



Clallam Connection

Clallam Connection
July-August 2014

IMPACTS FOR CLALLAM COUNTY

I hope everyone is having a restful and enjoyable summer. Use your time to recharge and energize yourself because we are looking forward to an interesting legislative session in Olympia next January. We are currently processing our new contracts for 2015, and we already have sustained approximately \$96,000 cut in funding in Clallam County. The good news is that this cut is manageable within our current service provisions, and we should not see any significant difficulties with services locally.

The next biennium budgeting process is shaping up to be extremely difficult. Let your voice be heard and educate yourself on the issues in the upcoming legislative session. DSHS Secretary Quigley already has begun a process to prioritize services within DSHS. This is because even with projections of increased revenue Washington State is facing a shortfall as large as 2 Billion dollars. Previous strategies that successfully have seen us through past budgets are no longer available, and there are no new revenue streams currently available. Our representatives in Olympia will be faced with cutting services and/or increasing revenues through taxes or other means. What will this mean to the services we have fought hard to achieve and value highly? The answer to that question may lie in the will of the people. Who will be heard?

For any readers who are interested there is printed information and even a power point slide show available which lays out the difficulties ahead. If anyone would like this information, please feel free to contact me by phone (417-2428) or email (tbruce@co.clallam.wa.us).

Please if at all possible, educate yourself on the coming financial issues and see if you can be part of the solution rather than a victim of lost services. Together we can plan for the future and an even better future.

- Tim Bruce, Clallam County Health & Human Services Developmental Disabilities Planner



*Have a
Great 4th
of July!*

Do
something
wonderful.
People may
imitate it.

- Albert
Schweitzer

COMING SOON TO YOUR SCHOOLS

During the past year, Clallam County Health and Human Services, Developmental Disabilities has placed an increased emphasis on smoothing the transition from high school to adult services for our students. This has long been a concern as unfortunately it has happened too often in the past that students are not placed in adult services until long after the school bus stops coming. Much of this work has been the result of great cooperation between the school districts and this office. Invitations to IEPs so that adult service information can be shared and families better prepared for transition are now common.

In the past two years CCHHS-DD has made a concerted effort to focus the Transition Fair to its actual purpose, helping our students get into the workforce. In each of these years, students have actually become employed through contacts made at the Fair. We will continue to improve and expand this event in the future and are happy that many more community partners are becoming involved.

This past year, we have offered training for teachers in job development, job carving and coaching and hope to continue this in the coming year. This office in cooperation with school districts has worked hard in developing new work experience sites for our students. Two districts now are receiving job coaching assistance through our employment providers as the result of contracts between the districts and the county.

On the adult services side, we have equipped all our local agencies with iPad technology so that they will be prepared to use and expand upon many of the technological devices that are available to students in school. The providers have spent considerable effort in learning and sharing this technology so that all our individuals benefit from the best practices available.

In the coming school year, two educators will begin training in the University of Washington Applied Behavior Analysis program supported by our office. This is another of our on-going efforts to bring the expertise necessary in our field to Clallam County so that we are not contracting out of the county at great cost. We anticipate these individuals to be great resources in our community.

One more exciting development is the beginning of a functioning Transition Council. Representatives from DDA, DVR, DDAC, BLAC, Clallam County, Peninsula College and the local school districts will be meeting and looking for ways to work together and improve services for our students transitioning into adult programs. This is very exciting that these groups can begin to meet and work together in ways never before seen in Clallam County. Challenges will remain because we are a low population county spread over a large geographic area. Nonetheless cooperation is a positive development.

Finally, we are excited with the beginnings of talks and work between all the partners and the various tribes in the county. The Lower Elwha Tribe has become a co-sponsor on the Hiring Event (Transition Fair), and the other tribes are very interested that their members also receive appropriate services as necessary. We continually look forward to great things in the coming years.

Stay tuned for further developments.

- Tim Bruce, Clallam County Health & Human Services Developmental Disabilities Planner

DON'T FORGET

-  **DDAC Meeting** – Thursday, July 10th at Concerned Citizens in Forks, 5:30-7:30pm. No videoconferencing.
-  **BLAC Meeting** – “Business Leadership Advisory Committee”, a subcommittee of the DDAC ,will be meeting again in September. Please check the BLAC website for updated dates and locations at www.clallam.net/HHS/HumanServices/blac .

AND AROUND TOWN



Forks Old Fashioned 4th of July— July 4th-6th. Breakfast, parade, art, photo and craft show, salmon bake, demo derby, fun run, horseshoe tournament, drag races, pie eating contest, Moonlight Madness shopping and fireworks. For more information go to the Forks Chamber of Commerce website events list at www.forkswa.com/events or call 1-800-443-6757.

“Forks of July SK8 Jam”, July 4th @ 1pm at the Tillicum Park Skate Bowl. Barbecue and giveaway, music, evening surf at La Push and fireworks at the beach. For more info call the Forks Chamber of Commerce at 1-800-443-6757.

Port Angeles 4th of July—Parade downtown at 6pm, music on the Pier from 7-10pm and fireworks at 10pm. Come enjoy the fun. Free.

Clallam Bay & Sekiu Fun Days—July 12th & 13th. Parade, races, games, food, fun, craft vendors, music and fireworks.

Hurricane Ridge Astronomy Programs—July 17th-23rd @ 10:45pm, July 24th-30th @ 10:30pm, August 14th-20th @ 9:45pm and August 21st-29th @ 9:00pm. See their current newsletter for hours, fees, parks passes, and other events at www.nps.gov/olym

Lavender Festival—July 18th-20th, Sequim. Driftwood show, lavender farm tours, street fair, music, food and much more. Go to www.lavenderfestival.com for more information.



