

# Building healthy communities together

April 24-25, 2025 | Biggam Knoll | Jacksonville, Oregon | [jacksoncareconnect.org](http://jacksoncareconnect.org)

## Thursday, April 24

TIME	LOCATION	SESSIONS AND PRESENTERS
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7:45	Ballroom	<b>Registration, continental breakfast, networking</b>
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8:30	Ballroom	<b>Welcome</b> Jennifer Lind, Chief Executive Officer, <i>Jackson Care Connect</i>
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9:00	<b>Breakout sessions</b>	
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A/V Room	<b>Behavioral health bridges for reentry for the carceral population – Part 1</b> New and innovative behavioral health supports and services for adults in custody at the jail and transition center.
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**Panel presenters:** Josh Aldrich, *Jackson County Sheriff's Office*; Vicky Armstrong, MBS, MA, *Jackson County Sheriff's Office*; Leticia Longoria-Navarro, *The Pathfinder Network*; Megan Marx, MPA, NCPRSS, *Medford Treatment Center*; Brandon Orr, QMHA-R, *Reclaiming Lives– Recovery Café*; Rebecca Pietila, *City of Medford Police Department*; Patrick Secrest BS, CADC II, *Medford Treatment Center*; Ben Spence, CRM II, *Addictions Recovery Center*

Ballroom	<b>Collaborative approaches to integrating health care and housing</b> Speakers will present models that connect individuals to stable housing while embedding health care services such as case management and physical and behavioral health support.
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**Panel presenters:** Dan Cano, JD, *Opportunities for Housing, Resources and Assistance (OHRA)*; Sam Engel, *Rogue Retreat*; Zulma Larios, *La Clinica*; Patricia Schein, FNP, *La Clinica*; Sommer Wolcott, MS, LPC, CRC, *OnTrack Rogue Valley*

Large room	<b>Social-emotional health and integrated early intervention/access for children 0-5</b> Learn about the importance of early screening and intervention. The panel will discuss the Jackson County system within the context of the Pyramid Model for early childhood development.
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**Panel presenters:** Rene Brandon, *Southern Oregon Early Learning Hub*; Erin Cue, *Jackson County Mental Health*; Lona Dillard, *Southern Oregon Pediatrics*; Elizabeth Jaffee-Stafford, *Family Nurturing Center*; Fabiola Reyes, *Southern Oregon Head Start – Listo*; Erin Norton, *Jackson County Public Health - CaCoon Program*; Heather Olivier, *FACT Oregon*

10:30	<b>Break</b>
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See full session descriptions  
and presenter bios online

10:45

## Breakout sessions

A/V Room

### **Behavioral health bridges for reentry for the carceral population – Part 2**

New and innovative behavioral health supports and services for adults in custody at the jail and transition center.

**Panel presenters:** See Part 1 above

Ballroom

### **School-based health centers (SBHC): Creating access for students and families**

Join us for a comprehensive discussion on how SBHCs are not just health care facilities but transformative community resources that bridge critical gaps in access to care.

**Panel presenters:** *From Rogue Community Health:* Ryan Ebersberger, LCSW; Kourtnei Faber, EPDH; Michelle McCormick, CHW/YRN; Ceci Robe

*From La Clinica:* Saul Cervantes, BHSS; Angela Parker, RN, BSN; Ashley Silver, CADC-1, QMHA-1; Camry Young, MHT

Large room

### **The challenges and promise of permanent supportive housing**

Learn about Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) as a strategy for addressing homelessness and improving health outcomes. Speakers will discuss the impact of PSH, barriers and the role of health care partnerships in sustaining these programs.

**Panel presenters:** Joseph Chick, MBA, MA, *ColumbiaCare Services*; Matt Northrop, *Maslow Project*; Mike Savara, LCSW, *Oregon Housing and Community Services*

12:30

Ballroom

## **Lunch/keynote**

### **Welcome and introduction:**

Leona O'Keefe, MD, Medical Director, *Jackson Care Connect*

### **Keynote: The power of us: Building connection and choosing joy**

Geneva Craig, PhD, RN

1:30

## Breakout sessions

Large room

### **Building community for youth**

A celebration and highlight of the critical work done by some of the Rogue Valley's key community partners in youth engagement. Youth panelists will share the meaning and significance of this type of engagement and how it can help translate to healthy social development and outcomes for young people.

