

## **Columbia County Community Advisory Council Draft Minutes**

Monday, May 6, 2024

3:00-5:00PM

### **Hybrid Meeting**

#### **Columbia Health Services (CHS): presented about OHP and marketplace Insurance Assister.**

Talked about the resources CHS provides in the community. They have reproductive care, mental health services, WIC, OHP enrollment and preventive services such as gambling prevention, suicide prevention and parenting classes.

Who is eligible for OHP? People who live in Oregon and meet income and other criteria. Individuals may apply for other benefits at [www.Benefits.Oregon.gov](http://www.Benefits.Oregon.gov). Healthier Oregon provides OHP Plus-level coverage for individuals who do not meet citizen/non-citizen requirements. Children ages 1-18 within 139-305% FPL and children under age 1 within 190-305% FPL cannot have other minimum essential coverage.

How do you handle warm hand-offs, referrals? CHS has added a lot of Community Health Workers who do warm handoffs for both health and social services including social health screenings. They currently have 6 CHWS, and working to hire a few more, eventually having in each location throughout the county. They use telehealth for Spanish interpretation.

**Older Adult Behavioral Health Specials (OABHI) Update:** Alicia did a presentation about the program. This program started in 2019 to help improve the quality of life and systems of care for older adults and persons with disabilities. This initiative is funded by OHA, which contracts with PSU's institute on Aging for data collection and analysis. They serve older adults and persons with disabilities who face unique barriers to having their medical needs met. There are 24 Behavioral Health Specialist throughout Oregon this helps promote better access for older adults and persons with disabilities to necessary services. Specialist conduct community education and workforce development trainings. They engage in collaboration with other agencies to improve outcomes for older adults and provide complex case consultations to providers, caregivers, and individuals. Please contact Alisia to increase knowledge/skills on behavioral health and this population. Please refer members to Complex Case Consultation or Interdisciplinary Team meetings for cross systems review and collaboration and/or individual consultations. Alicia can serve folks outside of CPCCO members. Trying to partner more with public health, etc.

**Demographic Report:** General goal of report to OHA is to make sure that advisory councils really represent the communities that we live in in terms of background, experience, ideas, etc. The demographic survey has been sent out, if members could please complete it before the 10<sup>th</sup>, which is this Friday. OHA is reducing the length and scope of the report starting next year.

Heather reviewed the governance structure of the CCO, the demographics of our CACs (including OHP member representatives), how many from each county have completed it so far, and what to expect from the survey. The survey is Anonymous and the only required question is “Which Advisory Council are you a member of?”

**Health-Related Social Needs:** Nancy talked about the climate benefit (help with climate related devices), which is the first component of three being rolled out for the Health-Related Social Needs benefit. Climate devices include things like air purifiers and air conditioners that help alleviate a health condition that could be exacerbated by extreme weather. So far, have not had a lot of requests, less than 30 since March. Anticipate that as it gets warmer, the number of requests will increase a lot and hope that they can meet the need. Benefits can be requested through customer service, through providers, or through a regional care team staff. The housing benefit is expected to start to roll out on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Do not have all the information from OHA about the benefit yet, including the essential information on what the reimbursement rate will be. Food and nutrition benefit will roll out shortly after, at the beginning of 2025.

Heather reviewed the conditions that would make folks eligible for the benefit as listed on the website. A request form is included on the website (form includes conditions that qualify), can be downloaded. Not ready yet for CBOs to request directly, but they can fill out with clients if they are there with you.

CPCCO is in the process of distributing Community Capacity Building Funds that will fund community partners to prepare to implement this benefit. Applications will close at the end of May and anticipate a variety of partners will apply. We would love to hear from the community about the HRSN benefits in terms of how it is going, the good and the bad and any challenges that may come up so they can work on process improvement if needed.

**RHIP Update:** RHIP has been written, copy edited and currently discussing a user-friendly version for our website. In September, the Regional Advisory Council will vote on it. They will see it in full at the meeting in June. Once it has been approved by the RCAC, will submit to OHA and once the member-facing version is available on the website, the CACs will review.

**IA Update:** Belle gave an update that OHP renewals have been processed. Starting January 1, 2024, members under the age of six will have continuous OHP coverage, and adults can keep OHP for two years instead of one year. The Oregon Health Plan provides coverage for services before, during and after pregnancy – including services for newborn babies. For those who lost their OHP benefits, the Bridge Health Care Program will offer OHP coverage to adults in Oregon with Income between 138 and 200 percent of the federal poverty level, otherwise they can enroll through the marketplace if they do not have coverage through an employer.

Employment related daycare (ERDC) recently expanded to serve more families. The program has been extended and people can access it now regardless of immigration status. Please be aware that there is a long waiting list for these services already.

“How To Respond To An Overdose With Naloxone” video, volunteers from the [Mental Health & Addiction Association of Oregon](#) demonstrate how to identify a person experiencing an overdose, administer naloxone and perform rescue breathing while waiting for first responders. [Naloxone](#) is available to the public *without* a prescription at most pharmacies. It costs less than \$50 for a box that contains two naloxone doses. OHA recommends anyone who uses drugs, or who lives with people who use drugs, should carry naloxone, even if the at-risk individual is not currently using. Naloxone is often stocked in schools, public libraries and other places drug overdoses are known to happen, where staff can administer the medication.

**Community Updates:** Coming up events in the next months:

Here is a list of events coming up in the community this month.

- Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> 5:30PM -7:00PM Tacos, Talks & Prevention Talking Teen substance Use, Broadleaf Arbor
- NAMI Walk  
May 18<sup>th</sup> at McCormick Park  
Event Hours 10:00-2:00 PM
- Saint Helens Parks & Recreation Center  
May 8<sup>th</sup> Support for families with children with special needs  
5:00-8:00PM
- Family Support group for LGBTQ  
9:30 AM-12:30PM
- May 24<sup>th</sup> 5:00PM-8:00PM  
Parents Night Out for Parents with children with special needs.
- Col County Fair is on August 28-Sept 2.

**Next meeting: Monday, June 3, 2024, 3:00pm-5:00pm** Meeting will be held at Community Action Team. 125 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street Saint Helens, OR 97051