



CCCWN News

March 2024

2024 and the Not-So-Slow March of Time

With the recent return to Daylight Savings Time for most of the U.S., it's a bit late to be tootin' the Happy New Year horn, and with all that's already happened in the first months of 2024, it almost feels like we should be getting ready to welcome 2025! But it has been a busy first quarter for CCCWN members and partners across the region, and if the first few months of 2024 are anything to go by, it's going to be another sprint to the finish line.

January brought rare—even for the PNW—bitterly cold conditions, and a state-wide ice storm led to widespread power outages, hazardous driving conditions, and essentially shutdown large swaths of the state but also highlighted the resilience and commitment to our communities that Oregonians share across the state. People with resources offered up spaces in their homes, community warming shelters operated at full capacity, and emergency management services were disseminating important information to keep people safe. Despite these dangerous conditions, however, organizations across the region remained operational, providing the dedicated care and services that are the backbone of our wellness and wellbeing.

Awareness months serve to remind us of the special contexts of the many intersectional identities peo-



ple of all strata experience and some of the specific health and social considerations that can help improve their social, mental, and physical health. Of the myriad month-long observances (the list can seem exhaustive and occasionally satirical, depending on the source—think “Movember”), January’s salient observances included Poverty Awareness Month and Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month. Poverty is one of the most profound social determinants of health, and without exception, CCCWN member organizations work to address the effects of poverty—directly and indirectly—on a daily basis.

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The CCCWN is also in its first of a four-year grant that addresses slavery and human trafficking through increasing awareness of the issue and supporting organizations that assist victims. It's a largely invisible trauma suffered by far too many children, women, and men in our communities, so it's an important issue to highlight.

We also honored the venerable Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. in January, and February brought us Black History Month. While the celebration of black history should not be confined to one month, it provides an opportunity to reflect on the injustices of the past, the ongoing impact of widespread racism—from the micro level to the institutional—and allows for the difficult conversations about how to confront racism and to advocate for the social and political changes necessary for more equitable and healthy societies.

March brings us more than the ides; International Women's Day serves as a strong reminder of the essential role of women in our communities, and particularly how they drive healthy outcomes at all levels. Looking ahead through the year, a number of important month observances align with the continued efforts of the CCCWN and its partners. April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, as well as Sexual Assault Awareness Month; May brings us Mental Health Awareness Month; June is LGBT Pride Month; September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month and the beginning of National Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs through mid-October; October also honors LGBT History and is Domestic Violence Awareness Month; and November is Native American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Month.

The work we continue to do is obviously not confined to these observances; myriad events through the year will provide valuable opportunities to learn from each other, build on our successes, and to collaboratively create innovate new programs and efforts.

Several CCCWN grants have reverse site visits this year: the RC-SWAY and HIWAY grant teams recently traveled to Washington, D.C. to the HRSA RCORP reverse site visit; the Oral Health Co-Location grant team will travel to Atlanta in July for the HRSA Rural Health Care Services Outreach Grant Program reverse site visit; and, project officers from all the current HRSA grants will be visiting our region in May for a site visit—look out for at the May CCCWN meeting!

Our region will also be well represented at several national conferences, including the American Hospital Association's Accelerating Health Equity Conference in May, the National Rural Health Association conference, also in May, the Region 10 Conference in July, and the Oregon Rural Health Conference and Oregon Public Health Association Conference in October.





Regional summits are also excellent opportunities to promote awareness of and solutions to some of the more critical health issues. Several CCCWN subcommittees, with support from the grants, plan to host summits in the coming months. Partners for Health and the Addressing Violence in Rural Oregon Communities (AViROC) grant will the 2024 Violence Prevention Summit in May and the Communities Supporting Youth Together summit in August. The Regional Oral Health Coalition is in early planning stages of an event to promote the importance of oral health care in overall health outcomes. But this is hardly an exhaustive list; community organizations across the region frequently offer free opportunities to develop the knowledge and skills that enable us to improve the health of our communities.

So, to 2024—if you made New Year’s Resolutions and stuck with them, a hearty congratulations! If you made them and they disappeared into the maelstrom of competing life and work, welcome to the majority stakeholders. And if you just decided to be gentle to yourself and hold the course instead of setting potentially unrealistic expectations of yourself, well done knowing your limits! However we personally greeted the beginning of this new year, our collective efforts have so far been stellar and auger another strong year improving the health of our communities throughout the region.

Staff Spotlight: Shelley Hazelton

Meet Rochelle “Shelley” Hazelton, Community Health Promotion Department Administrative Specialist—and backbone—at Samaritan Health Services (SHS). Her extraordinary ability to up-manage, maintain impeccable records, and coordinate multitudes of disparate needs, communications, and activities make her an invaluable asset to SHS and an unsung hero of many CCCWN efforts across the region. Though born in Kansas, Shelley is an Oregonian through and through, having lived here all but the first three years of her life. She graduated from West Albany High and earned her Associate of Science and Medical Transcription Certificate from Linn-Benton Community College. Her commitment to Samaritan Health Services is evidenced through her more than 30 years of employment, spending 23 years at Samaritan Lebanon Community Hospital, then returning to her current position in 2015 after a five-year hiatus that she spent as a legal assistant. When Shelley isn’t serving as regional motherboard to CCCWN health improvement efforts, you might run into her and her all-ages dance troupe, the Hocus Pokie Dancers, at a flash mob, local festival, or community event. Dancing is her passion—she was a High Stepper in high school and hasn’t looked back—but she also loves cuddling with her three cats and her dog and finding new dolls to add to her collection.