**Panel presenters:** Ami Dwyer, *Rogue Action Center*; Jaerod "Jay" Garcia, *Maslow Project*; Sylvia Hernandez, *Rogue Valley Mentoring*; Cadhla Rae, *Youth Era/Medford Drop*; Lucy Wilson, *Project Youth Plus*

Ballroom

### **Creating connections and action-oriented advocacy**

A celebration and highlight of the critical work done by some of the Rogue Valley's key community partners in community building. Panelists will share best practices for what has worked for them and engage with audience members who want to learn more.

**Panel presenters:** Danica Alexander, MLIS, *Deaf Activities of Southern Oregon*; Raia Herges, *SO Health-E*; Stephanie Miller, *Hearts for Seniors*; Rebecca Pearson, *Rogue Action Center*; Gaelen Thurow, *Compass House*

Larry Smith  
room

### **Inclusive health, stronger communities: The impact of gender affirming care**

Gender-affirming care is essential for supporting the well-being of LGBTQIA+ individuals and cultivating stronger, more inclusive communities. This session explores how gender-affirming care improves individual lives and enhances community health.

**Presenter:** Danielle Mancuso, MS, *La Clinica*

3:00

### **After hours connections**

Biergarten

#### **Networking mixer**

Ballroom

#### **Office hours**

Jackson Care Connect staff will host tables to address topics or answer questions on the following programs/topics:

- Behavioral health
- Non-emergency medical transportation (Translink)
- Community engagement
- Provider relations
- Traditional health workers

## **Friday, April 25**

TIME	LOCATION	SESSION AND PRESENTERS
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7:45	Ballroom	<b>Registration, continental breakfast, networking</b>
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8:30	Ballroom	<b>Welcome</b> Jennifer Lind, Chief Executive Officer, <i>Jackson Care Connect</i>
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### **9:00 Breakout sessions:**

Large room

#### **Bridging the gap: Traditional health workers connecting communities to care**

Join us for an insightful panel discussion featuring organizations contracted with Jackson Care Connect to provide Traditional Health Worker (THW) services, focusing on how these organizations connect diverse populations to essential health resources.

**Presenters:** Tiffany Atkinson, CRM II, *The Pathfinder Network*; Kathy Keesee, *Unete*; Katie Lechuga, *Family Nurturing Center*; Cheyenne Nichols, *Maslow Project*; Paul Sequeira, BS, THW, QMHA, *Rogue Retreat*

Ballroom

#### **Culturally connected behavioral health care**

This session highlights services that are inclusive of members' cultural norms, values, customs and needs; positive outcomes; and considerations in providing culturally rooted behavioral health care.

**Panel presenters:** Stephanie Casteneda, PSS, *Reclaiming Lives—Recovery Café El Camino Seguro*; Larry Howell, CRM II, PSS, *HIV Alliance*; Stephanie Mendenhall, *Reclaiming Lives—Recovery Café*; Jeremy Molck, MA, LPC, QMHP, *ColumbiaCare Services*; Katie Vander Laan, QMHP, *La Clinica*; Whitney Yeust, CADC I, CPS, QMHA II, CGAC-R, *Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians*; Amy Zumidio, *HIV Alliance*

Larry Smith  
room

### **Deepening health care and housing collaborations in the Rogue Valley**

This interactive session will explore strategies for deepening collaborations between housing and health care to improve health outcomes. Panelists will share their experiences navigating the challenges and opportunities of cross-sector partnerships.

**Panel presenters:** Stacy Brubaker, LCSW, CPH, *Jackson County Mental Health*; Melanie Doshier, *ACCESS*; Jason Elzy, *Housing Authority of Jackson County*; Rachel Smith, MPH, *Providence*

A/V Room

### **Understanding the Health Related Social Needs (HRSN) benefit**

This session will explore the Health Related Social Needs Benefit, including scope, eligibility, referral pathways, and available resources.

