

**Coos County Commission on
Children and Families
Community Comprehensive Plan Update
2010**



Pelican Community visiting in Bandon, Coos County, Oregon October 2009

Western World Photo by Steve McCasland



Coos County Community Comprehensive Plan

2010 Update - Executive Summary

Introduction

The Coos County Comprehensive Plan was written in 2008 and included 12 goals recommended by the community and approved by the Commission on Children and Families and the Board of County Commissioners. Within these goals were numerous strategies developed through a Child Neglect Summit, Community focus groups, surveys and trainings.

In 2010 these strategies and goals were revisited by the Early Childhood Committee, Local Public Safety Coordinating Council, Local Alcohol and Drug Planning Committee, youth representatives, a community survey using Survey Monkey and the Commission on Children and Families. Through these venues the community has determined that the 12 original goals remain important however some of the strategies are no longer needed either because they have been completed or for different reasons are no longer viable. The Commission has been a strong supporter of local trainings and sponsored some on their own and/or in collaboration with community partners. These trainings are listed as the 13th goal.

In addition to this document other focused plan updates this year include the Mental Health Plan, Public Health and Juvenile Crime Prevention. The Alcohol and Drug Prevention Plan and accompanying dollars have been incorporated into the Commission system and the individual plan is listed in the Mental Health Plan as well as within this document under the Reduce Substance Abuse goal.

Data for each goal has been updated and referenced using state records, the Oregon Healthy Teen Survey, Court records and a local Youth Survey. This information is noted and referenced under each of the 13 Community goals.

The economic and social climate of our community has not seen a lot of change in the last two years. Our unemployment rate hovers between 11 and 13%. Our families needs have grown as

our economic status continues with double digit unemployment figures. The Department of Human Resources reports continuing growth in requests for assistance and has streamlined services to provide same day eligibility determination for food stamps. Our food banks are stressed with on-going calls for additional donations. Local budgets are stressed at all levels, and, while we face many hurtles in the future we continue to be a community with high levels of collaboration and support for each other. It is this basic philosophy and support that will see us through the tough times that may still be ahead.



Members of the Coos Bay Police Department receive the 2008 Judge Richard Barron Award for their work at refurbishing the Alternate School for At Risk Youth. Pictured from left: CCF Chair Kevin Stufflebean, three members of the department, Former Chief Roger Craddock (now Coos Bay City Manager) and Judge Martin Stone.

County Approved Goals and Strategies and their Progress

Population under 18: 2007 - 12,820

1. Goal: Reduce Child Maltreatment – Early Childhood Plan

Data: Victim rate per 1000 Children

2007-17.7% State Rank (out of 36 counties): 10

2009-20.6% State Rank (out of 36 counties): 7

Source: DHS 2009 Child Welfare Data Book

On Going Strategies

a. Support of Healthy Start

The Coos County Healthy Start Program participated in the statewide restructuring process and was able to develop a program that would continue to provide services to first birth families in Coos County. In the first quarter of the 2009-11 biennium the program served 27 families and 72 individual clients. The program provided home visits to families that included well baby checks, goal setting, problems solving for parents and providing resource information to them. In the most recent NPC Research report 92.6% of families reported that Healthy Start helped them develop a positive support system and 93.8% of families indicated that they were having positive interactions/activities with their children at least a few times a week or more. The Healthy Start Program has been a Commission program and priority for 11 years.

b. Support of CASA

The Coos County CASA program provides 73 trained volunteers to the Court System and they serve 176 children or family groups. In the first quarter of the 2009-11 biennium the program provided 1340 volunteer hours to county children. The CASA program has been a Commission program and priority for over 15 years.

