

Update provided by CHD on School Based Health Center planning

The Columbia Health District has received planning grants to continue working with three School-Based Health Planning Sites in Columbia County.

Sherrie Ford was hired to coordinate the projects, working with Anne Parrott.

The planning process started in late 2007 to establish an additional School-Based Health Center (SBHC) in St. Helens at the high school, and also a SBHC in Rainier and Vernonia. Sacajawea Health Center in Lewis and Clark Elementary School in St. Helens is the county's only SBHC currently.

The Columbia Health District was awarded \$80,000 from the Oregon Department of Human Resources, SBHC Program to continue planning for the three school districts. Community committees were established December 2007, to begin Planning Phase 1.

Since then, committees of teachers, administrators, health professionals and community members have been meeting in each community. All three school districts are at difference stages of planning:

- Rainier was granted funding to proceed through Phase 2, with the intention to open a K-12 health center in February 2009. The Rainier planning committee is currently seeking

medical oversight/sponsorship and reviewing potential policies and procedures.

- St. Helens was granted funding for advanced Phase 1 planning for a health center on the high school campus, with the intention to open in February 2010. Students were surveyed last spring as a component of Phase 1; they expressed the need for on-campus mental health counseling. St. Helens High School and Sacagawea Health Center have now contracted with Columbia Community Mental Health to employ a half-time mental health counselor for the two campuses to share.

- Vernonia was granted funding for advanced Phase 1 planning for a K-12 health center. Community collaboration continues with faculty, staff, and parents although the opening of a center is on stand-by until new school facilities are built.

Ford said that Columbia County is facing many issues that significantly impact the health of children, including high rates of unemployment and tobacco use. Columbia County has been identified as a medically underserved region, with too few health care providers, as well.

Many students encounter

barriers to receiving health care, including lack of insurance, transportation needs, lack of a medical provider, and unaffordable health care costs. Ford said that the state's successful school-based health center program reduces those

barriers, regardless of the family's insurance status or ability to pay. SBHCs are located on-campus to provide familiarity and convenience.

"The community will play a vital role in establishing and sustaining our health centers.

We would love to assemble fundraising committees for all of the SBHC sites," Ford said. For more information or to get involved, contact Sherrie Ford at Columbia County Public Health, 503-397-4651 ext 221.

Enroll now for Columbia County 4-H

The Columbia County 4-H Youth Development program has begun its enrollment process. This event marks the 104th enrollment period in the history of the 4-H program. The 4-H Youth Development program has changed with the times and offers a wide array of projects to meet the needs of today's youth. The 4-H Youth Development Program opened enrollment October 1. Youth and Leaders have opportunity to enroll in the program until April 1, 2009.

The current program has opportunities for youth, kindergarten through 12th grade. The K-3 grade program is a non-competitive program that al-

lows youth to explore the 4-H program by participating in a number of projects, activities and experiences. This is an opportunity for members to better understand their interests and select a suitable 4-H project when they reach the 4th grade and move into the project based club program.

In the project-based club program, youth from fourth through 12th grade, select a specific project or projects to focus and work on. These projects include agricultural and livestock projects, dog, gardening, woodworking, food and nutrition, fiber arts, photography and many other options.

Parents of youth who are in-

terested in joining the over 420 youth and 150 adult volunteers already in the 4-H Youth Development program, can contact the OSU Columbia County Extension office at 503-397-3462, drop by the office at 505 N Columbia River Hwy. in St. Helens, across from the former medical mall, or via the web at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/columbia/>.

Even though the Columbia County Fair is still eight months away, now is the time for youth to join a 4-H club and begin the process of preparing their projects for the 2009 fair and other activities that occur during the year.

VMS 1st quarter Honor Roll announced

The following students were named to the Vernonia Middle School academic Honor Roll for the 2008-09 first quarter.

Principal's Honors, 4.00 – Austin Best-Cutright, Charlette Burghard, Jennifer Hayes, Alisa Levenseller, Samantha Lin-

dauer, Madeline O'Leary, Dezi-ree Roberts, Samantha Wallace.

High Honors, 3.50-3.99 – Makayla Adams, Ashlee Archer, Kayla Aronhalt, Skyler Binford, Stephanie Castro, Rowan Cheney, Jessica Cox, Christopher Curtis, Jacob Eyrrick, Jessica Farr, Macayla Fennell, Nicole Glass, Andrew Jennings, Nathen McMillen, Garrett Mulkin, Marley Orchard, Laura Rice, Leah Rice, Rowan Scott, Amanda Sebring,
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LOS DISTRITOS ESCOLARES BUSCAN IDENTIFICAR A LOS Niños CON DISCAPACIDADES QUE NO SE ENCUENTREN RECIBIENDO SERVICIOS.

El Distrito de Servicio Educativo de la Región Noroeste (NWRESD) y los distritos escolares del Condado de Columbia desean ayudar a ubicar a niños con discapacidades (recién nacidos hasta la edad de 21 años) que no se hayan graduado de la enseñanza preparatoria (educación media superior) y que actualmente no se encuentren recibiendo otros servicios de educación especial en las escuelas públicas.

El Ley de Oregon y la Ley Federal ordenan que se provea servicios educativos apropiados para niños con discapacidades. El NWRESD proporciona servicios educativos desde el nacimiento hasta el kindergarten para los niños que sean elegibles. Los distritos educativos locales proveen programas educativos y servicios para los niños elegibles desde el Kindergarten hasta la Enseñanza Media Superior (Preparatoria). Estos servicios son proporcionados de acuerdo con las necesidades de cada niño y su discapacidad.

Se solicita a los padres, tutores legales, u otras personas que conocen a algún niño (en edad de cinco a 21 años *) con alguna discapacidad y que no se encuentre recibiendo servicios educativos, que contacten al distrito escolar de su localidad abajo enlistados.

DISTRITO CONTACTO	TELEFONO
St. Helens SD Jeri Deady	503-366-7230
Clatskanie SD Mary Mitchell	503-728-0587 x2002
Rainier SD Kristin Carrico	503-556-3777
Scappoose SD Mike Judah	503-543-6374
Vernonia SD Paula Mills	503-429-5891

* Para niños menores de cinco años, favor de contactar al NWRESD al 503-397-0028.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS SEEK TO IDENTIFY UNSERVED CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

The Northwest Regional Education Service District (NWRESD) and Columbia County local school districts seek assistance in locating children with disabilities (birth through age 21) who have not graduated from high school and currently are not attending nor receiving other special education services from public schools.

Oregon and federal law mandate appropriate educational services for children with disabilities. The NWRESD provides educational services for eligible children from birth to kindergarten. Local school districts provide educational programs and services for eligible children from kindergarten through high school. These services are provided as appropriate to each child's needs and disability.

Parents, guardians or others who know of a child (age five through 21*) with a disability who is not currently receiving educational services are asked to notify the special education contact person in the child's home district (see below).

DISTRICT SPECIAL EDUCATION CONTACT	PHONE
St. Helens SD Jeri Deady	503-366-7230
Clatskanie SD Mary Mitchell	503-728-0587 x2002
Rainier SD Kristin Carrico	503-556-3777
Scappoose SD Mike Judah	503-543-6374
Vernonia SD Paula Mills	503-429-5891

* For children younger than kindergarten age, please call the NWRESD Columbia Service Center at 503-397-0028.



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