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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Annual ACCESS Senior Shoebox Project Brings Gifts of Cheer to Seniors

Medford, November 12: For over 30 years, during the holiday season, the annual ACCESS Senior Shoebox Project brings gifts of cheer and care to seniors, people with disabilities, and people who are homebound in Jackson County. Donors and volunteers can fill and wrap shoeboxes with a variety of gift items from the Senior Shoebox Wishlist, which are then hand-delivered before Christmas.

The annual ACCESS Senior Shoebox Project is accepting wrapped gift boxes filled with fun and usable gifts now through Friday, November 22. Examples of the most needed items include hats, scarves, socks, potholders, large handle can openers, pillboxes, toothbrushes, toiletries, jar grippers/openers, card games, crossword puzzles, etc. **We ask that the box lids and bottoms be wrapped separately, so we may add a holiday greeting from ACCESS to each box.** The shoeboxes will be delivered by volunteers during the week of December 2.

“Recipients and donors alike look forward to this program every year. The shoebox gift brings so much joy to seniors throughout our community, who might not otherwise receive a gift for the holidays,” says Kellie Battaglia, Chief Advancement Officer. She added, “One recipient even told us her shoebox was the best gift she’s ever received in her 92 years.”

Filled, wrapped shoeboxes can be dropped off at ACCESS, 3630 Aviation Way, Medford Monday – Friday from 8am – 4:30pm. For donations of more than 20 shoeboxes, please coordinate the delivery time with Development staff. **For information, to volunteer, or to coordinate a donation drop off, call 458-488-1220 or email shoebox@accesshelps.org.** Cash donations are also welcome and will be used to support our senior programs. Donations can be made at accesshelps.org/donations.

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ABOUT ACCESS

ACCESS provides food, warmth, shelter, and other essential services to Jackson County's low-income children, families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities. As the Community Action Agency of Jackson County, Oregon, ACCESS has been helping residents break the cycle of poverty since 1976. Last year, tens of thousands of people received assistance from ACCESS's broad continuum of services, including obtaining safe, affordable housing, rental assistance, utility assistance, weatherization, free loaned durable medical equipment, and healthy food.

ACCESS provides equal employment opportunities (EEO) to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability or genetics. In addition to federal law requirements, ACCESS complies with applicable state and local laws governing nondiscrimination in employment in every location in which the company has facilities.

ACCESS is an equal opportunity provider. ACCESS is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization, Federal ID No. 93-0665396.

All donations are tax deductible per tax code. No goods or services are provided in consideration of donations.

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

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Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. **mail:**
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. **fax:**
(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. **email:**
Program.Intake@usda.gov

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