Strategies Established in 2008

c. Establish a Relief Nursery (Adopted at the Child Neglect Summit)

Progress: Members of the group that volunteered to work on this project met with state Relief Nursery representatives in 2008. Based on their discussions the recommendation was that we not pursue establishing a Relief Nursery at this time due to lack of funding and organization. It was noted that many of the services provided by a Relief Nursery are available through other county resources. The Early Childhood Committee and the Commission both approve tabling this strategy.

d. Create an Enhanced Resource Guide (Adopted at the Child Neglect Summit)

Progress: Since the demise of Helpline there has been no organization able to provide the 24 hour helpline plus the providing and updating of a detailed resource guide. Several groups throughout the county have worked on a possible on-line guide but the work is still not completed. The Commission will continue to provide its one page guide which will be posted on the county website.

- e. Develop a Family Friends Program -South Coast Hospice Family Mentoring Program (Adopted at the Child Neglect Summit)
 Progress: This was a project of an individual who was employed at South Coast Hospice. Soon after the Summit the individual left Hospice to go into private practice and there was no one else available to develop this program so the strategy was not accomplished. Recommendation of the Early Childhood Committee and the Commission is that it be eliminated as a strategy until such time as there is an agency that can develop this program.

- f. Develop Families to Families program-monthly activities for families. (Adopted at the Child Neglect Summit)
 Progress: This project was initiated by a Southwestern employee who went back to school and was unable to complete the project. Discussion at the Early Childhood Committee and updating of the Resources available form showed that there were numerous programs for families currently being provided through different venues. This particular program is eliminated and replaced with many others such as Community Schools programs, Healthy Start and Head Start activities.

- g. Housing – A Home for All (Community Action Program adopted at the Child Neglect Summit)
 Progress: The Early Childhood Committee recommended to the Commission that this program be dropped from the Early Childhood Plan and entered into the Comp Plan as part of the 10 Year Homeless Plan. At a meeting with the Homeless Task Force they were in agreement with this proposal as the 10 year plan covers many venues not just child maltreatment.

- h. Implementing Life Skills Training – A Best Practice Parenting Program. (Adopted at the Child Neglect Summit)
 Progress: This has been implemented through funding from the Commission. The strategy will now be called Support for Parenting Programs as there are now other curriculums being provided through the funding including “Making Parenting A Pleasure.” The program is using the Parenting Skills Ladder to assess their success. In the first quarter of 2009 89% of the parents taking the class reported improvement in their parent-child interactions.

- i. Community Involvement in Health Care (Adopted at the Child Neglect Summit)
 Progress: Accomplished through the development of a non-profit organization “Friends of Public Health.” This group will be able to apply for grants and receive financial support for Public Health that only a non-profit can achieve.

- j. The Michael House for Homeless/Runaway Youth (Adopted at the Child Neglect Summit)
 Progress: This project was supported by an advocate who moved from the area. The mantle has been picked up by others and is on the brink of establishing a Maslow Project, similar to one established in Jackson County. On the recommendation of the Commission

this strategy is moved to the Homeless and Runaway goal. It is also the topic of our most recent success story.

k. Trans-more-tation- an upgrade of our current transportation system.(Adopted at the Child Neglect Summit)

Progress: There have been to new “loops” added to the transportation system that will help families reach services. This continues as an on-going need but the additions mean the strategy was successful and completed.

New Strategies in 2009- 2010

l. Community Schools

Progress: In the 2007-09 Biennium the Commission received a Community Schools grant for Madison School in the Empire Area of Coos Bay. This school has the highest rate of free and reduced lunches in the county indicating a high poverty area. In the first year of the program the school provided after school and special one day events for students and their families. A parenting class was held at the school in collaboration with the Commission grantee listed above. In a second quarter report the school notes that 500 parents were involved in school activities and 160 students were involved in extended and enhanced day programs. They also reported a 5% increase in the number of students meeting state standards and a 1% improvement in absenteeism and truancy rates.

m. The Casey Project

Progress: In 2009 Coos County was selected as a Casey Community Project to reduce the number of children in foster care. Throughout the year a core committee has developed numerous projects with this goal in mind. Four sub-committees were established. The Early Childhood Committee agreed to serve as a prevention committee, a Wrap Around Committee, Relative Placement Committee and Equity in the System Committees were established. To date these committees have achieved the following:

- Development of a video on relative placement and advantages of foster care
- Development of brochures about relative placement and foster care
- Participating in two community prevention projects
- Community Wrap Around Training with Trainer Pat Miles
- Multi Cultural Competency Training with Trainer Rita Cameron Wedding.

