

# Health Department



## Children's Eye Health and Safety Month

Jamie Boe, Community Health Advocate, EAO

While children prepare to go back to school, please remember that good vision is important to academic and social success. Untreated eye diseases only become more difficult to correct as a child grows.

Vision problems that can affect children include amblyopia (lazy eye), strabismus (crossed eyes), and the most common forms of refractive errors (blurred vision) include myopia (nearsightedness), hyperopia (farsightedness) and astigmatism. The earlier a vision disorder can be identified and treated, the stronger start to learning and development a child will have.

### A Few Facts

- Vision disorders can negatively impact a baby's ability to bond with their parents, their ability to explore the world, and also impede development of fine and gross motor skills.
- One in every 4 school-age children and 1 in every 17 preschool-age children have some form of vision problem requiring treatment.
- 24% of teens with correctable vision have the wrong prescription.
- 80% of all blindness and vision impairment is either preventable or treatable.

For more information, visit:

<https://preventblindness.org/>

## Red Shawl Dance

**Nesika Illahee Pow-Wow**  
**August 12th**  
**Saturday Afternoon**

Please join us in an honor song for anyone who has been affected by Sexual Assault or Domestic Violence in their lifetimes and dance with us.

If you have a red shawl, please bring it. If not, we will have only a handful available.



## Hepatitis C Facts for Elders

- **How does age affect hepatitis?**
- Compared with younger people with hepatitis C, older adults are at a disadvantage. People who are initially infected with hep C when they are older tend to have worse prognoses than those who acquire it while young. Adults over age 50 who acquire hep C have a high risk of developing cirrhosis within 15 years.
- Hepatitis C virus (HCV) is the most frequent cause of acute viral hepatitis in older people. Acute hepatitis C is usually a mild disease in this age group. Because many older patients with chronic HCV infection have compensated liver disease, they could benefit from antiviral therapy.
- Hep C can cause serious problems like liver failure, cirrhosis (scarring of the liver) and liver cancer if left untreated for a long period of time.
- Hepatitis C can remain dormant in a person's body for decades before showing signs. And by the time it does show signs, its already done major damage to the liver
- According to a CDC report, more than 75 percent of the adults currently living with hepatitis C were born between 1945 and 1965 – meaning older adults are five times more likely to have the disease than any other age group. This is why it's important to get tested even if you haven't shown any signs of having the disease.
- **How contagious is Hep C?**
- It's highly contagious, very dangerous and usually exists without presenting any symptoms at all. Hepatitis C can be transmitted in many different ways, so it's important to do what you can to help prevent contracting or spreading the disease whenever possible, such as avoiding sharing needles at any time. People with hepatitis C often worry about giving it to others with whom they live. It would be very hard to transmit HCV, however, unless there is direct blood-to-blood contact. Things like razors, toothbrushes, nail clippers and other personal hygiene items can spread hepatitis C, but it is difficult to do so.
- **These are some reasons why it's important to get tested even if you are not showing any symptoms. Our Harm Reduction Program does testing events twice a month where you can come and get tested. Or if you don't feel comfortable getting tested at one of our events, you can call or text**

Shawnee 541-270-6732

Sheila 541-272-9083

**Visit the CARE Booth**  
**at the 2023 Oregon Coast Customs Show**

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**Sun. August 27th at Chinook Winds Casino 11 AM - 5 PM**

**The Care Program and the Impalas Car Club will be raising awareness on Human/Sex Trafficking in Indian Country at the car show.**

**SILETZ CARE PROGRAM**

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Native Americans are victimized by human trafficking at rates higher than the general population. An average of 40% of Native American and Alaska Native women are involved in sex trafficking. Native women are raped 34.1% more than the general population, 1-3 will be raped in their lifetime.

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Hosted by  
**Impalas**  
Car Club

**2023 OREGON COAST CUSTOMS**

For additional information, please contact  
Isaac DeAndo, OC Chapter President (541) 272-1710

**Sunday, August 27th • 11am - 5pm • Lincoln City, OR**

Chinook Winds Casino Resort