

OUTLOOK

Interview: Kathy Spoor, Director *Pacific County Public Health Department*

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**A Newsletter from
Pacific Co. Health
& Human Services
Dept.**

Editor:
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Interviews:
Judy Jones

Kathy Spoor is currently the director of the Pacific County Health & Human Services Department. From 1990-1995, Kathy also had direct responsibility for the Pacific County Human Services programs. During that time she was responsible for the oversight of the county's Drug & Alcohol treatment program, Developmental Disabilities programs, Prevention programs and acted as a liaison to the Regional Support Network. (During that time the county's mental health funding went directly to a regional consortium).

How many people received Developmental Disabilities services while you were the director of the program?

There were approximately 10-12 people in group supported employment. A few people received community access and there were no clients in individual supported employment.

How have the services evolved since you became the Director of the Health Department?

As the department and programs grew it became too much for one person to try to manage. In 1995, Kevin Beck was hired as the Human Services Program Manager. During his time in Pacific County he really worked hard to see the Human Services programs grow. Individual supported employment and social recreation services were his key focus; the social recreation program grew substantially. For about the last 4 years Katie Lindstrom has served as the Human Services Program manager and has continued to help the programs grow and better serve our clients.

What do you see as the most significant area of progress in the Human Services Programs?

From talking with families and clients the social recreation program seems to have really benefited people. People in the community support the service through their volunteer efforts and really value getting to know and interact with clients. I have volunteered at some of the events and think that the volunteers enjoyed the event as much as the participants! The social recreation events have really helped to build our relationship with clients and families.

How do you view the trend towards phasing out Group Supported Employment?

I think people should have choices; an individual job is not necessarily the right choice for every person. Group employment offers a chance for people to be a part of a team, learn skills, and gain independence. People have made some great long-term friendships through group —>

Points of interest:

- Interview: Kathy Spoor
- Scholarship Info
- Upcoming Activities
 - Camp Hope
 - Movie
 - Special Olympics

Scholarship Application

Enclosed is an opportunity for people living in Pacific & Grays Harbor Counties with developmental disabilities to receive financial assistance to participate in an inclusive event/activity (ie. swimming lessons, camp, college classes, etc). Those applying for the scholarship can receive partial or full payment to participate in the given event/activity.

If you have questions about this scholarship call **The Arc of Grays Harbor**— (360) 537-7000. Ask for Crystal Reed!

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employment. Considering the current economic situation and lack of jobs in the area, group supported employment definitely gives more people opportunity to work and gain experience.

How has individual supported employment services evolved?

The department no longer contracts out for services. Since 2008 services are delivered by health department staff rather than by out of the area contractors. Local connections and investing in staff training has resulted in successful job placements in the community. In 2000 there were 3 people in individual supported employment positions; currently there are 9 people in individual jobs. I would like to see more incentives for employers who hire a person with a disability. What I see is when employers give our clients a chance they really do well, and it is a win-win for both the client and the employer. With more incentives maybe more employers could afford to hire more people with disabilities.

What do you envision for the future success of the Development Disabilities Services in Pacific County?

I would like to see the services remain individualized. One type of service doesn't work for everyone. People need to maintain the ability to choose from a menu of services that fit their needs. Each individual has strengths and skills and our job is to personalize services in order to promote those strengths so clients can reach their full potential and be happy, satisfied, and proud of their achievements.

SOCIAL /RECREATION ACTIVITIES

Camp Hope

Summer Camp Opportunity

August 3-7, 2011

Camp Hope at Ocean Park is a camp for adults with developmental disabilities; adults who can care for their personal needs fairly independently. The week is full of active, adventuresome activities both at camp and in the surrounding area. Campers will have the opportunity to explore Ocean Beach, swim at a local pool, do supervised kayaking on Willapa Bay, participate in craft activities, worship times, and make/renew friendships. The volunteer staff is excited to share in these activities along with sharing God's love for each camper during our time together. Camp Hope has been at Ocean Park since the early 90's and brings dedicated staff who desire to give campers a week of fun.

The camp is a certified DD respite provider. If registering before July 1st, the total fee is \$400. After that, the fee is \$420 with full payment due two weeks prior to the beginning of camp.

If you are interested or have questions, please contact Marcia Campbell at (360)951-5875 or by email: macoly_70@msn.com. You can also contact Ocean Park Retreat Center at 360-665-4367 or by email: fun@opretreat.org.

“Let's Go to the Movies”

Movie: Cars II

Location: Raymond Theatre

Address: 323 1/2 Third St.

Date: June 17, 2011

Time: 2:00-4:00 PM



Please bring money for movie/concessions.

**—Special Olympics—
Informational Meeting**

Tuesday, May 24th @ 7:00 pm

Long Beach PUD Mtg. Room

(9610 Sandridge Rd, Long Beach, WA)

Something for everyone no matter your skill or sports experience!

Volunteers Needed!

Unified Partners Needed! (Partners with & without disabilities on the same team)

COME & LEARN MORE! Treats/refreshments will be provided! For any questions contact The Arc of Grays Harbor at (360)537-7000. Ask for Crystal!