2. Goal: Increase Readiness to Learn/Preschool for all

Data: 2006 Coos County Ready to Learn: 82.1%

3 year Average: 83.8%

Source: Oregon Progress Board

Strategies Developed in 2008

- a. Advocate for State and Federal increase in funds for Head Start to provide Services to more children

Progress: A major success for the Head Start program in Coos County was the receipt of a \$795,000 grant to develop an Early Head Start Program in both Coos and Curry Counties. This has been a goal of the Head Start program for many years and has been strongly supported by the Commission and the Early Childhood Committee. This new project will provide both in home visitation for infants and their families and a year round early Head Start Classroom to be sited at the Family Center in Coos Bay.

- b. Continue to Support Preschool education through local providers.

Progress: The removal of the child care dollars from the Commission system for the 2009-11 biennium has left us without an avenue to this venue. It is hoped that the return of these dollars in the 2011-13 biennium will assist us in our goal to continue to work in this venue.

3. Goal: Improved Prenatal Care

Data: Adequate Prenatal Care: 2007 – 84.9%
2009 – 85.4%

Source: DHS – Public Health Department – Center for Health Statistics

Strategy Developed in 2008:

- a. Continued support of Healthy Start

Progress: Despite budget cuts the program has been able to continue. The Coos County Health Department has also been able to continue some prenatal services though fewer families are served due to a decrease in funding.

Strategy: Other Prenatal services are also offered by the Pregnancy Resource Center, Bay Area Hospital Moms Program, Waterfall Clinic and Tribal Health Departments. Coquille Hospital and Bay Area Hospital provide delivery services.

4. Goal: Parent Education

Strategy Developed in 2008

- a. Continue to work through Early Childhood Committee to expand Parent Education opportunities.

Progress: The Commission funds the Pathways to Positive Parenting Project through the Southwestern Childhood Education and Family Studies Program. This program provides parenting classes throughout the year in seven different parts of the county. A program series recently completed in Bandon showed 89% of participating parents reported improvement in their parent child interactions. The program has recently started parent book clubs with pilot programs at the Family Center at Southwestern. The two books that will be offered are “10 Days to a Bully Proof Child” and “Positive Discipline”

5. Goal: Decrease Childhood Obesity

Strategy

The Early Childhood Committee and the Commission on Children and Families are still developing strategies for this goal.

6. Goal: Increase Childcare Availability

Data: 2007 Child Care Supply (slots per 100 ages 0-13) 15

2009 Child Care Supply (slots per 100 ages 0-13) 14

Source: Children First for Oregon

Strategies Developed in 2008

a. Continue support of Resource and Referral

Progress: Childcare Development funds were removed from the Commission on Children and Families so we have not had funds previously dedicated to this goal though we continue to support in spirit the expansion of Resource and Referral and childcare availability.

b. Continue support for Continuing Education of Childcare providers and their advancement up the certification ladder.

Progress: Slowed due to loss of childcare dollars in this biennium.

7. Goal: Increase Immunizations

Data: 2006 Children Immunized: (2 yrs. & under) 77%

2008 Children Immunized: (2 yrs. & under) 71%

Source: Oregon Progress Board and Coos County Health Department

Strategies Developed in 2008

a. Continue support of Healthy Start goal of immunizing infants.

Progress: Healthy Start has been successful in getting all of their clients immunized in a timely manner.

b. Support Health Department in its community partnerships to increase immunizations.

Progress: The Health Department continues these partnerships and the Rotary Clubs have been particularly supportive of the immunization program.

These seven goals and their accompanying strategies make up the Coos County Early Childhood Plan. Following are additional goals for older youth and the community.

