

Promotes and provides innovative quality health services, prevention, and education for our communities



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Health in Coos County Celebrates 100 years of service.

In September of 1922 Coos County became the first county in Oregon to establish a Public Health Department. This department consisted of one County Health Officer, Dr. Henry W. Irwin, two Public Health Nurses and an assistant. They were tasked with controlling contagious/communicable disease, health appraisals/immunization of school children, health education, and infant/child hygiene.

Prior to the creation of the Public Health Department these activities were performed by a single county health nurse who had to visit 92 schools, travelling by horseback, canoe, milk truck, or the engine of a log train.

100 years later the Public Health Department still works diligently to improve the health of the community it serves. Today our Public Health Department provides a wide variety of services from life-saving vaccines to ensuring safe/healthy food on your plate.

Public Health serves as the steel beams of the healthcare industry aiming to save the community millions of dollars and protecting the quality of life for all our citizens.

Our amazing staff provide vital health services to our beloved community including:

- Disease prevention and control through inspections, vaccination, investigation, tracing and community education.
- Nutrition guidance
- Injury prevention and community safety
- Resource assistance
- Medicaid education and enrollment
- Policy advocacy
- Disaster preparedness
- Vital Records

To find additional information related to our Public Health Department please go to the Coos Health & Wellness website or call 541-266-6700

Dr. Eric Gleason MS

Deputy Director

Pronouns: He/Him/His

Coos Health & Wellness

Together, inspiring healthier communities

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