

**NWRES D BOARD REPORT – NOVEMBER 2015**  
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**CLATSOP COUNTY**

**Behavioral Health Town Hall:** On November 4<sup>th</sup>, the Oregon Health Authority sponsored a Behavioral Health Town Hall meeting in Astoria. Senator Sara Gelser and OHA Director, Lynne Saxon heard from consumers and family members who have had difficulties accessing mental health and substance use disorder treatment in Oregon. Community members were encouraged to attend as listeners. It was attended by several NWRES D Clatsop Service Center staff members who are invested in partnering with our local mental health agency to continue to improve services to youth and their families in our community. There will be six statewide town hall meetings, concluding with a webinar on Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. Results will be compiled and shared with those who attended.

**Integrated Employment Plan for individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities:** In support of the Oregon Department of Human Services' Integrated Employment Plan for individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities, the NWRES D Clatsop Service Center Administrator is collaborating with community partners and stakeholders by serving as a liaison between school district administrators and special education teachers and our Employment First work group. Our Employment First group consists of regional supervisors and county managers from the offices of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR), Developmental Disabilities (DD), Integrated Services Network and Coast Rehabilitation Services as well as our ODE Regional Employment Coordinator. An initial training was held November 2, for high school special education teachers to increase their awareness of the Governor's Executive Order 15-01 and help them learn how to assure students are referred to appropriate agencies in a timely and manner.

**COLUMBIA COUNTY**

**Warm Coat Drive:** The Columbia Service Center is hosting their annual Warm Coats Drive for children and adults this December. We've received about 30 new or lightly used coats so far, but need quite a few more. Last year we were able to provide more than 70 coats to local families in need. Over the next few months will continue to work with community partners in an effort to provide warm coats to children and families in Columbia County. Please contact the Columbia Service Center if you have coats you'd like to donate!

**Early Childhood Health & Education Clinic:** The second Early Childhood Health and Education Clinic will take place Friday, November 13 at Sunset Park Community Church. The purpose of the clinic is to help young children and their families receive early childhood health and education support in preparation for kindergarten. We are pleased to have many community partner volunteers and providers to help with this event. So far, we have 41 children registered for this fun and child-friendly clinic.

## **TILLAMOOK SERVICE CENTER UPDATE**

**Collaboration:** Tillamook county special education directors gathered for the first time this fall to share the work they are doing in our county. This is a positive opportunity for discussion and collaboration among these professionals. Options for addressing challenging behaviors continues to be a challenge in all three districts.

**Early Childhood Health & Education Clinic** Tillamook's Early Childhood Screening Fair preparations are progressing nicely. Our service center has offered to resume responsibility for the distribution of advertising materials. We believe our stronger connections in the education community will increase the spread of advertising, thus increasing overall attendance at this event.