

Oregon News

[Oregon coastal city limits number of meals churches can feed homeless](#)

OPB

Churches in Brookings, Oregon, are now restricted to offering free meals to the homeless just twice a week.

The City Council approved the limitation this week, following complaints from people who live near churches that fed people.

Churches are the only nonprofits in Brookings that offer free meals for the unhoused. Since 2009, local churches have worked together on the Community Kitchen Project, an effort to make sure there was at least one free meal offered every day of the week.

Despite the City Council's ruling, at least one church — St. Timothy's Episcopal (pictured below) — said it won't stop providing the free meals, adding they are willing to go to court if need be.

When the pandemic hit, many meal services in the town halted due to COVID-19 concerns. St. Timothy's started offering meals four times a week to compensate for reduced services, according to Rev. Bernie Lindley.

[Oregon DMV reminds that expired license grace period ends Dec. 31 — act now to avoid rush](#)

KTVZ

Oregon's law enforcement moratorium for expired vehicle registration, driver licenses and ID cards will end on Dec. 31. So if you need to renew, the Oregon DMV advised Thursday to do it as soon as you can — before an expected rush at the end of the year.

Starting in November, DMV will send a mailed notice to about 300,000 Oregon residents who have expired vehicle registrations, urging them to renew before the end of the year.

This mailing is in addition to the regular reminder DMV sends a few weeks before your vehicle's tags expire.

[SEVERAL OREGON RESTAURANTS LEFT EMPTYHANDED AS FEDERAL FUNDING RUNS DRY](#)

KEZI

Many Oregon restaurant owners who applied for federal relief during the pandemic say they're still waiting.

The Oregon Restaurant and Lodging Association (ORLA) is pleading with the federal government to get this money to them.

Chief Executive Officer Jason Brandt said a \$28.6 billion fund was created to help local restaurants across the country stay afloat during the pandemic. He said more than 2,600 restaurants that applied for relief from the federal government did not receive any funding from the Restaurant Revitalization Fund.

But on the other hand, about 2,300 restaurants did get that check in the mail, Brandt said. Those who did are now reportedly in a much better situation and can head into this winter season strong.

Brandt said the money ran out and added that the reasons are simple: politics and

disagreements.

"Gosh, I think it's an American staple to make sure you equitably take care of the industries that were most impacted across the board as opposed to leaving local restaurants hanging as a part of any bailout fund," Brandt said.

He said they don't have a timeline or any idea right now when they'll hear back from the federal government. But he hopes to get an answer soon.

[CDC: 80% of Oregon adults have had at least 1 COVID shot](#)

KOIN

Health officials say 80% of adults in Oregon have had at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

On Wednesday, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported 2,681,267 Oregonians ages 18 and over had received at least one shot, the Oregon Health Authority said.

OHA said the CDC tally is slightly higher than Oregon's vaccination dashboard (which reports more than 77% of people 18 and up as having at least one dose) because the CDC includes vaccinations delivered through federal facilities, like the Veteran's Administration. Experts estimate that Oregon has not yet reached "herd immunity," which is when a virus can no longer spread from person to person because enough of the population is immune to it.

"Reaching 80 percent is an important milestone because it loosens COVID-19's grip on our state. Vaccines work and we know they save lives. We strongly encourage everyone who has not yet been vaccinated to do so at their earliest opportunity. Getting vaccinated is – quite simply – our state's best way out of this pandemic," said OHA Public Health Director Rachael Banks. "We've made significant progress in closing the vaccination gap, among people of color and rural communities. But Oregon is still below the 80% threshold of those vaccinated for these groups. We can do more to ensure everyone in Oregon has a fair and equitable access to a COVID-19 vaccine."

[OHSU doctor, national advocacy group challenge residency requirement in Oregon's medical aid in dying law as unconstitutional](#)

OPB

A federal lawsuit filed Thursday seeks to open up Oregon's medical-aid-in-dying law to residents from other states.

The national advocacy organization Compassion & Choices and an OHSU professor of family medicine have filed the suit, alleging the Oregon Death with Dignity Act's residency requirement violates the U.S. Constitution.

The lawsuit could have broad implications as the first challenge in the nation to raise the question of whether such residency requirements are constitutional, according to two legal experts.

Oregon was the first state to legalize medical aid in dying in 1997, when it allowed adult residents with a terminal diagnosis and prognosis of six months or less to live to end their lives by taking a lethal dose of prescribed medication.

[Students Tik Tok on mask guidelines to be presented to Oregon Department of Education](#)

KTVL

Students at Eagle Point High School got creative by producing a Tik Tok video to help their

peers understand the latest state's COVID-19 guidelines for schools and mask-wearing outdoors.

The spokesperson for the school district, Dean MacInnis said he will be presenting the social media video to the Oregon Department of Education that demonstrates the updated quarantine guidelines for outdoor settings which allow students to be in close contact with a COVID-19 infected student without the need to be quarantined if both are properly wearing a face mask.

"A lot of people don't understand the difference between wearing a mask, wearing it properly, and not wearing one at all," Allen Mack, a 14-year-old Sophomore at the school said.

Mack explained he and a group of students went over the latest guidelines and were confused as to what would force them into quarantine and away from their friends.

[Coronavirus in Oregon: 1,116 cases, 24 deaths as 80% of adults vaccinated](#)

The Oregonian

Oregon health officials announced 1,116 coronavirus cases Thursday and 24 deaths connected to COVID-19.

More than 80% of Oregon adults have now received at least one shot of the COVID-19 vaccine, according to federal health data, which shows a slightly higher rate than the 77% in Oregon's own data.

Oregon is one of only 20 states to hit that threshold.

Reaching 80% "is an important milestone because it loosens COVID-19's grip on our state. Vaccines work and we know they save lives," Rachael Banks, the Oregon Health Authority's Public Health Director, said in a statement. "Getting vaccinated is — quite simply — our state's best way out of this pandemic."

Just five states have exceeded 90% adults vaccinated -- Hawaii, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Vermont. No state so far has reached 80% of the entire population vaccinated, though Massachusetts, at 79.9%, is close. Oregon, with 68.2% of all residents having received at least one shot, ranks 19th in the federal data.

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