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WISEWOMAN Program Funded in Oregon

The Oregon Department of Human Services, Public Health Division, Office of Family Health has been awarded a five-year federal grant from the U.S.Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to decrease the risk of heart disease and stroke among Oregon low-income women.

The program, called WISEWOMAN (Well-integrated Screening and Evaluation for Women Across the Nation), aims to reduce cardiovascular disease by promoting early detection, risk factor screening, risk reduction and access to medical treatment for low-income, uninsured and underinsured women aged 40 to 64. To participate, women must be receiving screening services through the Oregon Breast and Cervical Cancer Program.

The grant will provide \$612,000 per year for screening services that will include a family medical history, blood pressure, body mass index (BMI), cholesterol, and glucose tests. The goal is to determine risk factors for heart disease and stroke and to use behavioral-change strategies to improve diet, increase physical activity, live tobacco-free, and adopt other healthy behaviors.

The WISEWOMAN Program will partner with the Community Health Center in Medford and the Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Clinics in Washington and Yamhill counties.

Screenings are scheduled to begin in January, 2009.



Additional partners include the American Stroke Association, the American Heart Association, and Oregon Health Sciences University.

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