

Hello, Friends!

Welcome to the second Newsletter of 2017!! I want to thank all of our supporters for your enthusiasm in the weekly information posts on our Facebook page. I'm trying to pick topics of general interest that you may not come across in your daily activities. If you have a special topic of interest please take a moment to leave a message on the page and I will try to feature information on that topic!

Jeanne Moore, Communications Chair

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, Frances Smith

The Annual Recognition Lunch is always a fun time for me to see CCFoPH members and some former colleagues, and become acquainted with new leaders. We are truly blessed to have these Super Stars (see page 2) who contribute so



much to our community and who help some of our most vulnerable residents. Florence Pourtal-Stevens, Public Health Director, shared with the group how public health services contribute

to our lives on a daily basis (see enclosed insert). More information is also available in the *Public Health Division Annual Report* 2015-16 on the Coos Health & Wellness website: <u>http://</u> www.co.coos.or.us/Departments/CoosHealthWellness/ PublicHealth.aspx.

Eric Gleason, Health Promotion Director, gave updates on the *Ready to Smile* program, the high school health promotion campaign, and the suicide prevention project—which has received a grant from the students of the Bandon Community 101 class (see page 3).



Florence Pourtal-Stevens & Eric Gleason



A special thanks goes to Ginger Swan, Director of Coos Health & Wellness, for all she does to manage this large department. I especially appreciate all the CCFoPH Board Members, who pitched in to help with this event. And thanks to all who attended our celebration!







RECOGNITION LUNCH CCFoPH 2017 Superstars

On April 4th, CCFoPH celebrated the outstanding work of Super Stars who are helping to make Coos County a healthier place to live. Four individuals and 2 organizations were honored by the 75 in attendance at the 10th annual Recognition Lunch, held at the Black Market Gourmet.



Elizabeth Spona, founder and Board Chair of Connect! the Boardwalks, was applauded for her strong advocacy and work towards completing the waterfront walking path, which provides a delightful environment for exercise, and also contributes to economic development in the Bay Area.

The Coos Bay City Council of 2016 & Mayor Crystal Shoji (represented by Jennifer

Groth and Stephanie Kramer) were acknowledged for their leadership in making the City of Coos Bay a healthier place to live and visit. In July 2016, an ordinance was enacted to ban smoking and vaping at all city-owned developed parks and at public facilities (Library, Fire Stations, The Visitor Information Center, City Shops and City Hall), including the parking lots and adjacent areas around buildings. These smoke free areas lessen exposure to tobacco smoke, create a cleaner environment, and provide a positive influence on young people.

Kids HOPE Center (represented by Joanne Shorb, the executive director, and Barbara Bauder, Chief Development Officer), helps children in Coos County who have been abused, by providing a focus on complete health (physical, emotional, social) for the assessed needs of the children served. The center was also lauded for providing workshops to teach adults to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to suspicions or confirmed cases of child sexual abuse.



Gail McClave, M.D. has been a strong advocate for access to health care, for many years. In addition to her current private practice at *Bandon Family Health*, Dr. McClave provides access for those in need of reproductive health services by volunteering I or 2 afternoons a month at Coos Health & Wellness. She also generously donated funds to replace a lab grade vaccine refrigerator for the public health clinic.

Carla McKelvey, M.D. a pediatrician at North Bend Medical Center (and a founding member of CCFoPH), was honored for developing the FEARsome Clinic, where children in foster care can get their physical, dental and mental health screenings in a coordinated setting. An estimated 500 children have been served in the 5 years the clinic has been in operation, which has been a great advantage not only to the children who have received services, but also to the foster parents.

Tara Johnson, Executive Director of the Nancy Devereux Center, was applauded for bringing in more resources and support for the homeless population in our county, including an overnight warming shelter and a sleeping bag exchange program at the center. She was acknowledged for her work in advocating for those who are homeless, and bringing people together to work on solutions for this challenging need.

Kudos to Reneé Menkens – Advocate for Rural Health!



Reneé Menkens, RN, MS, was recently acknowledged for her participation for three years on the Oregon Action Coalition (OAC) Steering Committee. Jana R. Bitton, the OAC colead and executive director of the Oregon Center for Nursing, says that "Reneé is an invaluable resource in helping to promote the value nurses can bring to rural settings."

The OAC is a group of individuals and organizations who are dedicated to implementing the Institute of Medicine Future of Nursing's bold vision for America's health care system in Oregon by developing strategies to engage and communicate with nursing and non-nursing partners throughout the state. Since 2012, the OAC has focused on building nurses as leaders, removing scope of practice barriers for advanced practice nurses, creating strategies to

increase the number of baccalaureate nurses, and raising awareness of the value of nursing in the state.

Reneé is currently an assistant professor at OHSU School of Nursing in the RN to BSN completion program. Reneé also taught for eight years at Southwestern Oregon Community College in Coos Bay, and recently the Student Faculty Council nominated her to receive the OHSU All Hill Award for her ongoing support to nursing students. Locally, Reneé has been a long-time Board Member of **CCFoPH** and is currently **Vice-President**. Reneé also serves as a member of the Coos County Community Health Improvement Plan Steering Committee and is active in the local Coordinated Care Community Advisory Council. Thank you, Reneé, for your service to our community!

Bandon Students Award Community 101 Grant to CCFoPH

On April 13, the students of the Bandon High School's Community 101 class awarded \$1500 to Coos County Friends of Public Health to help complete **The McCullough Bridge Suicide Prevention Project**, initiated by Coos Health & Wellness. This project will locate two emergency call boxes at mid-span of the McCullough Bridge. Informational signs will be installed along the bridge sidewalks with crisis line numbers. This will enable those contemplating suicide one last chance to call for help. The grant awarded by the Bandon Community 101 class will help cover the cost of the signs. Eric Gleason and Frances Smith attended the award ceremony at the Bandon High School gymnasium to receive the check.

In Oregon, suicide is the leading cause of death for youth ages 10-14 years old and the second leading cause of death for those ages 15-24 years old. The North Bend Police Department reports that calls of potential suicidal jumpers at the McCullough Bridge have tripled in the last 10 years.



Welcome to all new and returning members! We want to keep our numbers strong to support Public Health services in our community. If you have questions or want more information about membership, contact Anita Hale at the CCFoPH email at cccoph@gmail.com or visit www.ccfoph.org.

Name:		Email:	
Address:		_City:	State/Zip:
Phone: (h)	(w)	(cell)	Fax:
The best way to reach me is:			
Membership Dues for:	\$20/yr Individual	\$30/yr Family	\$50/yr Business
l wish to donate: \$	in support of CCFoPH.	I wish my donation to remain anonymous.	
CCFoPH is a Non-Profit 501c3 and your membership dues and donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. We appreciate your support!			

Mission Statement: "To Promote Health in Coos County through Enhancement of Local Public Health Services."

Purpose: To promote an understanding of the public health needs of communities in Coos County and availability of services to address those needs; To increase community collaboration to achieve public health goals and to provide public health services; To encourage volunteer involvement in local public health programs; To educate about the important relationship between resources and essential public health services; and To generate resources in fulfillment of our mission.

