

Columbia County: Monday, April 3, 2023
Community Advisory Council Draft Minutes

3:00- 5:00PM

Reviewed housekeeping slides. Meeting was called to order at 3:05 Guest were and facilitated introductions. March minutes were approved.

CAC Learning Theme: Teresa gave an overview of the Aspects of Health Equity and led a discussion around what the root causes of health inequity are, which outlines the learning theme framework and potential next steps. Worked on a Mural that looked at Health Equity factors at the individual, interpersonal, community, and societal/policy level to think about an equity lens, or specific questions we'd want to incorporate with our various guest speakers this year.

Regional Health Assessment Update: The pilot phase of the instrument development is complete, we will be working on narrative story collection starting May 1, 2023. We will be out in the community collecting stories/surveys, with an emphasis on connecting with OHP members. Please help us spread the word in the community to get folks to participate. Special thanks went out to those who helped with piloting the instrument. That input really helped refine the survey and is greatly appreciated.

Wildflower Play Collective: Wildflower, a current CWIF grantee, provided us with an update of their collective. The model is an unstaffed, nonprofit indoor playground for families with young children (ages 0-6) in South Columbia County. The collective has a sliding-scale monthly fees and is modeled on a successful established model in Portland called St. Johns SwapnPlay where families share resources and knowledge, in addition to the space. Wildflower is working on several community partnerships to bring parent education, mental health services, school readiness, social emotional learning, and early intervention to families experiencing early childhood in South Columbia County. They are currently active members of the Columbia County Childhood Trauma Informed Care Network (CTIN) and have piloted the Trauma Informed Oregon fidelity assessment. Wildflower was awarded CWIF funds and is now a six-month-old early childhood resource with 115 member families-including fifty free memberships for families with Oregon Health Plan (OHP) and 27 OHP families on the waiting list. Future needs include seeking funds for air conditioning, provide sponsorship to more OHP families who are on the waiting list, increase funding for seventy free memberships, and applying for a CTIN grant to cover more memberships for 2024. One CAC member had the opportunity to check it out and loves all the programs and activities they have available.

IA Update: Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) is money for children whose access to adequate and quality food may have been impacted by COVID 19. The benefit was available to all children who were eligible to receive free or reduced-price National School Lunch Program meals during the 2021-22 school year. The P-EBT Call Center number is: 844-ORE-PEBT; 844-673-7328. The P-EBT website also has helpful information in English and Spanish.

Important Reminder: Medicaid redeterminations coming please make sure your contact information is current. You can update online, by phone, in person, through your local community partner or through your CCO.

Community Updates: Mask mandates have been lifted but some health facilities continue to require masks due to health risks. Always be prepared with a mask.

- Community meals continues to serve drive-thru style, Tuesdays from 5:30-6:30
- Legal Aid continues to be open for service delivery and Columbia County office has expanded to two mornings per week, walk-ins are welcome during office hours, and they also do phone intakes.
- Community Advisory Council members: please do not forget that we are getting ready to do our Demographic Survey, an annual requirement of OHA. For any questions or concerns please reach to Martha, Teresa, or Heather.

Members Check In- Private Time.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00

Next Meeting: May 1, 2023