Monthly Updates

Oral Health Co-Location

The Year 3 Non-Competing Continuation Report was submitted to HRSA on Jan. 29, 2024. Savanna Sam resigned from the EPDH role Feb. 8, 2024; Capitol Dental recruited and hired a new EPDH, Leah Hitz, who will begin working half-time at each SPCH and SNLH once her SHS credentialing is completed. Karen Hall, EPDH has been providing grant services in the interim. AHM Brands will be developing additional media campaign materials targeted to the Spanish-speaking community in Lincoln County this Spring. Planning for several additional outreach activities are underway. The PIMS report will be due to HRSA by May 31, 2024.

Rural Communities Supporting Women and Youth

The grant is in its final year and will end on Aug. 31, 2024. The grant is working with Acosta Services to conduct a regional assessment to identify various Spanish dialects and translation services. Family Tree Relief Nursery (FTRN) and The Hope Center continue to provide critical support to women in treatment and recovery, including financial support to assist them with housing, employment, and basic parenting needs. The grant increased funding to STARS to provide resources for pregnant and parenting women. AHM Brands is developing a media campaign. Messaging is still in development; the campaign will kick off on May 1st, 2024, and continue through the end of the grant. The project director is working with grant partners to prepare the final biannual and PIMS reporting data, which will be due to HRSA on Mar. 31, 2024.

Behavioral Health Resource Network (BHRN)

C.H.A.N.C.E. Recovery opened 42 new beds at their Albany shelter. Family Tree Relief Nursery (FTRN) continues to collaborate with the Oregon Youth Authority of Linn County and has been giving presentations to youth and counselors to inform them of services available to youth when they turn 18. Building on last year's successful activity, a FTRN staff member will be visiting several schools in Linn County throughout the quarter to share their experience with SUD and recovery. FTRN also recently facilitated Peer Support training for 20 participants. STARS recently two new Peer Support Specialists: Bradly Goodwin for Lincoln County; and, Kandyce Stirman for Linn County. STARS continues to work with C.H.A.N.C.E. to provide additional services.

Helping Impact Women and Youth (HIWAY)

The grant is currently half way through its second year of programming. Faith, Hope and Charity, ReConnections Counseling and Northwest Coastal Housing – Coastal Phoenix Rising all have a peer support specialists providing peer services for their substance use disorder clients. The Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, the Olalla Center, and PAADA are continuing to work in the schools to engage youth in prevention efforts and health education. The next Youth Leadership Academy is scheduled for April 4, 2024 and will be youth-led. The students will be back to present their project successes,



challenges, and progress. Lincoln County Health and Human Services continues to be a strong harm reduction partner in Lincoln County, most recently convening four partners from across the county to share efforts, successes, and challenges.

Monthly Updates (Cont'd)



Addressing Violence in Rural Oregon Communities (AViROC)

Acosta Services and Sarah's Place and Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence (CARDV) presented to the Linn-Benton-Lincoln Partners for Health about outreach to the Spanish-speaking community and services available to domestic violence and sexual assault survivors. The grant partnered with Acosta Services to conduct community forums and other activities to provide information about child abuse, domestic violence, and human trafficking for Spanish-speaking community members in Lincoln County. Acosta Services is also conducting a survey to help understand the barriers to accessing resources and the needs of the community. Sarah's Place is coordinating with Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention to provide a one-day strangulation training for healthcare workers, advocates, psychologists, and others who work with victims or survivors of violence on May 3, 2024 at the Boulder Falls Event Center in Lebanon. ABC House continues to provide weekly services for youth who experience violence; services are now available at the new Sweet Home Clinic. CARDV is providing resource navigation and support groups for survivors of domestic/intimate partner violence, and is building relationships in rural Linn County to designate safe meeting spaces for survivors, place hotline information stickers in public spaces, and implement the 'Healthy Relationship' presentations for middle school and high school-aged youth. The 2024 Violence Prevention Summit will take place on May 17, 2024. Registration will open in April.

Parenting Success Network

Spring 2024:

- *Abriendo Puertas: 10-week parenting series in Spanish. In partnership with the Acosta Services and the Lincoln City Cultural Center. Starts*
- *Prenatal Nurturing Parenting Skills: 12-week parenting series. In partnership with Samaritan Health Services and the Albany YMCA. Starts*
- *Nurturing Parenting Skills: 12-week parenting series. In partnership with the Olalla Center and ABC Education Center. Starts*

Workshops/Parenting Activities:

- *Family Activities at The Ridge in Lincoln City on the 30th of each month*
- *Art Night at Family Promise in Lincoln City on the second Tuesday*

Ongoing supports include:

- One-on-one Parenting Coaching
Families can choose their parent coach and self-register [HERE](#) or call Pollywog at (541) 917-4884
- Triple P Online
Email Georgia georgias@samhealth.org or llame a Luis (541) 220-9686

Questions and Comments?

For questions and comments related to the monthly CCCWN Newsletter, please email Shelagh Baird at sbaird@samhealth.org

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