

# Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare debuts new pharmacy

By NICOLE BALES  
The Astorian

A new pharmacy designed for Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare has opened at the agency's rapid access center in Astoria.

Representatives from the agency and Genoa Healthcare, which operates the pharmacy, held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the grand opening on Bond Street.

Amy Baker, the executive director of Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare,

Clatsop County's mental health and substance abuse treatment provider, said the agency pursued the partnership because they needed more assistance, down to making sure their medications were bubble packed correctly.

She said that while it may seem small, it is important that people get the right number of medications at the right time. She said that because the pharmacy is integrated with the other services Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare provides, it helps provide more curated care.

# Mental health: Grants help meet pressing needs

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"We do a good job for a small service area to advocate for ourselves," Cheryl Frei, director of mission integration and spiritual care at Providence Seaside Hospital, said. "They responded with more dollars to be placed against these high-need health care issues that we've identified."

For the 2022 grant cycle, the seven organizations and agencies to receive funding include:

- Clatsop Community Action, to help with rental assistance and housing support.

- Helping Hands Reentry Outreach Centers, to assist with general operations.

- The Harbor, to support survivors of domestic and sexual violence and the work of a housing coordinator.

- Restoration House, to assist with their capital campaign for single-resident-occupancy units.

- Beacon Clubhouse, to support general operations, programs and services.

- HomeShare Oregon, to enable them to have a stronger presence in Clatsop County and alleviate the housing crisis.

- Clatsop Community College, to support their Healthcare Diversity Scholarship fund.

These organizations and their programs offer wrap-around services that bolster the health and wellness of community members in a holistic way.

"We don't have the expertise our community partners have, and we don't pretend to," Smith said. "We are a partner and we are a presence in the community and want to show up as a partner in any way we can."

Frei added that the partnerships and grants help build "the stamina and health of the community," from the ground up. Not only does it give Providence further reach, but it also enables them to optimize the organization's own health care resources by reducing the number of emergency department visits and reserving the acute-care setting for those in direct need of such care. Meanwhile, partnering agencies fill in essential gaps that can't be addressed directly by the hospital but that are equally important to wellness.

Groups can apply annually for Providence's community health grants by invitation. Providence will seek out agencies and organizations whose programs and services align with the top needs in the area.

"Being a small community, we are fortunate that we're able to be a funder in this space as well, because we know applying for funds and securing them can be difficult," Smith said.

Having some financial security ensures small but valuable organizations in the community can focus their time and effort on sustaining their own programs and services, remaining dynamic to external challenges, and engaging in innovation. They have one year from the time they receive the funds to use them, but they also can apply for a no-cost extension.

"We're grateful to the partners that we work with," Smith said. "The work they do every day is so valuable and so needed."

Providence is working on an updated needs assessment, to be completed by the end of 2022. They work collaboratively with Columbia Memorial Hospital — as well as Clatsop County Public Health Department and the Columbia Pacific Coordinated Care Organization — on identifying needs in the area. During the assessment, they speak with government entities, elected officials, community organizations and other stakeholders to identify the top needs in the area.

According to Smith, the collaboration ensures they aren't overburdening the community and their partners "by asking them the same questions," maximizing efficiency and resources. Additionally, she added, "We've realized collectively identifying the needs is going to allow us to actually work toward addressing them and having a true outcome and impact on them."

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# Homeless: Longer stay eases burden

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"The site was left clean," Public Works Director Dale McDowell added. "We picked nothing up at all. All we did was go out to mow and get rid of sticker bushes that are in the way — and that's about it."

As the overnight camping ordinance heads toward its third month, the city continues to address homeless camping legislation.

Additional revisions prohibit overnight camping in all of the city's residential areas.

The revisions also restrict camping on public property within aquatic zones and wetlands.

While the ordinance changes remove rules for homeless camping in residential areas, it sets rules for camping on private property in nonresidential zones. With the own-

er's authorization, up to six persons and up to three total motor vehicles, RVs or tents, in any combination, may be used for camping in any parking lot.

Applications for camping in private parking lots would be referred to the Planning Department, Kyle said.

"If that business had excess capacity of parking than was required, then they may use that and only

that portion towards it," he said. "But if they only had sufficient parking where the code requires, they would not be permitted to use it for that purpose."

Neighboring cities are watching Seaside to see what happens, Councilor Randy Frank said. "We've sort of been the people out in front of all. Everyone worked on it, a lot of people had testimony. It's nice to see how the process worked out."

# Hood to Coast: More than 13,000 runners expected

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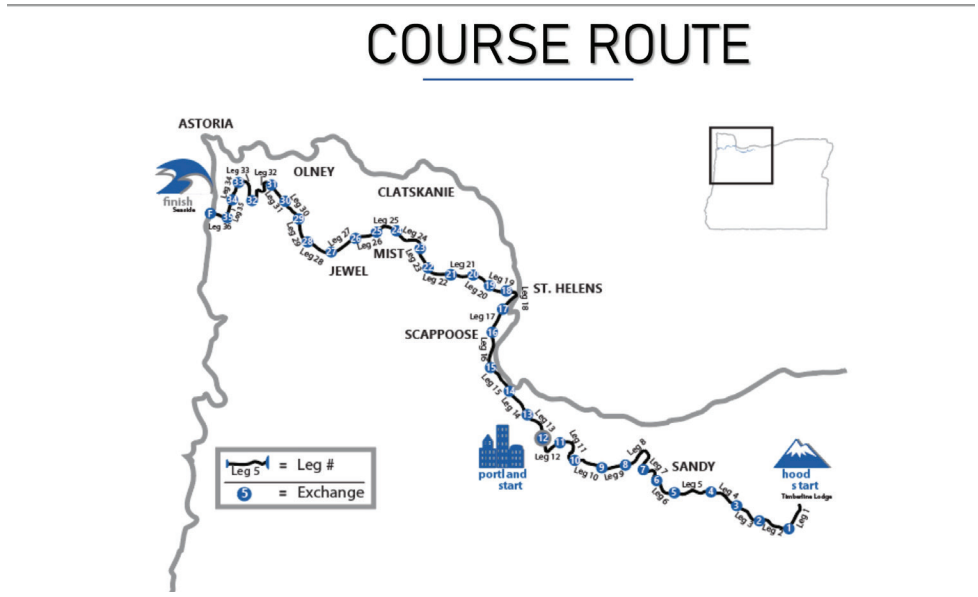
While more than 70% of participants are from Oregon, runners and walkers come from around the world.

There are no route changes in Columbia or Clatsop County this year, Floyd said.

"We will not be using the bridge over (U.S. Highway) 101," he said. "We didn't use it in 2021, and we hired traffic control and flagged it instead. It worked really well."

As a result of the Klaskanine Bridge construction on Young's River Road, certified flaggers will be positioned at Coastline Christian Fellowship Church and Highway 202 to instruct and assist race vehicles turning around and to ensure local access for neighbors and residents.

General public race



Map charts runners' path from the Timberline Lodge to Seaside.

related community questions or concerns can call the event, toll free at 844-428-8327 from Aug. 22 to Aug. 29. For emergencies, call 911.

Runners are anticipated at the finish line from 7 a.m. Saturday.

Music live from the beach stage comes from The Brian O'Dell Band and

the CJ Mickens Band.

From 9 a.m. until 11 p.m., the Seaside Chamber of Commerce will host the beer, wine and spirits garden.

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