

Talk Radio 950 KOZE-AM | Lewiston, Idaho

Regence Foundation looks for partners to improve health care access

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Announcer: The newly formed Regence Foundation, a corporate foundation of the Regence Group, is working to recognize and promote practices aimed at transforming the health care system, and is looking to partner with organizations in Idaho that share its vision.

Mike Tatko, Media Relations Manager with Regence, says the foundation has already become active in the LC Valley by awarding a \$10,000 donation to the Snake River Community Clinic in Lewiston.

Mike Tatko: There are more than 200,000 uninsured people in Idaho so we're pleased to be able to partner with organizations such as the Snake River Community Clinic, which was founded by Dr. Stamey English and is directed by Charlotte Ash. They do a fantastic job of improving health care access for the uninsured. Their volunteer staff of doctors and nurses not only provides basic medical care for those without access but they also give patients the education they need to take charge of their own health care.

And that really goes hand in hand with what our Foundation is all about, and that is our commitment to building healthier communities and to driving significant change in the health care system by having people take an active role in their own health.

Announcer: The initial donations are just the beginning as the foundation seeks other worthwhile organizations that may be in need of financial assistance.

Mike Tatko: We'll be awarding additional grants in the future and those interested in learning more or applying can visit www.dot.regencefoundation.org for more information.

One thing we're focusing on is that The Regence Foundation will not replace our oral health charity, which is the Regence Caring Foundation for Children. That charity has been administered by Regence in Idaho since 2001 and we continue to assist uninsured children with oral health care statewide so it's important to note that while we're pleased to be launching this new Foundation, it doesn't replace the good work that the Regence Caring Foundation has done and will continue to do.

Announcer: For more information visit the Regence Foundation web site at www.regencefoundation.org.