8. Goal: Reduce Substance Abuse

Data: 2006 8th Grade Alcohol Abuse (past 30 days): 35.1%

2008 8th Grade Alcohol Abuse (past 30 days): 29%

2006 11th Grade Alcohol Abuse (past 30 days): 43%

2008 11th Grade Alcohol Abuse (past 30 days) 46%

2006 8th Grade use of Marijuana (past 30 days): 11%
2008 8th Grade use of Marijuana (past 30 days): 9%
2006 11th Grade use of Marijuana (past 30 days) 22%
2008 11th Grade use of Marijuana (past 30 days) 21.4%

Source: Oregon Healthy Teen Survey, DHS Addictions and Mental Health Division

Strategies Developed in 2008

a. Seek other sources of sustainability after completion of ten years Drug Free Communities Grant.

Progress: A partnership with the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council has produced a successful application for a Drug Free Communities Grant. This grant is for \$125,000 for five years or \$600,000 with the opportunity to apply for an additional five years. In addition to these funds the A&D 70 funds have been transferred to the Commission and are now combined with DFC funds for a coordinated approach to youth substance abuse prevention.

b. Continue Positive Youth Development Projects such as Youth Summit, Teen Idol, And Teen Maze.

Progress: Youth Summit 2010 was held on March 17, 2010 with 340 youth in attendance. The theme "iDecide" was carried out with six breakout sessions, television and radio ad's produced and acted by the Youth Summit Planning Committee made up of 20 county youth. The keynote speaker for the Summit was contracted to provide assemblies to all county high school and middle schools and this proved exceptionally successful.

Teenopoly is scheduled for May 11th and 12th and will provide prevention messages to county 8th graders. Teen Idol will again be held in the summer of 2010. In addition to these projects others have been added including six teen prevention dances held throughout the county and sponsored by local police departments, support for Project Graduations continues and two prevention days have been held at the County Fair and the Coos Bay Blackberry Festival. An art show and Open House at the County Courthouse is planned for April 13 and will honor County Recognition Month and Alcohol Awareness Month.



2010 Some members of the Youth Summit Planning Committee and Speaker Keith Hawkins



iDecide

Coos County Youth Summit 2010

- c. Implement “Caught You Being Good” positive student reinforcement county-wide.
Progress: Positive Behavior Support systems are implemented in schools throughout the county.

- d. Continue Prize Bowl for Community Corrections clients who successfully complete assignments.

Progress: This project was in effect for six months and was discontinued with the completion of our first Drug Free Communities Grant. Staff has changed and moved in another direction so this strategy is completed.

e. Continue to support the best practice program “Project Toward No Drug Abuse”

Progress: This program was moved to the DFC and prevention grants and the Commission contracts with a professional to provide the training. A first series was completed in December and a second is now in process. The program provides 12 hours of class time in prevention of substance abuse. To date it has been offered at alternative schools, the Boys and Girls Ranch and Shelter Care. A goal is to be able to provide the program to students in public schools.

New Strategies Developed in 2009

f. Party Dispersal Program: Through the Drug Free Communities Grant and Prevention dollars funds are available to pay for equipment and overtime to police officers throughout the county that roll out when a teen party call occurs.

Progress: Still in the planning stage.

g. Minor Decoy Program: Through the Drug Free Communities Grant and Prevention dollars a Minor Decoy program will be instituted that “tests” the ability of local establishments to not serve or sell alcohol to minors. Those businesses that successfully do not serve or sell to the minor decoy will be rewarded with a certificate of appreciation.

Progress: Still in the planning stage

h. Media Blitz: Through the Drug Free Communities Grant and Prevention funds a media blitz including radio, television and print focusing on underage drinking will be implemented.

Progress: There are radio ads on all local stations... Starting in October they have featured the North Bend Police Chief, Youth Planning Committee members, and a “Parents Who Host Lose the Most” purchased ad. The campaign will continue until September. A renewal grant asks for the funds to continue in the next federal fiscal year. Television ads have been on our one local station for four months and have featured the North Bend Police Chief, a purchased ad about “Parents Who Host Lose the Most” and an ad produced and acting by the Youth Summit Planning Committee. Finally, ads to appear on the sides of our local bus company which travels between our communities are being developed and will stay for the rest of the year.

