



About Community Health Partners



In response to growing concerns about access to medical care, the Community Health Partners (CHP) was formed in 1995 with members from Kaiser Permanente, St. John Medical Center, the Cowlitz County Health Department, Regence BlueShield, PeaceHealth, and committed local residents.

CHP's signature program, the Cowlitz Free Medical Clinic (CFMC), has been in operation since 2005 and serves the health and wellness needs of medically uninsured adults in the Cowlitz County region. CFMC follows a volunteer-in-medicine model, operating an urgent care clinic on a weekly basis. In 2011, CFMC plans to open a second weekly clinic session for select chronic conditions (asthma, Hypertension, COPD) to bridge the gap for patients with chronic conditions seeking treatment who are seen at the CFMC and are in need of finding a permanent medical home.

CHP has been responsible for implementing other community based programs such as:

- Domestic Violence Community Awareness Project which produced public service announcements (PSA) that were aired on a local TV station
- Produced the "Teeth Under Construction" curriculum for children in partnership with the University of Washington's School of Dentistry
- Offer quarterly dental clinics for Medicaid eligible children and their parents in partnership with the Longview-Kelso Kaiser Permanente Dental Office and staff from the University of Washington's School of Dentistry
- Produced and distributed 800 adult dental kits with a grant from the Health Care Foundation
- Formed the Adult Dental Planning Group which is sponsoring, in partnership with FISH, the Adult Denture Project. The Denture Project provides dentures to community residents who need them to seek and/or maintain employment

Current CHP board members are:

Board President: Ken Terhaar, Community representative
Treasurer: Karen Carter, Kaiser Permanente representative
Secretary: Lesley Bombardier, Community representative

Rosanne Ponzetti, PeaceHealth/St. John Medical Center representative
Chuck Polacek, Regence representative
Carlos Carreon, Cowlitz County Health Department representative
Kathryn Robbins, Community representative

For more information about the Community Health Partners or to donate to any of their projects please contact:

Paul Youmans
Community Health Partners
P.O. Box 2853
Longview, WA 98632
360-423-8704