CCCWN News May 2021





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A place to call home

CCCWN partners work to address access and affordability

Organizations addressing issues around housing in the tri-counties run the gamut from providing emergency temporary shelters for individuals to providing rent assistance to families threatened with homelessness, and everything in between.

The CCCWN, recognizing that homelessness and being at risk for homelessness are critical barriers to a healthy community, have prioritized housing as an important focus area, and its member organizations and community partners continue to demonstrate that strong commitment through a variety of initiatives and supportive services. Several—but certainly not all—of these organizations are highlighted on page 2.

Member Spotlight

A new monthly spotlight for CCCWN members

Meet **Ben Danley,** Executive Director of Community Outreach, a nonprofit serving homeless families and individuals with housing, food, case management, medical and dental clinics, child care and behavioral health services.

Prior to joining COI as development director in April 2017, Ben worked in marketing at the OSU Alumni Association for 14 years. When the travel bug bit him, he quit his university job and spent



several years volunteering and working for charities in Thailand, Vietnam and Bangladesh (where he was bitten by many bugs in a more literal sense).

He was promoted to ED at COI in March 2020, just in time to enjoy all of the excitement provided by managing an organization in the COVID era. When he's not at work, Ben enjoys volunteering, motorcycling, backpacking, and photography.

Housing

Corvallis Housing First (CHF)

provides a variety of traumainformed case management and supportive services aimed at ending homelessness and promoting self-sufficiency. CHF focuses on helping individuals and families access and sustain



permanent housing as quickly as possible and without conditions. This intervention strategy has shown dramatic results locally.

<u>Community Outreach, Inc.</u> (COI) in Benton County provides a wide range of vital services, including their powerful transformational housing program. Specialized case management and peer support services help homeless individuals and families navigate their transition to stable housing.

<u>Community Services Consortium</u> (CSC), a state-designated community action agency, focuses on poverty alleviation in the tri-counties. They offer a range of assistance to people experiencing or vulnerable to homelessness, including helping pay back rent to prevent eviction, helping pay utility and rental deposits, and offering "Rent Well" classes designed to help people with bad credit, past evictions, or criminal history find a place to call home.

<u>DevNW</u>, serving Linn, Benton, Lincoln and additional counties, strives to find solutions to barriers to access to affordable rental housing and to homeownership. DevNW builds homes and manages rental units for low- and moderate-income families and provides low-interest loans to help with home repairs or down payments for first-time homebuyers.

Northwest Coastal Housing (NWCH) owns and operates three affordable housing projects with resident services in Lincoln County, as well as contracting out resident services for two additional multifamily housing complexes. These facilities provide safe housing and additional supports to low-income individuals and families, people living with disabilities, and people with severe mental health needs. NWCH continues to pursue funding opportunities to develop affordable housing for the county's most vulnerable populations.

<u>Samaritan House</u> helps families with dependent children experiencing homelessness in Lincoln County through a range of services, including emergency and transitional shelter, transitional housing, resident education programming, free parenting education, and advocacy and community leadership.

Project Turnkey

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the 2020 Oregon wildfires that displaced thousands of Oregonians across the state underscored the vulnerability of people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. To address these needs, the Oregon Legislature allocated \$65 million—administered through the Oregon Community Foundation—for **Project Turnkey** to enable communities to purchase motels or hotels for use as non-congregate shelter and longer-term supportive housing. Both Lincoln and Benton counties were able to take advantage of this unique funding opportunity. The Coastal Phoenix Rising facility, managed by Northwest Coastal Housing, in Lincoln City opened this spring, and as well as a site in Corvallis managed by Corvallis Housing First.

A constellation of barriers to affordable housing plague too many people in the tri-counties but through continued collaboration, shared best practices, and leveraging resources these organizations—and many others—have made remarkable headway in addressing unstable housing needs.

Parenting Success Network

Parenting Success Network offers parenting education and support in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties.

Their diverse line-up includes a Nurturing Children Series, Abriendo Puertas, Coaching 4 Parents, and more. In Lincoln County, the program can provide hotspots/iPads to enable families with limited access to technology to participate.

Contact Sommer McLeish <u>smcleish@samhealth.org</u> with questions or for details on informational sessions for service providers.

Learn more by visiting:

Parenting Success Network Website

Parenting Success Network Facebook Page

Here's what's happening

STARS Emergency Department and Rural Outreach Grants (HRSA Outreach Grant)

A no-cost extension request has been submitted to carry on the work of the ED Peer Support program in Linn County.

Bridges to Recovery (HRSA Implementation Grant)

The Project Coordinator is working with community partners to develop a stigma reduction media campaign.

RAID (HRSA Planning Grant)

RAID is seeking a new Project Director. For more information please contact jomiller@samhealth.org.

Oral Health (HRSA Outreach Grant)

SPCH was awarded a \$799,988, four-year federal HRSA grant to integrate oral health services into the emergency departments at Samaritan North Lincoln and Samaritan Pacific Community Hospitals in Lincoln County. Grant activities aimed at improving the oral health of Lincoln County residents will commence on May 1, 2021.

Linn-Benton-Lincoln Partners for Health

Partners for Health is planning a virtual Community Health Solutions Summit on Friday, August 20, 2021. Max Williams, CEO and Executive Director of Oregon Community Foundation, will be the keynote speaker.

CCCWN Contacts

JoAnn Miller, Director Samaritan Community Health Promotion CCCWN Network Staff jomiller@samhealth.org

Marty Cahill, CEO Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital CCCWN Chair mcahill@samhealth.org



