



VOLUNTEERS IN MEDICINE

City of Bend
Affordable Housing Advisory Committee Meeting
August 13, 2025

Our Mission

“to improve the health and wellness of the medically uninsured or critically underserved through the engagement of professionals, community partners, and dedicated volunteers.”



Last Year

- 503 low income, uninsured patients served
- 92 new patients last year
- 9,551 volunteer hours donated at a value of **\$651,662**
- **\$2,138,030** in prescription medications dispensed at no cost to patients

By the Numbers

11,306

patient visits to
VIM Cascades and
pro-bono
providers

9,551

volunteer hours
served

\$746,625

in cost savings to
St. Charles
Emergency Room

VIM fills a critical gap in healthcare access,
reduces the burden on Bend's healthcare systems,
and keeps residents healthy and housed.

Looking Forward

9,000

number of uninsured
people *currently*
within City of Bend

ACA
Subsidies

will expire
12/31/2025

10,000

projected local
population at-risk of
being uninsured

- According to *available* U.S Census Bureau data there are an estimated 9,000 people in the City of Bend who are uninsured and/or ineligible for Medicaid/Medicare.

- Affordable Care Act subsidies are scheduled to expire 12/31/2025 meaning many people currently with ACA Marketplace plans partly covered by subsidies may no longer be able to afford health insurance.

- The State of Oregon projects a loss of health insurance coverage by 3-5% of the total population, which equates to 8,000-10,000 people in Central Oregon's tri-county region.

Healthcare at a Crossroads

VIM Cascades is Central Oregon's Safety Net Clinic

- VIM takes a holistic approach to health, going **beyond** basic healthcare services by providing:
 - **referral services for social care needs** like food, housing, children's services and other needs
 - helping clients make calls to service providers and **provide interpretation services** whenever possible
- **Because of VIMs services, community members who may have to otherwise choose between paying for housing or healthcare can devote more of their earnings to necessities such as rent, food, clothing, and utilities.**

Alba's Story

When Alba lost her health insurance, managing her diabetes became a struggle. Without coverage, she worried about affording medications, monitoring her blood sugar, and avoiding complications. With nowhere else to turn, she came to VIM Cascades, a local clinic providing free healthcare to uninsured patients like her.

At VIM, Alba received the medications and support she needed. With guidance from diabetic nurse Kim Rojas Drew, she learned to manage her condition through better nutrition and a continuous glucose monitor. "My life has changed in every aspect," Alba says.

Now, she rates her health a 4 out of 5, but more importantly, she feels secure knowing VIM is there for her. As more Americans risk losing health insurance after ACA subsidies expire in 2025, clinics like VIM Cascades become a vital safety net.

"You can get help at VIM Cascades," Alba says. "There are people there willing to help."





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CLINIC OF THE CASCADES