A final media strategy is to purchase ads through the local movie house. These ads are shown prior to the movie feature. We have not completed this strategy.

9. Goal: Reduce Teen Pregnancy

Data: Teen pregnancy per 1000 girls ages 15 – 17

2007: 24.2

2009: 19.5

Strategies Developed in 2008

- a. Meet with Community Partners to discuss reestablishing a RAPP group in Coos County.
Progress: none at this time

- b. Continue youth education through Youth Summit and Teen Maze.
Progress: Teen sexuality and dating issues were presented in a breakout session at the 2010 Youth Summit by representatives from the Women's Safety and Resource Center.

10. Goal: Decrease Youth Suicide

DATA: Percent of Youth that Attempted Suicide in the Past Year

2006: 8th Grade - 8%

2008: 8th Grade – 7.2%

2006: 11th Grade – 6%

2008: 11th Grade – 6.6%

Source: Healthy Teen Survey

Strategies Developed in 2008

- a. Continue Support of Yellow Ribbon Project and see it developed in all school districts.
Progress: Yellow Ribbon was discontinued when the developer went into private practice. The Commission then provided ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) with trainer Jill Hollingsworth on January 22 and 23, 2009. The Response Curriculum, A Comprehensive High School Based Suicide Awareness Program was purchased for each school district. This program can be use for Middle and High School students.

11. Reduce Domestic Violence

DATA: 2009-10

First time Calls

Females: 1589

Males: 185

Follow up contacts: 2186

Shelter

Moms: 86

Children: 43

Source: Women's Safety and Resource Center

Strategies Developed in 2008

- a. Collaborate with partners on education and training to increase community knowledge.
Progress: Three Cory Jewell Jensen training have been held in collaboration with the Community Empowering Youth Grant and other partners.

A presentation on Human Trafficking was presented to the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce. This was followed by a community training. Project led by Bay Area Zonta and partners included the Commission and Women’s Safety and Resource Center. Plans are currently in the works for the partners to sponsor a statewide convention on this topic.

- b. Support Women’s Safety and Resource Center in its endeavors whenever possible.
Progress: Women’s Safety and Resource continues as an important partner. They will assist in the upcoming Teenopoly and provided a breakout session at the 2010 Youth Summit.

12. Goal: Address Homeless and Runaway Issues.

DATA

School	2008-08	2009-2010
Coquille	33	45
Coos Bay	301	289
North Bend	73	106
Powers	2	unknown
Myrtle Pt.	37	unknown
<u>Bandon</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>33</u>
Total	459	473

Source: Coos County McKinney-Vento Coordinator

Strategies Developed in 2008

- a. Continue to seek outside funding for existing plan.
Progress: A collaboration between the Commission and Coos Bay School District has resulted in the beginnings of a Homeless and Runaway Resource Center. The expectation is the Center will be open in June of 2010. This collaboration is the subject of our success story included at the end of this report.
- b. Advocate Legislatively for Homeless and Runaway dollars in all counties.
This will be developed in the next legislative session and was successfully completed in the 2009 Legislative session.

13. Goal: To provide and/or support training efforts for the Coos County Community

Progress: Training Provided and/or Supported Financially 2008 - present:
Protecting Your Child – Cory Jewell Jensen, February 20, 2008
Meyer Memorial Trust Tour – Two Community Meetings April 1, 2008
Siskiyou Leadership Series:

Break Through Conflict - Susan & Peter Glaser May 21, 2008
Negotiations & Mediation – David Landis June 12, 2008
Catalytic Leadership – John Morgan – August 27, 2008
ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training)–Jill Hollingsworth January 22 & 23, 2009
Repairing Relationships with Traumatized Children: Intervention in Early Childhood Mental Health –
Dr. Julie Larrieu June 18, 2009
Clinician Training in Child-Parent Psychotherapy – Dr. Julie Larrieu June 19, 2009
Treating Explosive Kids – Dr. Stuart Ablon August 20 & 21, 2009
Human Trafficking – Oregon Human Trafficking Task Force November 19, 2009
Sex Offenders in the Faith Community – Cory Jewell Jensen March 31, 2010
Bias in Decision Making –Rita Cameron Wedding, PhD. April 7, 2010
Writing a Child Safety Policy – Beth Swagman, Attorney and Author April 8, 2010
Motivational/Prevention Presentation to all six High School and Middle Schools – Keith Hawkins
March 15 – 18, 2010

