

**Willapa Community Network  
Minutes  
June 3, 2015**

**Attendees:** Doug Sheaffer, Olympia Area Agency on Aging, Mary Goelz, Katie Lindstrom, and Sharon Block, Pacific County Health Department, Erin Frasier, Grays Harbor College, Emily Popovich, Timberland Regional Library, Jewel Hardy, ABC, Karen Farrell, Carole Halsan, Marlynn Jenkins of Willapa Harbor Hospital, Pat Matlock, Pacific County Sheriff Office, Ron Schmidt, PacMtn/WDC, Ashley Jarvis, Valley View Health Center, Anthony Thach, NW Justice, Kelly Hampton, DSHS, Greta McDougall, DSHS/Developmental Disability, Erin Miller, DSHS/CS, Nora LeBlanc, CCAP, Helaina Kennedy, B2B/PacMtn., Gracie Manlow, TAC, Becky Fischer, Pacific County Youth Alliance, Barbie Rasmussen, Brenda Taylor, Fostering Together

**I. Call to Order: 11:10am**

**II. Introductions and Roundtable:**

1. Ron Schmidt, Project Manager for PacMtn/WDC. There are funds available to assist employers with 50% reimbursement for new hires wages for up to six months for the long-term unemployed.
2. Helaina Kennedy, PacMtn B2B. Pacific Hardwood Mill is reopening and hiring for 22 positions. Box K Auto in Longbeach is looking for new employees.
3. Anthony Thech, NW Justice, work to remove legal barriers for employment.
4. Erin Miller, DSHS Children Administration. Currently hiring for a social worker position in the South Bend office will close June 14<sup>th</sup>. Call Erin or go to [careers.wa.gov](http://careers.wa.gov) and apply.
5. Jewel Hardy, Alliance for a Better Community. We have an internet café in the area by the theatre office with the use of two computers and looking for more office equipment if anyone has some to donate. Also looking for the donation of some property for an activity center and practice field for sports.
6. Gracie Manlow, Teen Advocacy Coalition. The peer helpers retreat is September 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>, surveys for students to identify issues and who they would go to for assistance.
7. Emily Popovich, Timberland Library Raymond. Handouts were given out with the summer programs available, reading program starts June 10<sup>th</sup>, Teen Drawing Workshop in June and July with artwork displayed in the library during Willapa Harbor Festival.
8. Becky Fischer, Pacific County Youth Alliance Coordinator. Positions available with AmeriCorps for years 17 and up. This program is available for young adults, veterans and long-term out of work adults or adults wanting to get back to work. The website [www.pacificcountyouth.org](http://www.pacificcountyouth.org) is up to add your events, job openings, or look for events.
9. Pat Matlock, Pacific County Sheriff's office. Community Block Watch program in Grayland, Tokeland, Northcove area has taken off and have signed up about 45 to 50 people in that area. This group has led to arrests and crimes solved. Funding is limited. We will start other programs when support and funds are available.
10. Erin Frasier, Grays Harbor College. Jessica Porter our student support specialist has been hired and will start this week. Handouts were given out with a few programs still happening along with the online courses that are available though the college.
11. Barbie Rasmussen, planner for Olympic Area Agency on Aging. We are working on our four-year plan for our four county service area, Pacific, Grays Harbor, Clallam and Jefferson counties. A flyer was handed out with the link to the survey on Survey Monkey on workforce issues to help keep our aging members in their home and caregivers to look after them. We have recently changed our requirements and now any caregiver

agency that is in Grays Harbor County also must be available to work in Pacific County. This should make available more caregivers in the Pacific County area.

