else so I can plant that little seed.” “Oral health improves the dental health of thousands of Jackson County children every year. In at least one case, it has done even more. Jonathan Aripe was a first-grader at Jackson Elementary in Medford when he was introduced to the team and its message of oral health. La Clinica’s presentation to the kids included dental care goodies, an illustration about soda and decayed teeth that has stayed with him to adulthood, and a glittering Tooth Fairy. Jonathan was hooked. “I was never scared of the dentist,” he said. “I knew the dentist was my best friend, and I loved the dentist because of that.” But there’s more here than a tale of dental devotion. This fall, when he was introduced to the team and its message of oral health, Jonathan joined the staff of La Clinica, assigned as a dental assistant to the very team he loved as a child. “I think Happy Smiles was why I wanted to be a dental assistant,” he said. “Being able to be there and influence someone else so I can plant that little seed.”