



# Willapa Community Network Newsletter

April, 2019

## Our Vision

Our vision is a thriving, connected, community achieved through enhanced leveraging of resources and services in north Pacific County.

## Our Mission

Our mission is to support an inclusive community network that encourages communication and collaboration among service providers, business, and volunteers, to enhance quality of life in north Pacific County.

## Next Meeting:

WCN meets on the first Wednesday of each month—all are invited to attend.

11:00 am—1:00 pm

Willapa Harbor Hospital

Cedar Conference Room

## Lifeline Connections is Providing Mental Health Counseling in the Pacific County - South Bend Jail



Inmates in the Pacific County Jail now have access to mental health services thanks to a two year grant funded by the Great Rivers Behavioral Health Organization. Mental Health Professional, Cassandra Nichols meets with inmates regularly depending on their needs and desired services. Services include mental health assessments with the goal of starting group counseling sessions soon. Group topics may include topics such as anger management with the goal to have each inmate identify and develop skills to help manage their personal triggers. These skills are highly applicable and can help each individual become a functional member of the community.

In the first four weeks of the program, Ms. Nichols has met with over 20 inmates and currently carries a case load of 16. The program is voluntary and allows individuals to determine their own level of involvement. Simultaneous mental health and substance use disorder services (known as co-occurring) are offered if it is determined that the individual has a mental health condition that perpetuates drug use.

There are three avenues individuals can access services while incarcerated: 1) At the time of arrest a screening is done by Judd Comer, Pacific County Public Health, Jail Liaison. The questions asked during the screening process are designed to identify if there is a mental health need. 2) An individual tells Mr. Comer they would like to see a mental health professional 3) An individual tells a corrections officer they want to see a mental health professional. One individual has already made the request to engage in additional counseling sessions upon release at Lifeline Connections Office located at 1006 Robert Bush Drive West South Bend, WA.

Ms. Nichols says that “The best part of the job is when they confide in me by saying “I’ve never told anyone this before but I think it is important for you to know.” Ms. Nichols is clearly passionate about her work and she states: “I love this work! I love helping people especially the disenfranchised. I’m here because I want to be not because I have to be.”

## SMART TEAM (School, Medical, Autism, Review Team)

Eligible children can be screened for autism and have a team to support their success. **SMART** (School-Medical Autism Review Team) pulls teachers and medical professionals together to work as a team for children on the autism spectrum. Connecting the dots between a variety of professional opinions can be confusing for anyone. These professionals can provide an autism screening and refer you to the best services (including ABA - Applied Behavior Analysis) to support a child’s success in school and life. Your local SMART team is supported by **Northwest Pediatrics** (an Autism Center of Excellence) and can provide a local diagnosis of autism.

If anyone is interested in participating in our meetings or have questions, please contact me at the numbers below.

Princess Klus, Community and Clinic Resource Manager at BASICS NW  
Phone. 360.915.6868 ext. 105 or Fax. 360.515.5783

# HAVA Spring Tea

You are cordially invited to the HAVA

## Spring Tea



Tea Sandwiches  
Salads  
Desserts  
Silent Auction

Special Presentation!  
Tom Otto and  
Shaun Sears  
from  
Canopy Cat Rescue

**Saturday, April 13th**  
**1 to 3 pm \$20 per person**  
**Willapa Community Center**  
**916 W. First Street, South Bend**

RSVP by April 1 to 360-942-4716  
If you prefer to pay at the door

Tickets can be purchased in advance at  
Bank of the Pacific, Raymond Pharmacy  
South Bend Pharmacy, or at the door the  
day of the event.



Silent Auctions Items  
Needed!  
Please contact  
Cindy Padgett at  
360-972-0880

Harbor Association of Volunteers  
P.O. Box 245, Raymond WA 98577  
www.hava-heart.org hava@hava-heart.org

# Big Brothers Big Sisters

Big Brothers Big Sisters has been doing some amazing things with their STEAM programming!

On March 25th, BBBS held a STEAM night in collaboration with Timberland Regional Library and First Lutheran Church of South Bend, WA. 25 people attended including Bigs, Littles, and family members. The event included: build your own pizza and different types of STEM activities, such as marble mazes and Lego robotics. Everyone had a ton of fun and we are excited for next month's Wellness event.

A big thank you to First Lutheran Church for hosting and the Timberland Library for all the exciting materials they brought! Attendees really enjoyed the challenge of building, programming and designing.

If anyone is interested in participating in BBBS they can contact Robyn at 360-783-1091 or

[robyn@swwabigs.org](mailto:robyn@swwabigs.org).



This little is proudly showing off an accomplishment.

## Currently



## Recruiting!

Pacific County Resiliency Corps is seeking 15 AmeriCorps Members who are committed to making a difference in the lives of the youth in Beautiful Pacific County, WA. Members serve 10.5 months terms beginning September 2019. Several positions with your serving:

- Boys ^ Girls Club - After-School Program
- Big Brothers Big Sisters - Mentoring Program\*
- Crisis Support Network - Domestic Violence Prevention
- First Lutheran Church - Food Security & Nutrition Education

- Peninsula Poverty Response - Homelessness Programs
- Dispute Resolution Center - Conflict Resolution\*
- Willapa Behavioral Health - Counseling Program
- Local K012 School Districts - Youth Engagement

\*Now with placements in Lewis, Mason, & Grays Harbor  
Please send resume and cover letter to Becky Fischer  
[pcya@willapabh.org](mailto:pcya@willapabh.org) or to [my.americorps.gov](http://my.americorps.gov) (search Pacific County Resiliency Corps).

### Benefits:

- \$1,450 monthly stipend
- Educational award of \$6,095
- Health insurance
- Student Loan Forbearance
- Experience in your field
- Other benefits may apply

### Contact Us

 [willapacommunitynetwork@gmail.com](mailto:willapacommunitynetwork@gmail.com)

### Find Us Online At

 [www.willapacommunitynetwork.weebly.com](http://www.willapacommunitynetwork.weebly.com)

 [www.facebook.com/WillapaCommunityNetwork](https://www.facebook.com/WillapaCommunityNetwork)