12. Doug Sheaffer, Olympia Area Agency on Aging. Still working on the Affordable Care Act signups, also in home care case management for Medicaid clients, family caregiver support program, respite care, counseling, if support if needed. The Alzheimer's Dementia Support group meets here at the hospital the third Thursday of each month in the Evergreen Conference Room from 1pm to 2:30pm. Memory cafes are out there and available during certain times a month so family can go enjoy a family outing. Family members are able to talk to other family members that are dealing with Alzheimer's or Dementia in their family. The nearest cafes are in Astoria and Seattle and have trained employees that know what to expect from Alzheimer's and Dementia customers. Another program is relatives as parents for any relative that is raising other relatives kids, we have money to help but it must be spent by the end June. This is a once a year and can be use for driver education, Sylvan Learning, sports fees, school supplies etc. Please contact Kari Buchanan at our office in Raymond for more information.
13. Ashley Jarvis, Valley View Health Center. Hanna our behavioral health clinical lead is working on a stress management support group.
14. Greta McDougall, DSHS/Development Disabilities Administration. We are looking for caregivers for in-home care program and business to hire some of our clients.
15. Kelly Hampton, DSHS/Development Disabilities Administration. I am based out of the office in Tumwater but supervise the office in Aberdeen, Centralia and South Bend and liaison with the Quinault Tribe, DDA Coordinator for our region.
16. Karen Farrell, Quality Director for Willapa Harbor Hospital. Nothing new to report.
17. Katie Lindstrom, Pacific County Health Department. We are hiring for an administrator for the South County Drug Free Community Grant. This position closes June 12<sup>th</sup>.
18. Sharon Block, Pacific County Health Department. With the help of the Sheriff's office we will have our prescription drop box installed this week or next. There is a camera installed that is adequate but we will be upgrading it in the future. We will be having a drug take back and ribbon-cutting event to inform the public that this is available.
19. Carole Halsan, Willapa Harbor Hospital. We continue recruiting for a physician.
20. Mary Goelz, Pacific County Health Department. We will be posting for a fulltime Registered Nurse position for the Long Beach office. The Health Department has finished their Community Health Assessment. We have five priorities that we will be pulling some teams together to work on.
21. Nora LeBlanc, Coastal Community Action. We are hiring for a lead caseworker. This will be a lead case manager and office coordinator working with the housing and homeless programs. Also working on the student needs assistant program in August.

**III. Review of the prior meeting minutes:** May minutes were approve with changes

**IV. Presentation for the month:** Brenda Taylor, Fostering Together for Pacific and Grays Harbor County. Liaison for Pacific and Grays Harbor County and work to bring awareness of the need for foster care in Pacific County and Grays Harbor. Pacific County has a greater need than Grays Harbor County. There are approximately 20,000 people in Pacific County. Annually and on average there are 50 children that come into care. There are only 11 licensed foster homes in Pacific County. These are not all-general foster care. Some are relative placements or suitable care. Someone is allowed to get a foster care license to take care of a child they know from school or their community. This allows the child to stay in their community where they are familiar instead of sending them to another area and going to school with kids they do not know. We need foster homes locally. Most people are not aware that down on the peninsula we have zero foster homes available and only one that

isn't excepting foster children at this time. If there isn't a foster home available in their area, then they will be sent to Grayland, Grays Harbor or as far away as Spokane. This causes issues with the child thinking they did something wrong, the parents not able to have visitations, taking parenting classes, or getting a job. Sending the child out of the area creates more problems. The foster parents are able to pick the kind of license they want for the age of the children, if they only want girls or only boys. They also have the option to know the history of the child before they are put in their home and have a choice to allow or not allow the child in their home. They are allowed to have a child removed from their home if there is an issue. There is an orientation on June 11<sup>th</sup> in Aberdeen at the DSHS building from 5:30 to 8:30 pm. Anyone 21 or older can apply to be a foster parent.

**V. Presentation for July: Adverse Childhood Experiences by Mary Goelz**

- VI. Old Business: AmeriCorps: Gracie Manlow:** TAC AmeriCorps person will be doing all of the servicing for the schools, going into the schools making sure they are following through with what they are learning, staying active and more involved in their community. This person will be the liaison between the kids, the TAC Board and the coalition. We are looking for someone who can work with the teens and get them motivated. They will also be working with Peer Helpers and the TAC Youth Arm. Mary stated that it sounds like the AmeriCorps volunteer will need to be working with TAC more hours and asked about how many hours she thinks it will be. Gracie stated that TAC can be flexible and will have no problem finding things for the person to do. WCN's need is direct servicing and will not require as many hours. This person will be housed in the TAC office and TAC will be handling the paperwork and reporting with one logic model. Having this person the TAC Youth Coordinator as a WCN member may help with some of the different direct service jobs that are allowed. WCN needs the person to be capacity building, membership drive, collecting the information that needs to be included in the newsletter, sharing events, announcements, coordinating the FaceBook page or volunteers to help.

Gracie, Sharon and Emily sat in on an interview for another application today. Her name was Allissa from a small town in Wisconsin. We will be offering her the job this afternoon.

AmeriCorps Performance Plan needs to be back to Becky before the end of June. The committee (Mary, Sharon and Marlynn and anyone else that would like to attend) has agreed to meet before the end of the month to work on this.

**VII. New Business: none**

**VIII. Adjournment: 12:50 Next meeting will be July 1<sup>st</sup> no meeting in August**