**Presenters:** Lauren Schmidt, ATR, LPC, *CareOregon*; Sadie Wade, BS, *Jackson Care Connect*

10:30 **Break**

10:45 **Breakout sessions:**

Ballroom

### **Building bridges: The role of culturally specific organizations in community development**

A celebration and highlight of the critical work done by some of the Rogue Valley's key community partners in community building. Panelists will share best practices for what has worked for them and engage with audience members who want to learn more.

**Panel presenters:** Brenda Aguilera, *Project Youth Plus*; Jocksana Corona, *Coalición Fortaleza*; Teina Faaeteete, *White City Samoan Seventh Day Adventist Pathfinders*; Apaau Fuaataga, *Samoan Pacific Development Corporation*; Andromeda Safotu, *White City Samoan Seventh Day Adventist Pathfinders*; Lili Vargas, *Project Youth Plus*

A/V Room

### **Food as medicine: Expanding access to nutrition for better health**

This session will highlight innovative approaches to integrating nutrition support into health care systems and community services, developing models that that prioritize food as medicine.

**Presenters:** Marcee Champion, *ACCESS*; Melissa Isavoran, MS, CPHQ, *Foodsmart*; Sonya Kauffman Smith, *Providence*; Micayla McNeely, *ACCESS*; Anne-Marie Rodriguez, *Rogue Food Unites*

Large Room

### **Staying grounded: Rights, resources and the immigration landscape**

In the ever-changing landscape of immigration law and enforcement, how can agencies and caring community members show up for the immigrant community with heart and hand.

**Presenter:** Laura Lindley-Gutierrez, J.D., LLM, *Andreeva & Gutierrez Law, LLCA*

12:30 Ballroom

### **Lunch / Keynote**

#### **Welcome and introduction:**

Eric C. Hunter, Chief Executive Officer, *CareOregon*

#### **Keynote:**

Emma Sandoe, Medicaid Director, *Oregon Health Authority*

## Ballroom

**Expanding and supporting the behavioral health workforce**

This session explores local efforts to build a pipeline between educators and the behavioral health community that retains our workforce and provides continuing educational supports.

**Panel presenters:** Kane Cottle, PSS, CRM, *The Pathfinder Network*; Grace Enriquez, *La Clinica—The Learning Well*; Stephanie Mendenhall, *Reclaiming Lives—Recovery Café*; Stephanie Roland, CFRE, *Ashland Community Foundation*; Robin Sansing, MSW, LCSW, *Southern Oregon University*; Katrin Yount, *On-Pace*

## Large room

**Mercy Flights: Innovation and collaboration in community care**

Learn about the work of Mercy Flights transforming care through innovative models and community partnerships by redesigning the emergency response and the impact of Mobile Integrated Health and Mobile Crisis Response.

**Presenters:** Sabrina Ballew & Sheila Clough, *Mercy Flights*

## A/V Room

**Psychiatric health, life skills and opportunities for wellness (PHLOW) program: Addressing psychiatric need through integrated consultation, collaboration and brief episodes of care**

In this presentation, we'll explore how the PHLOW program improves access to psychiatric services, supports primary care teams in managing behavioral health and reduces unnecessary referrals.

**Presenter:** Laura Bridges, LCSW, MPH, *La Clinica*; Rosa Ruggiero, PMHNP, *La Clinica*, Lona Dillard, MSW, LCSW, *SO Pediatrics*, Katie Clarke, MD, *SO Pediatrics*

## Library

**Understanding the Health Related Social Needs Benefit**

This session will explore the Health Related Social Needs (HRSN) Benefit, including scope, eligibility, referral pathways and available resources.

**Presenters:** Lauren Schmidt, ATR, LPC, *CareOregon*; Sadie Wade, BS, *Jackson Care Connect*

**Throughout the conference**

- **Continuing Education Credits (CEU)** are available for both conference days, for attendees who participate in the full day. Those who would like to submit for CEUs can fill out their form in the ballroom at 3 p.m. each day.
- We are excited to partner with **Rogue Food Unites** in hosting a **free pop-up farmers market** for spring conference attendees, on Thursday from 3-5 p.m., and on Friday from 1-3:30 p.m. The market features organic locally sourced produce, with a goal to build community in the process.
- **Thanks for joining us for this year!** We value your input on the conference. Please take a few moments to fill out our **survey**, using this QR code:



# Bigham Knoll Map

525 Bigham Knoll Dr., Jacksonville