Coos County Commission on Children and Families

2010 Success Story

The issue of Homeless and Runaway youth has been at the forefront of identified need of the Coos County community for many years. In 2008 this issue was a part of the Comprehensive Plan but the need for attention to this goal has been a part of our community needs assessment for much longer.

There is no specific site that provides services to Homeless and Runaway youth in our county. The community has tried in a number of ways to assist this population. Agencies like Women’s Safety and Resource, Department of Human Services, The T.H.E. House, our local Mission and other Faith Community members, Schools and Local Police Departments all have provided some temporary assistance to some youth but a collaborative concerted effort has yet to produce an answer. This is about to change.

The county research on our Homeless and Runaway Youth has been extensive. In 2006 the Coos Commission collaborating with our local League of Women Voters participated in a statewide study of this population in preparation for the 2007 legislative session. The results of our study became a part of

the statewide report. The Coos County study showed about 200 homeless and runaway youth were reported through all of our six McKinney Vento liaisons (these are homeless and runaway liaisons in each school district.) The major reasons for youth being homeless were identified as family conflicts, substance abuse and gender issues. The major needs identified were shelter, counseling and hot meals.

The statewide report and support from communities and the Commission on Children and Families produced funds from the 2007 Legislature for Homeless and Runaway youth. The State Commission was given the responsibility of distributing these funds and proceeded with a competitive process. In Coos County a community group made up of CCF member and vendors, McKinney-Vento representatives and a representative from Community Housing wrote a grant for these funds using the research and work that had gone before. Unfortunately this grant application was not funded and we were again back to square one.

In 2009 an increase in McKinney-Vento funds was a very positive thing for Coos County. In addition, the Coos Bay School District received a grant to bring the McKinney-Vento liaisons from five of our six school districts together to initiate a county-wide communication system about homeless and runaway youth. This was a major step forward for service to this population. Also in 2009 Coos Bay staff attended a National Convention on Homelessness where they heard a presentation from the Jackson County Maslow project. This project provides multiple services to Homeless and Runaway youth. They are not an overnight shelter facility but they provide food, clothing, counseling and other services through community partners to Homeless and Runaway youth.

While these ideas were percolating at the Coos Bay School District, the local Commission was looking at large cuts in our Youth Investment dollars. A long time program that had used these dollars was no longer able to provide their services on the declining dollars so the Commission was looking back to its Comp Plan to determine how these dollars could be used within the parameters of the Youth Investment Grant Stream.

A discussion between the Coos Bay School District Superintendent and the Commission Director brought the two entities together and the idea of the Coos Bay Maslow Center began to take shape. Numerous meetings between the two potential partners ensued as the planning piece moved forward. School personnel met with the Coos Bay City Manager (a former CCF member) and his staff to discuss a good location for the center. The Commission added its consent to the use of Youth Investment funds for the project and a community-wide meeting brought 40 representatives of agencies and citizens together, ready to help.

In January 2010 a team of four visited the Maslow project in Jackson County and this resulted in a Statement of Collaboration for training and support of the new project. In February a site was selected and negotiations are now under way for the physical development of the site.

In the next few months a budget for CCF dollars will be completed and complemented by the McKinney-Vento grant, the site will be completed, a board of directors established and volunteers lined up. Our projection is the Coos County Maslow Center will open by June 1, 2010. It will provide a food bank, counseling services, lockers, showers, clothes closet and other resources that will serve Homeless and

Runaway youth. A long time goal of the Coos County Community will finally be realized by the citizens of Coos County and our young people will be the beneficiaries.