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For Immediate Release

LOCAL EUGENE NONPROFIT AFFECTING POSITIVE CHANGE IN SOUTH AMERICA

In South America, asphyxiation is the leading cause of death among children under the age of five. Mothers and children cooking with indoor fires is the primary reason for this staggering statistic. StoveTeam International (StoveTeam) designed a stove, called the ecocina, to eliminate the toxic carbon emissions created from a typical open fire used indoors. StoveTeam also aids in creating factories in South American communities to educate and build ecocina stoves for their families and general public.

Nancy Hughes, founder of StoveTeam, created an organization to help combat this startling health issue after a volunteer trip to Guatemala. There, Hughes met Irma, a young woman, who had fallen into an open fire at two. Irma's hands had been severely burned, a common problem among Latin communities. Hughes was inspired by Irma's ambitions, and realized the necessity for creating an organization to reduce these daily hazards throughout Latin America. "The only solution was to make and sell safe fuel-efficient stoves that would save lives," says Hughes.

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StoveTeam hopes to generate awareness of its work in the Eugene and Springfield community and is also seeking donors to aid in the support. A donation of \$50 will provide a Latin American family with an ecocina stove. Further donations will aid in establishing new factories throughout the region.

To become involved or to donate, visit [StoveTeam.org](http://StoveTeam.org). For more information contact Noelle Nercessian, at 541-285-1881 or at [noellen@uoregon.edu](mailto:noellen@uoregon.edu).