

**NEWS RELEASE** 

For Immediate Release August 13, 2015 Contact: Brian Terrett Phone: 503-415-5775

## \$20 million gift ignites Legacy Health's campaign to tackle Oregon's behavioral health crisis

PORTLAND, ORE. – With a \$20 million gift committed and the signing of a Joint Operating Agreement (JOA) by partner health care systems, Legacy Health's Office of Philanthropy is kicking off a campaign to raise \$40 million to create a Portland mental health crisis center that will transform Oregon's mental health care.

This week, Adventist Health, Kaiser Permanente, Legacy Health and Oregon Health & Science University signed the JOA establishing the *Unity Center for Behavioral Health* – an integrated, community-based system of care for people facing a mental health crisis. The *Unity Center* will be located on Legacy's Holladay Park campus following renovations.

The agreement was followed with the pledge of a transformational gift of \$20 million from the Robert D. and Marcia H. Randall Charitable Trust, which will ensure the project can move quickly to the construction phase and soon begin saving and improving lives.

"Our nation's current mental health care system is broken and the need for change is critical to the health of our community," said Marcia Randall, "The *Unity Center for Behavioral Health* is an investment that will dramatically improve the lives of individuals and families dealing with a mental health crisis, and lead to a healthier community."

The project's construction cost is estimated at \$50 million. Legacy Health is donating \$10 million in real estate and leading the public fundraising campaign. The campaign has already received several other generous donations and commitments from both private and public supporters, including:

- \$20 million from the Robert D. and Marcia H. Randall Charitable Trust
- \$2 million from FamilyCare, Inc.
- \$1 million from Jeffrey and Lisa Gordon; Unity Campaign Cabinet members and Jeff is a member of the Legacy Health Foundation board of trustees
- \$1 million from the Rood Family
- \$1 million from an anonymous donor
- \$500,000 from Mike and Loren Gordon
- \$150,000 from the Oregon Community Foundation

- \$100,000 from David and Jill Mertens; David is a member of the Good Samaritan Foundation board of trustees
- \$100,000 from the Martha, Robert and John Atherton Foundation
- \$50,000 from Greg and Michele Goodwin, Unity Campaign Cabinet members and Greg is a member of the Randall Children's Hospital Foundation board of trustees
- \$3 million from Multnomah County
- \$500,000 from the City of Portland
- \$250,000 from Clackamas County
- \$200,000 from Washington County

"These generous gifts provide the crucial first step in transforming how we care for this fragile population," said Maureen Bradley, senior vice president and chief development officer of the Legacy Health Office of Philanthropy. "When complete, this center will serve as a national role model for the way care is delivered for those suffering from a behavioral health crisis. Together, with the community's support, we can be proud of our leadership role."

Each year in Oregon, an estimated 1 in 20 adults experience a serious mental illness and 31,000 adolescents suffer a major depressive episode. Untreated mental illness is common among the prison population both nationally and locally. The Oregon Department of Corrections (ODOC) has determined that more than half of Oregon's prison population has been diagnosed with a mental illness.

As the first behavioral health center of its kind in the region, the *Unity Center for Behavioral Health* is expected to become the new standard for providing compassionate mental health care in times of crisis, without unnecessary waiting. This unprecedented collaboration between Adventist Health, Kaiser Permanente, Legacy Health and Oregon Health & Science University has set a goal of providing care for all those in need through a combination of emergency, inpatient and outpatient services. The partners have embraced the concepts of hope, recovery and resilience to guide this new venture.

The Unity Center will include 79 adult patient beds and 22 beds for adolescents and will also house organizations that provide community behavioral health services, helping to coordinate continued support to patients after discharge.

To learn more about how you can help support the *Unity Center for Behavioral Health*, contact Legacy Health's Office of Philanthropy at 503-415-4700 or visit www.unityhealthcenter.org.