

# Health & Wellness: Enhancing Partnerships to Support Students, the Healthcare Workforce, & the Community

Gaylyn Gaddy Maurer, MA, LPC

Executive Director



# Health & Wellness Context: Community Need

- \* Health of Klamath County residents is poor
- \* Difficult to entice providers to rural Oregon
  - \* Cultural diversity is minimal
  - \* Fewer local resources than in urban areas
  - \* School systems less advanced
  - \* Upward mobility opportunities are limited
- \* Lack of local healthcare providers results in long wait times for community members
  - \* Oregon Tech has lost employees who expressed a need for more extensive local medical support



# Health & Wellness Context: Oregon Tech Mission

Oregon Institute of Technology (Oregon Tech), Oregon's public polytechnic university, offers innovative, professionally-focused undergraduate and graduate degree programs in the areas of engineering, health, business, technology, and applied arts and sciences.

To foster student and graduate success, the university provides a hands-on, project-based learning environment and emphasizes innovation, scholarship, and applied research. With a commitment to diversity and leadership development, Oregon Tech offers statewide educational opportunities and technical expertise to meet current and emerging needs of Oregonians as well as other national and international constituents.

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# Health & Wellness Context: Strategic Plan

## Pillar I: Student Success

- \* Goal 2.2: Create a **framework** to equip students with **professional** and life **skills**

## Pillar II: Innovation

- \* Goal 4.1: Implement innovative, **high impact practices**, including **experiential learning** and undergraduate research to support students' academic success.

## Pillar III: Community

- \* Goal 7.1: Intentionally cultivate & **strengthen** university **community ties** with local, state, tribal, and federal stakeholders for the **betterment of Oregonians & Oregon Tech**

## Pillar IV: Institutional Excellence

- \* Goal 11.1: Build a **compelling presence** in Oregon, the Pacific Northwest and beyond
- \* **Goal 11.2:** Support outreach & research efforts to **build** more **partnerships** with local, state, federal, tribal, industry, and non-profit organizations and agencies

