

The Public Health division is now part of Coos Health & Wellness! By Florence Pourtal-Stevens

In April 2015, Health and Human Services became Coos Health & Wellness (CHW). CHW integrates Public Health, Behavioral Health and Health Education services. CHW offers integrated services to respond to the changing healthcare environment and its push for better integrated and coordinated services; to blend services and resources, eliminate silos and address the health needs of our community and our residents in a holistic manner. Our vision is "together, inspiring healthier communities" and our mission is "to promote and provide innovative quality health services, prevention and education for our communities".

In April we also celebrated Public Health week through the publication of the 2013-14 Annual Report for the Public Health division. The report glances at Public Health and its accomplishments throughout the years; it details the latest key health indicators for Coos County; and provides some insights in the work our dedicated team accomplished during the year. If you are interested you can find the report at http://www.co.coos.or.us/Portals/0/Public%20Health/Annual%20Reports/20132014annualrept.pdf.

We celebrated health minded organizations and businesses in the County (http://www.co.coos.or.us/Portals/0/Public%20Health/PSA/recphbusinesses.pdf)

National Bike Month ~ May 2015



Zonta Club Awards Grant for Women's Health

In December, the Zonta Club of the Coos Bay Area, through its Service Foundation, awarded \$2,500 to CCFoPH in support of women's health services at Coos County Public Health. Zonta has a goal of improving the health status of women, and the health vouchers provided by this grant will make a difference for the women who could not otherwise afford health exams. Thank you Zonta!

Become a Friend of Coos County Public Health

Annual Dues

\$20 Individual \$30 for Family \$50 Business



8th Annual Public Health Week

Recognition Luncheon

The CCFoPH Recognition Luncheon on April 9th was attended by over 90 Friends and supporters who celebrated the achievements of the 7 individuals and one organization who had been selected for the 2015 SuperStars awards. The recipients were awarded original glass plaques donated by Sage Place, Glass Fusing Studio, of Bandon.



Karen Brown, school nurse in the Coos Bay School District, was lauded for her work to improve the lives of school children, by starting the *Shoes that Fit* project, by obtaining grants for needed health related equipment, and by coordination with the Health Department's *Ready to Smile* dental program and special immunization clinics. Karen had also been recognized as the Oregon School Nurse of the Year, 2014-15, for her passion in serving school children.

Susan Fox and Ethel German were acknowledged as co-founders of the Crossroads Community Cafe, which is a welcoming place where people can get an inexpensive hot meal, regardless of personal circumstance. **Kathy Walsh**, and **Susan Walker**, Director of the nursing program at SWOCC, were acknowledged for their collaboration with Crossroads Cafe to provide periodic health clinics staffed with nursing students from the college. Crossroads Community Café has become a critical asset to our community through the volunteer efforts and leadership of these women.





Jardin Kazaar and Kristin Hoefer, owners of the Black Market Gourmet, were recognized for educating the community about healthy eating. They have hosted films, prepared meals with produce from the Ladybug Landing community garden, and provided tips on healthful cooking through the 5 Minute Gourmet program, aired on KCBY. Jardin & Kristin were also acknowledged for their support of the Friends of Public Health and their generous contributions to many community events and fundraisers.

The organization selected as SuperStar was the **Community Advisory Council**, **of Western Oregon Advanced Health**, which is a coordinated care organization for Medicaid services. The Community Advisory Council, represented by Chairperson, Betty Albertson, includes members who are service providers, service agencies, consumers (who are also known as Oregon Health Plan members), and other non-members. This Council was acknowledged for their work to improve the health of WOAH members, which are about 20% of the Coos County population.

Through their advocacy for improvements in health services, transportation, and better access to health care, this organization has had an impact throughout Coos and Curry Counties.

Thank you to all who attended, donated and contributed in any way to this wonderful community event. We have fortunate to have many SuperStars in our community who help make this a wonderful place to work, live and play!



New Board Member

Jenny Bream—Public Education Chair

Jenny Bream was born in Leicester, England in 1943. It was there that she completed her education, met and married her husband and gave birth to her daughter and son. Their life continued normally until 1980, when her husband was offered a job in the USA. They moved (only 3 months later) to Los Angeles, California. What a change in life, After using public transportation for her whole life she suddenly had to learn to drive - IN LOS ANGELES, ON FREEWAYS.

After several small jobs she finally started a company with two other British girlfriends, servicing the duty free gift shops at Los Angeles International Airport. This continued for 15 years, until her son met and married a young lady from North Bend, Oregon. After visiting in 1999 they decided to move here, and, in January 2001 arrived.

She and her husband set up a business at the Small Business Center in North Bend, and Jenny then joined the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce (BACC) to promote their business. There she developed an interest in her new community and started serving on various boards and committees.

Jenny served as President of the BACC in 2007, and has been on various committees since then including the Bay Area Ambassadors, Zonta Club, SMART, United Way, and now CCFoPH.

Jenny claims to have retired several years ago, but as you can see, she very active and continues to work hard for her adopted community.

Thank you to all our board members for their commitment to the good work of the CCFoPH and to our mission:

To promote health in Coos County through enhancement of local public health services.



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Board Members

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Barbara Bassett

Public Health in Coos County ~ A Snapshot 75 Years Back in Time by Frances Smith

Seventy-five years ago, many public health activities in Coos County were focused on communicable disease prevention and child heath. Many of the diseases which resulted in school closures and quarantines at that time are controlled today by immunizations and medications. Many of the public health activities of 75 years ago continue in the present day to protect and improve our health—screening, education, immunizations, sanitation, and quarantine.

Here are some snapshots reported in the local newspapers:

<u>In 1936,</u> three dozen families living in the WPA housing after the Bandon fire of 1936 were quarantined for smallpox. Several hundred were immunized against smallpox. The Bandon Chamber of Commerce, noting a drop off in business, proclaimed that Bandon was safe to visit.

<u>In 1938,</u> Dr. Coyle, the County Health Physician, began a campaign to wipe out venereal disease, saying 1 out of 12 people in their lifetimes will get it. A confidential STD clinic was also offered in the basement of the Courthouse.

Scarlet fever and typhoid were diseases of concern in the fall of 1938. 600 students were given the Schick test to determine immunity to diphtheria, and half were found with no immunity.

A tonsil removal clinic was held at the Kaiser Hospital, with a fee of \$10 per child. (14 children were served.)

<u>In 1939</u> a puppet show in the schools showed children how to have good teeth, and special clinics were held for crippled children for identification of problems and referral.

Christmas Seals were sold to fund TB rehabilitation. The goal was to sell \$1800 in seals, with 65% of funds used in Coos County. For example, a ton of hay was purchased to feed a cow so that a needy family could have milk for children who had been ill.

The Valley View School in Coquille was closed because of a 2nd case of polio, and in December, a quarantine at Marshfield was due to mumps.

In 1940 –Of the 242 children who received dental screening in Myrtle Point, 75.6% required fillings.

<u>In 1941</u> – Dr. Dehne, the County Health Physician said that steps must be taken to stamp out prostitution by the owners of the buildings which were rented as "organized houses." Venereal disease was seen as a threat to the health of soldiers and sailors.

Whooping cough was a concern, and a measles outbreak closed the Delmar School.

Garbage collection service was used by fewer than 25% of homes in Marshfield, and people were dumping trash along highways. Over 100 rats were killed by cars on the road in the Empire area by the garbage dumps. To avoid bubonic plague, the Health Department advised to either incinerate garbage or put it into a trench and cover within 24 hours.