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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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H.O.P.E. Drug Court Participant Leads Thriving for Growth Community Service Projects

Roseburg, Oregon – February 18, 2026. A graduate phase participant in the H.O.P.E. Drug Court is making a positive impact on the Roseburg community through a service initiative called *Thriving for Growth*. The project focuses on beautification, sustainability, and community wellness through hands-on volunteer efforts.

As part of the initiative, the participant recently helped revitalize the Gateway Community Garden, located at the Roseburg Senior Center. Improvements included repairing and expanding raised garden boxes, adding fresh soil, and installing new weed-control tarp to enhance the garden's usability and longevity. The garden project continues to welcome community support and donations, particularly additional soil, cedar lumber for garden boxes, and seeds for the raised beds.

A second component of the Thriving for Growth initiative will focus on a volunteer led cleanup on the bike path along Thrive Umpqua's adopted stretch of the local bike path, running from the Duck Pond to the Tennis Center. The cleanup event is scheduled for Saturday, March 7, and community members are welcome to join in supporting a cleaner, healthier outdoor space.

A third component of this project is to assist Thrive Umpqua with the cost of their monthly classes for Eating Healthy on a Budget to support individuals utilizing the Progress Point facility operated by Adapt Integrated Healthcare. This program focuses on practical skills for preparing nutritious, affordable meals and promoting long-term wellness. To help fund the class, a community can and bottle drive is currently underway, and monetary donations are also welcome to expand program resources and reach more participants in need.

Thrive Umpqua, formerly Blue Zones, plays an important role in promoting health and wellness throughout Douglas County. The organization partners with local Treatment Courts to provide education and practical resources that support long-term success and healthy living. Their programs include grocery shopping tours, cooking classes, purpose workshops, and other educational opportunities designed to empower individuals and families to make positive lifestyle choices.

Through projects like Thrive for Growth, participants in the H.O.P.E. Drug Court program demonstrate the power of community engagement, personal growth, and service. These efforts not only enhance public spaces but also strengthen connections between individuals and the broader Roseburg community. "I've lived here my entire life and have done so many things to damage this community," stated Kevin Davidson, Drug Court graduate phase participant. "I just want to give back and help better the community."

The Douglas County H.O.P.E. Drug Court program is preparing to celebrate its 112th graduation on Tuesday, March 31, 2026, at 5:15 p.m. The ceremony will be held at the Douglas County Fairgrounds in the Cascade Hall building. Presided over by the Honorable Judge Robert B. Johnson, H.O.P.E. Drug Court operates under the Douglas County Circuit Court. Judge Johnson uses three rules with participants to follow, Honesty, Grace, and Accountability, and has stated it was not a clean and sober court, but a place to help provide the tools, guidance and treatment to overcome substance use and encourage them to reflect on their lives beyond their criminal actions. Posterboards highlighting community project accomplishments will be displayed in the lobby before graduation.

Project flyers and additional information about the H.O.P.E. Drug Court program are available through the Douglas County website via the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (LPSCC) at: <https://douglascountyor.gov/851/HOPE-Drug-Court>.

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