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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Oregon HEAT Receives a \$250,000 Grant from Meyer Memorial Trust  
For Emergency Energy Assistance**

TUALATIN — Now in the middle of its 20<sup>th</sup> year of helping low-income Oregon families in critical need of emergency energy assistance, Oregon HEAT, a statewide independent non-profit organization, is again demonstrating its ability to respond quickly to community needs with incoming donations.

Meyer Memorial Trust, created by the personal philanthropy of Fred G. Meyer, awarded Oregon HEAT a special grant for “emergency energy assistance” to help Oregon families outside the Portland metropolitan area.

Commenting on Oregon HEAT’s ability to implement programs rapidly, Executive Director Roger Rees said, “The timing couldn’t have been better. With unemployment now in the double-digit figures, and unemployment benefits beginning to run out we’re seeing a record number of families struggling to meet basic family needs.” “This grant will be a tremendous help to these families, and we can put this grant to work immediately.”

“The Meyer Memorial Trust is well known for its caring philanthropies to help Oregonians,” said Mr. Rees, “and this is another fine example of how they and Oregon HEAT can quickly partner together to work as neighbors helping neighbors.” “Oregon HEAT was founded on this concept. Most of our donations are from individuals and are used to help families in the same community as the donor, Mr. Rees added.

Oregon HEAT also raises funds through its utility partners Pacific Power, Portland General Electric, and West Oregon Electric Cooperative, as well as through grants and its new innovative used oil recycling program.

Oregon has over 435,000 low-income households that may be eligible for energy assistance. “We are working hard to raise funds across the state to help families in critical need of heat or lights. This Meyer Memorial Trust Grant is another superb example of how Oregonians step up to help their neighbors in times of need,” said Mr. Rees. “The job we face today is enormous, but thankfully, Oregonians have a history of coming through to help one another in times of crisis. I’m asking all Oregonians to join with the Meyer Memorial Trust and be a helping neighbor by make a tax-deductible donation to Oregon HEAT today.”

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### **About Oregon HEAT**

Oregon HEAT is an independent organization founded to help low-income Oregonians become more energy self-reliant. It receives no state or federal funding. In partnership with community agencies and utilities throughout the state, Oregon HEAT provides energy assistance and advocates access to energy resources for low-income Oregonians. Oregon HEAT’s primary program objective is to prevent disconnection of utility services by providing bill payment assistance to low-income households in emergency situations. To donate to, or learn more about, Oregon HEAT: Visit [www.oregonheat.org](http://www.oregonheat.org); call: 503-612-3790; or write to Oregon HEAT, PO Box 127, Tualatin, Ore. 97062.

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