



OESCO clients and Red Cross staff from left to right:  
Tammy Yonker, Nick Knauss, Sue Quinn, Denice  
McCarley, Sheri Marble, Carol Bair

**"I've worked here for 5 years.  
I love it. I like putting the blood  
bags together and I like to help  
people by volunteering."**

*Ryan Lawer, OESCO client and  
Red Cross volunteer*

## Red Cross Volunteers Begin 7th Year of Serving Community

In January of this year, OESCO clients began their 7<sup>th</sup> year of providing valuable services to the American Red Cross. Although the team began with only two volunteers, the effort has grown to include two separate work groups and over 15 different clients. Both original OESCO volunteers continue to serve the Red Cross regularly.

At any one time, up to five OESCO volunteers work side-by-side with others from the community assembling the blood collection bags which are used across the region for blood drives. Another OESCO group works in the lab removing filtration devices from their wrapping.

In the last six months, OESCO clients



**Left:** OESCO clients Tammy Yonker and Sue Quinn prepare blood bags for use in blood drives across the region

have logged 1,257 hours of volunteer time with the Red Cross. During these hours they completed 1,607 cases of blood bags, from which 4,821 products can be made. Red Cross warehouse

supervisor Denice McCarley proudly notes that all this work will touch 4,821 lives. These totals represent approximately 64% of the blood bags needed to supply the region (Portland, Vancouver, Salem, and Longview).

**OESCO** is a business-oriented nonprofit that works in **partnership** with employers to support community employment for individuals with developmental disabilities.

## Want to become one of the first designated *Friends of OESCO*?

**OESCO** is looking for individuals and businesses in the Portland area to show their support for people with developmental disabilities who are eager to work in real jobs.

Contact us today at [www.oescorp.org](http://www.oescorp.org) regarding your interest in any of the following:

- + Donating almost-new computers
- + Volunteering
- + Offering a tax-deductible gift

**Please call us at: 503-774-1667**

Every ounce of goodwill counts and will be recognized & put to good use.

*"OESCO has helped me get a great job at Autumn Hills that I like."  
- Dennis S., OESCO client*



his flexibility and dedication, and a supportive family, employer, and community are all factors contributing to Matt's success. He has worked with a number of supervisors over the years who—as his job coach Mary Ellen Baldauff notes—arrive with varying expectations of people with

**Consumer Spotlight:  
Matt McCann**

If you're headed to the store this spring to pick up a few supplies for your garden, OESCo consumer Matt McCann may be able to help. Matt has been an employee in the Garden Center at Fred Meyer's Hollywood location since June 1996, where he has earned multiple pay increases over the years. His career with Fred Meyer began two years prior as a parcel clerk.

During the growing season, Matt works up to 40 hours per week in the Garden Center. One of his favorite responsibilities is transporting pallets of product from the delivery trucks. Matt is also quick to offer customers assistance by finding products or answering their questions.

Matt's interest in working with people,



disabilities. Mary Ellen has contributed support by working with new supervisors and coworkers on effective methods of working with Matt. "My efforts are aimed at helping Fred Meyer staff gain a full appreciation of Matt's skills and abilities."

**Kaiser Permanente expansion provides new opportunities:** Last autumn, OESCo's Kaiser Enclave opened a new site at the Nicolai Service Center (NSC) in Northwest Portland with just one consumer. Now in its sixth month of operation, the NSC Enclave engages a total of eight clients who prepare lab results to be mailed for Kaiser Permanente's Health Connect department. Lab results from throughout the region are printed daily, and OESCo clients are responsible for sending out every single one — on average, 15,000 *results* per week! The development of this new site is another step in Kaiser's long history of providing employment opportunities for OESCo clients.

**OESCo's Board of Directors**

*Kurt Shusterich*

*Bev Peloquin*

*Raymond G. Robertson*

*Lucia Reynolds*

*Ricky Richardson*

*Linda Stent*

*Karen Saul (Legal)*

**Interim Executive Director**

*Gerald Pearce*

**OESCo's Team**

*Mary Ellen Baldauff*

*Janice Robinson*

*Mary Jo Kessinger*

*Roseann Nelson*

*Susan Meyer*

*Nita Hoskins*

*George Paulson*

*Tracy Puhl*

*Meagan Kennedy*

*Dennis Benjamin*

*Dru Welland*

*Jesse Klein*

*Wendy Adams*

*Enola Smith*

*Noah Collier*

**Consultant**

*Paul Crowther*

*Oregon Employment Services Corporation  
A nonprofit organization*

*5289 NE Elam Young Parkway  
Building G-900  
Hillsboro, OR 97124*

