Youth Development Coalition of Lincoln County

Overview

Lincoln County, located on the central Oregon coast, was once a thriving timber and fishing county. However, regulatory changes influenced an industrial shift and for many years now the county’s primary industry has been hospitality and tourism with many small businesses comprising the county’s economic base. Unemployment rates are very high and seasonally fluctuating, wages are low, and families who are working do not have enough quality child care options in the community. The Youth Development Coalition of Lincoln County’s afterschool programs are one of the safest and most valuable resources for hundreds of children and youth in Lincoln County.

The Youth Development Coalition of Lincoln County (YDCLC) emerged in May of 2004 when a committed group of providers, local nonprofits, and community agencies came together over concerns about unsustainable afterschool and summer programs. In their determination to maintain existing programs and encourage and mentor new programs, they leveraged resources, skills, experience, and talents of all programs. Thus they began a journey to create and sustain out-of-school time care for Lincoln County children and families. Programs operate in Parks & Rec sites, housing community centers, resort type camp centers, older youth work experience programs, as well as on farms, school based centers, in the Extension office, and at the local fairgrounds (4-H Programs).

YDCLC includes:
Newport Parks and Recreation Department, Community Services Consortium (CSC), Oceanspray Family Centers, Northwest Coastal Community Housing at The Ridge Apartments, Depoe Bay Kids Zone - Neighbors for Kids, B’nai B’rith Camp (BBC), 21st Century After School - OCEAN - (Lincoln County School District), Newport Visual Arts Center, Yachats Youth & Family Activities Program, Confederated Tribe of the Siletz Indians - Education Department, PAADA - Partnership Against Alcohol & Drug Abuse - Youth Leadership Programs, TCF Partners for Youth, Homeless Education and Literacy Programs (HELP) - (Lincoln County School District), Salvation Army, 4-H Youth Development Programs - OSU Extension Service, Seashore Literacy Program in Waldport
Fast Facts

- 100% of the over 5,200 students in Lincoln County are able to receive free breakfast and lunch through the Community Eligibility Provision.
- Lincoln County School District, B’nai B’rith Camp, and the Lincoln County Food Share provide free summer lunches and out-of-school-time programs with breakfast, lunch, and snacks.
- There are 600 families living in affordable housing units in Lincoln County and many more families are in need of affordable housing.
- More than 14% of the 5,200 students in the school district are homeless.
- 26% of Lincoln County youth live in poverty.
- The county has significant social service needs due to poverty, child abuse, substance abuse, and domestic violence.

Promising Practices

- Founded on Search institute’s 40 Developmental Assets, the Coalition members have continued to build on best practices in programming and policy areas.
- Associate members of YDCLC offer guidance and support to disseminate current findings from research and best practice programs in an effort to replicate.
- Coalition membership has been consistent. Most programs have been continually high quality because of members’ commitment to ensure access to affordable and regular professional development opportunities for administrators, board members, and front-line staff.
- Member organizations are able to maintain autonomy yet benefit from collaborative funding opportunities such as aligning reading intervention tools and practices for elementary youth. Member organizations support group initiatives in various ways: holding educational community events or following specific activities with program alignment, data sharing, training, and communication.
- The coalition offers a Resource Guide for parents or youth looking to get connected. It is available at www.ydclc.org.
- Now in their 12th year, the passion, commitment, and benefits to Lincoln County youth have remained foremost and intact. The motto of YDLC is a commitment to making Lincoln County a positive place for youth by “Connecting Kids and Community”.

For more information about Youth Development Coalition of Lincoln County including a list of active members, please visit http://ydclc.org.
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