

**PeaceHealth Wins Top Award
for key contributions to
United Way of Lane County
Success By 6 Initiative**

May 21, 2003

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - PeaceHealth, in Lane County, Oregon, was recognized today as a significant leader in the effort to prepare our nation's children to succeed in school and in life. The health organization won the distinctive local award **United Way Success By 6 2003 - Philanthropic Partner** at today's event. Giving time, talents, resources and outstanding dedication through the United Way Success By 6 Initiative, PeaceHealth Oregon Region has been instrumental ensuring that children are safe, cherished and ready to learn.

Awards were presented in Charlotte, North Carolina today during the "Engaging Leaders: Building Bright Futures for Young Children" conference, the first national conference of its kind bringing together business leaders, policy makers, and community stakeholders to address early childhood system-building through public engagement, communications, public policy and proven solutions.

PeaceHealth has been a key Success By 6 Initiative philanthropic champion for early childhood since 1997, providing vision, funding, technical and grant-writing expertise, and volunteer leadership throughout the Initiative's history in Lane County.

Alan Yordy, CEO of PeaceHealth, joined the United Way of Lane County board in 2000 and adopted the initiative with open arms. On numerous occasions over 4 years their management team spoke to community leaders on behalf of the initiative - stressing the importance of systemic change, a prevention focus and partnership. PeaceHealth signed up as the first sponsor of United Way of Lane County's SB6 three-year public education campaign (\$300,000 commitment), the spark that inspired other sponsors and fueled the launch of the Cherish Every Child campaign in November 2001. PeaceHealth's Sacred Heart Medical Center Foundation secured an additional \$635,000 to-date for SB6 through one-on-one meetings and strategic grant applications on behalf of United Way of Lane County, key to their ability to implement strategies and build capacity.

"Receiving this recognition is a great honor not only for PeaceHealth, but also for the entire Springfield and Eugene community," said PeaceHealth Oregon Region CEO Alan Yordy. "Working to improve community health is one of the cornerstones of our mission. Working as partners with Success By 6 and United Way helps us fulfill our commitment to this goal. This recognition will serve as an inspiration to us as we move forward in dealing with the many healthcare challenges facing us in the coming years."

"Educational success, economic strength and a qualified workforce are deeply rooted in how well we prepare our young children for the challenges they will face," said Brian Gallagher, president and CEO of United Way of America. "Those being recognized for their work with United Way Success By 6 exemplify what matters for the future in each

of our communities. We thank the recipients for their time and efforts and congratulate all on their achievements.”

PeaceHealth’s employees have volunteered on nearly every SB6 Initiative sub-committee, including: Child Abuse Planning Team, Prenatal Consortium, Fund Development, Leadership, Parent Support Line, Universal Parenting Education, and Universal Screening. PeaceHealth’s Community Health Committee has involved SB6 in their meetings and connected the initiative with area groups working towards similar outcomes. The PeaceHealth Pediatrics group provides a vital connection to the medical community and to new parents.

Attending the awards ceremony, Gerry Gaydos, Chair of the Success By Six Leadership Team and attorney at Gaydos, Churnside & Balthrop, said “Our initiative is in its fifth year. As a result of PeaceHealth’s commitment to early childhood, United Way of Lane County is able to bring partners together to create lasting change for our children and families. This should be an inspiration to other businesses and organizations to participate in continuing Success By 6 efforts.”

Active in every state and in 350 communities, the United Way Success By 6 initiative is this year celebrating its 15th year and has become the largest early childhood coalition network in the United States.

Twenty one awards were presented to local and national United Way Success By 6 leaders in six categories Committed Communicator, Community Catalyst, Corporate Champion, Philanthropic Partner, Public Partner, and School Superstar.

In highly competitive company from all over the nation, other United Way of Lane County Success By 6 supporters received **Honorable Mentions:**

Community Catalyst Honorable Mention: **Scott Palmer and Jim Kirk of United Rotary Clubs of Eugene-Springfield.**

Corporate Champion Honorable Mention:
Gretchen Pierce, President Hult& Associates, LLC.

Committed Communicator Honorable Mention:
Carolyn Chambers, Chairman and CEO & Trustee Chambers Communication and the Chambers Family Foundation.

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[About PeaceHealth](#)

The Oregon Region of PeaceHealth is a non-profit, Catholic-sponsored health care system based in Eugene, Oregon. It is composed of Sacred Heart Medical Center, a 432-bed regional tertiary medical center; PeaceHealth Medical Group, a multi-specialty group practice; Cottage Grove Community Hospital, an 11-bed rural hospital; and South Lane Medical Group, a 12-member physician group serving a small, rural community. PeaceHealth is Lane County's largest private employer, with nearly 4,000 employees.

About United Way of Lane County

United Way of Lane County improves lives through the caring power of community. Driven by over 3,500 volunteers, we bring together resources and people to solve local problems.

For more information visit www.cherisheverychild.org <<http://www.cherisheverychild.org>> and www.unitedwaylane.org <<http://www.unitedwaylane.org>>. Or, call 541-741-6000.

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