

# *Staff News*

Oregon Department of Human Services Employee Newsletter

## DHS' Pollack edits book on reducing coercion in mental health services



David A. Pollack, M.D.

**David A. Pollack, M.D.**, medical director for our Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS), has edited a book for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

The monograph, *Moving from Coercion to Collaboration in Mental Health Services*, is derived from a series of symposium presentations at the American Psychiatric Association's annual meeting in 2001. Pollack organized the symposium, edited the content, and provides an introduction.

Pollack, who was recognized in May by the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) with one of its "exemplary psychiatrist" awards, took on the task because of his abiding interest in eliminating coercion in mental health treatment. This interest coincides with the current OMHAS initiative to reduce and eliminate seclusion and restraint in all of the department's psychiatric facilities.

"We know a lot about how trauma affects clients, both the trauma that contributes to the development of psychiatric illness and the trauma that mental health treatment systems have unfortunately perpetrated. By being more informed and focused on the impact of trauma, treatment can be more effective and patients will be safer and more likely to improve," Pollack says.

— Ed Kramer: (503) 945-5751; [ed.kramer@state.or.us](mailto:ed.kramer@state.or.us)





*Kevin Stufflebean,  
community development  
coordinator for Coos and  
Curry Counties*

## DHS and Coos community partners raise nearly \$7,000 at Fall Harvest Benefit

DHS teamed with community partners from the business, faith-based and non-profit sectors of Coos County to create last weekend's Fall Harvest Benefit, which brought in almost \$7,000 for the county's elderly population.

**Kevin Stufflebean**, community development coordinator for Coos and Curry counties, led the effort for DHS by bringing together a variety of organizations to support the event. He worked closely with Coos Elderly Services, an agency that assists seniors, people with physical and/or developmental disabilities and people with mental illness in their day-to-day financial management and other areas to ensure that their personal needs are met. Also involved in the project were the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church and Encore Kids, a store that sells used clothing for infants.

"Because of the success of the benefit, we hope it is the first of what will become an annual event," said Stufflebean, who won the DHS Director's Excellence Award in December 2003. "The money raised will go directly toward the mission of Coos Elderly -- helping senior citizens get through their daily lives more easily."

"Kevin's work has been extremely valuable to both DHS and the people we serve," said **Richard T. Whitwer**, manager of Service Delivery Area (SDA) 7, covering Coos and Curry counties. "As an ambassador to the community, he provides an incredible amount of support to projects that enhance partnerships and support not only our clients, but also the general public."

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## Retirements: October 2004

These former DHS employees, listed with their years of service, retired this month.

### Children, Adults & Families

Yukio P. Tomooka, 30

### Seniors & People with Disabilities

Margaret A Hofmann, 27

### Health Services

Norma J Thompson, 3

Sherl A Davidson, 17

Linda C Lawrence, 30

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