

Media Release

Contact: Tiffini Mueller
Director of Marketing & Development
1945 NW Pettygrove, Portland, OR 97209
Direct: 503.535.3381
Cell: 503.341.2740
tmueller@dovelewis.org

DoveLewis
#1 CHOICE FOR ANIMAL EMERGENCIES



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – December 8, 2009

DoveLewis Closes SE Clinic; Considers Expansion to Other Markets

DoveLewis will close its SE Portland after-hours clinic Friday morning, December 11th at 8:00AM. The decision was made after years of budget shortfalls at the location at 10564 SE Washington Street. In the last two years, DoveLewis lost \$260,000 on operating the SE location, and was projecting to lose another \$250,000 this fiscal year alone. Many survival scenarios were considered, including potentially reducing hours, asking staff to take furlough days and requesting short term rent relief from the building owners to help get through the recession, but those requests were turned down.

“We could no longer jeopardize our community programs or our operations at DoveLewis NW to fund the losses at our SE Portland facility,” said Ron Morgan, DoveLewis CEO. “Before the recession, we generated enough money at our NW location to shore up the losses at SE. We just can’t afford to do that anymore.”

DoveLewis will remain open 24 hours a day in its main hospital building at 1945 NW Pettygrove, Portland, which is just 10 freeway miles away from its satellite clinic in SE Portland.

In the coming months, DoveLewis hopes to finalize plans to expand its emergency and critical care services to other markets in the state that are currently underserved. “We plan to be able to make an announcement about our expansion after the first of the year,” said Morgan. “While we have taken the proactive and responsible step of closing our SE hospital, our commitment and dedication to the human and animal members of the community and to our partner veterinary professionals remains the same.”

DoveLewis is Portland's 24-Hour Emergency and ICU Animal Hospital, offering advanced veterinary care. DoveLewis also shares several 100% donor-funded programs with the community including one of America's largest volunteer-based animal blood banks, an award-winning animal assisted therapy program, a nationally recognized pet loss support program offering five free group therapy sessions each month, 24-hour stabilizing care for lost, stray and wild animals and financial assistance for low income families and abused animals.