Quileute Days—LaPush—July 18th-20th. Salmon bake, traditional dancing and singing, stick games, softball tournament, canoe races, parade and fireworks.

Olympic Peninsula Air Affaire—August 30th & 31st, 9am-3pm, Sequim Valley Airport. Fly in, airplane show, biplane rides, car show, food, vendors, live music, skydivers, and wing walkers. \$5.00 per car load.

EVENTS



Clallam
Mosaic

*Empowering people with developmental disabilities
for a more viable community*

Clallam Mosaic's Spring Quarter came to a close with the production of "Late for Tea." (see cast picture) The show was a resounding success with a packed house at Olympic Theatre Arts (OTA) on the evening of June 7th. The production challenged the participants to use their voices, facial expressions and bodies in new ways that resulted in an entertaining, humorous production showcasing the ABILITIES of our community! The evening was graciously hosted by OTA and the OTA Board generously provided wine & cookies for the occasion. The Board, Staff and Participants of Clallam Mosaic would like to send out a heartfelt thank you to OTA who have been a tremendous support in Mosaic's effort to foster collaboration, communication and community through performance.

Although the quarter has come to a close, you can see some of the other successes of the participants showcased at the upcoming Lavender Festival in mid-July. Art products created by the spring and winter term participants in Arts & Artisans classes will be available for sale at our festival booth so please stop by and support our participants and Clallam Mosaic's fundraising efforts!

Summer Sessions started in mid-June, Session 2 will begin on July 14th and Session 3 will begin on August 12th. For information and registration materials for Summer Sessions, be sure to check out the Classes section of the Clallam Mosaic website. In Summer Session 1, you may see participants out and about in Port Angeles with the Walking class and in Session 2 in various Sequim locations. In Session 3 there will be a "field trip" to the Clallam County Fair. In addition, the Clallam Mosaic staff is investigating "Helping Hands" opportunities for participants to engage in volunteer activities to give back to the community. So keep your eyes open this summer as our participants are out and about all over!

Finally, a look at our Parent Networks: The May 17th kickoff potluck of the Parents of Minors (PoM) meeting was a great opportunity to identify the needs of the community. The group will continue to meet formally on a monthly basis and informally for "play dates" at various parks on a more random schedule. The next set of scheduled activities is:

Saturday June 28th, Potluck & meeting, 3-5pm at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall,
PA

Tuesday July 1st, Playdate at Shane Park (PA), 3-5pm, rain or shine

Saturday July 26th, Potluck & meeting, 3-5pm at HTLC Fellowship Hall, PA

The larger Parent/Caregiver Network has also been busy, having hosted talks by various speakers in the last few months. Most recently, the Network hosted a Legislative Forum with State Representative Steve Tharinger. The conversation revealed a tremendous need to identify housing and care giving solutions for our community. Representative Tharinger expressed interest in partnering with us on identifying and advocating for innovative solutions. We look forward to working with him on such ventures in the future!

Clallam Mosaic, P.O. Box 3081, Sequim, WA 98382 – 360.681.8642 – info@clallammosaic.org
www.clallammosaic.org

SUMMER SAFETY FOR EVERYONE

SUN SAFETY

With one in five Americans developing skin cancer, childhood education about sun safety is a vital step toward reducing risk and improving public health. Overexposure to the sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays seriously threatens human health. Besides the immediate effect of sunburn, over time excess UV radiation can cause skin cancer, eye damage, immune system suppression, and premature aging. About 23 percent of lifetime sun exposure occurs before the age of 18. Learning about sun safety and dangers of sunbeds is the key to reducing the risk of future health problems.

WATER SAFETY

According to NSC Injury Facts, 3,858 people died in 2008 due to drowning, including swimming and water transport accidents. More than one in five drowning victims are children 14-years-old and younger, and for every child who dies from drowning, another four receive emergency department care for nonfatal submersion injuries. Most drowning and near-drowning incidents happen when a child falls into a pool or is left alone in the bathtub.

SURVIVING THE HOT WEATHER

Heat illness includes a range of disorders that result when your body is exposed to more heat than it can handle. Anybody not accustomed to hot weather is at risk of suffering from heatstroke (the most serious and life-threatening heat-related illness) as well as heat exhaustion and heat cramps.

Heatstroke in vehicles has become an increasing issue for young children, causing 43 fatalities in 2013, according to SafeKids. Children overheat three to five times faster than adults, making hot cars lethal in just minutes. Take a second to read more on this growing issue and protect your children.

FIREWORKS

Summer brings picnics, barbecues, parades and fireworks displays, especially around the 4th of July. Summer also brings an increase in injuries from backyard grills, bonfires and fireworks. In 2010, fireworks caused an estimated 15,500 reported fires, including 1,100 structure fires. These fires resulted in an estimated 8,600 people treated in emergency rooms for fireworks-related injuries, 39 percent of whom were under 15 years of age.

Olympic National Park

Audio Tours

Call 360-406-5056 to learn more about Olympic National Parks destinations.

Courthouse Closures

July

4th—Holiday

Are You Ready For A Disaster?



FEMA



FEMA and the American Red Cross have a booklet

PREPARING FOR DISASTER FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AND OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS

Accessible online at www.redcross.org/prepare/location/home-family/disabilities

Or contact your local Red Cross Chapter at (360) 457-7933

●
Clallam County Health & Human Services
Developmental Disabilities
223 E 4th Street, Suite 14
Port Angeles, WA 98362

Got a Story? Got News? Contact Tim Bruce at
360-417-2428 or tbruce@co.clallam.wa.us

Like us on Facebook



facebook.com/ClallamCountyDD

SPREAD THE WORD
TO END THE WORD
www.r-word.org