

## Community Care Development Project Talking Points

The Community Care Development Project (CCDP) responds to the urgent need to address the health and mental health concerns of Oregon's students, families, and school staff. The CCDP seeks to improve the mental health, education, and overall health and well-being of Oregon's youth and families through four goals.

1. Increase statewide mental health, suicide prevention, and substance use prevention literacy and skill acquisition, and promote staff mental health and well-being in all of Oregon's 197 school districts.
  2. Develop and deploy credentialed mental health, suicide prevention, and substance use prevention-related professional learning opportunities for school staff and community-based organizations.
  3. Design and implement a model that embeds Community Care staff in schools to provide students and families with emotional support and health and mental health system navigation.
  4. Evaluate the formative/summative impact of these efforts, and make recommendations for implementation, sustainability, and continuous quality improvement.
- Launched in early 2022, the Community Care Development Project is being designed and implemented in partnership with the University of Oregon, Oregon Health Authority, Oregon Department of Human Services, and four school districts that represent the geographic and cultural diversity of Oregon. These are Hillsboro, Lake County 7, Phoenix-Talent, and South Lane.
  - In the four partner districts, Community Care Coordinators and Specialists are embedded within schools and district offices. Care staff shepherd referrals to health and mental health services and equip students/families with basic services such as food, clothing, hygiene products, shelter, utility assistance, emergency support, state and family benefits, and more.
  - Staff produce community-driven solutions for the health and well-being of students and their families such as Spanish-language trauma healing groups, community health fairs, financial and housing workshops, and mentoring students, both individually and in groups.
  - In the two school years since the project's inception, Community Care staff have made more than 29,000 youth and family service contacts and provided more than 8,000 referrals to local services.
  - The CCDP is exploring similar models across the state, identifying comparable systems, positions, and structures that both intersect with and diverge from the CCDP.



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- The CCDP is also investigating sustainable funding models with districts such as Medicaid billing and grants/funds through Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs).
- A Blueprint is being developed so that other districts in Oregon can sustainably build their own Community Care Systems (CCSS), to better serve the needs of Oregon's youth and families.