# Health & Wellness Context: Mission & Strategic Plan Compel Us To

**Develop A**

**Framework**

**Using**

**Technical  
Expertise**

**Innovation**

**And a**

**Professional  
Focus**

**By**

**Building  
Partnerships**

**And**

**Strengthening  
Community Ties**

**To Create**

**High Impact  
Practices**

**With a**

**Compelling  
Presence**

**Utilizing**

**Polytechnic**

**Hands-On**

**And**

**Experiential  
Learning**

**To Develop  
Student**

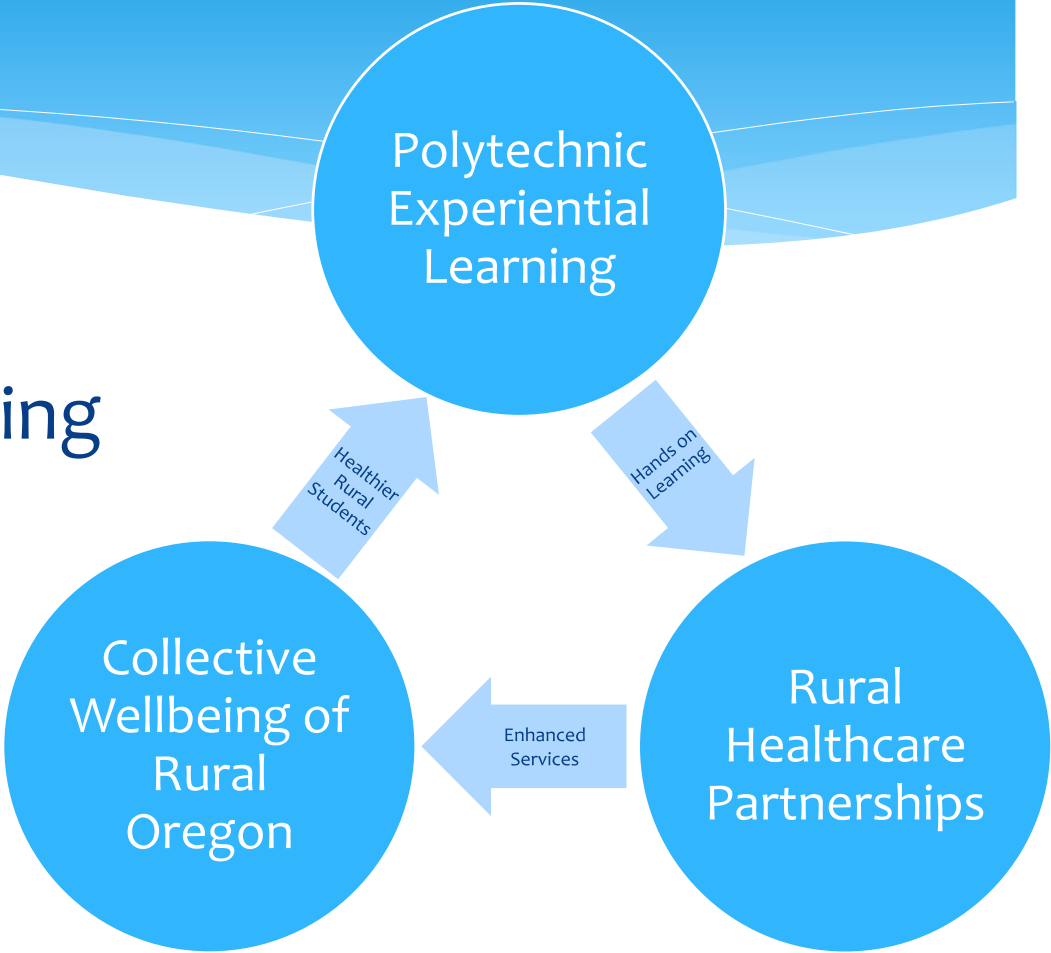
**Professional  
Skills**

**For the**

**Betterment of  
Oregonians**

# Health & Wellness Initiative : Systemic Approach

Strengthening the partnerships between polytechnic experiential learning and rural healthcare to transform the collective wellbeing of rural Oregon



# Health & Wellness Initiative: Phased Implementation

## Phase One: Align Existing Components

### **Integrated Student Health Center**

- Serving: Oregon Tech Students
- Supporting: OHSU Residents

### **Dental Hygiene Clinic**

- Serving: Community
- Supporting: OIT Dental Hygiene Students

### **Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Clinic**

- Serving: Community
- Supporting: OIT ABA Students

### **Marriage & Family Therapy (MFT) Clinic**

- Serving: OIT Employees
- Supporting: OIT MFT Intern

### **Wellbeing Program**

- Serving: OIT Employees & Students
- Supporting: OHSU Nursing Students

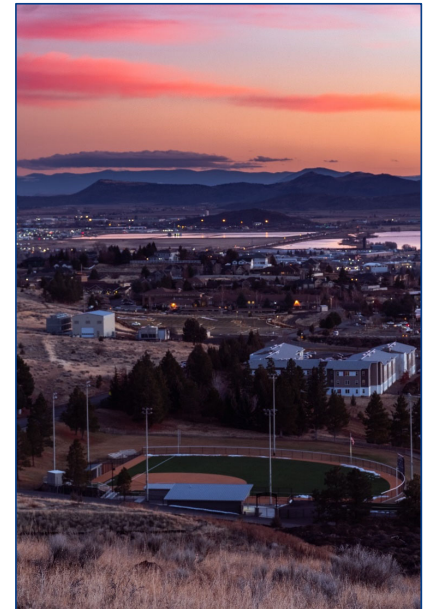


# Future Ready Oregon Grant



# Future Ready Oregon Grant: Rural Scholars Project

- \* Priority Population: Allied health students coming to Oregon Tech from rural Oregon
- \* Goal: Increase percentage of Oregon Tech allied health students intending to work in rural healthcare post-graduation
- \* Four components to support the healthcare workforce:
  - \* Recruitment – Targeted recruitment to rural counties; High School Pathway program & shadowing; stipends
  - \* Education – Enhanced coursework focusing on rural healthcare (Interprofessional Education, IPE)
  - \* Training – Increasing local hands-on training opportunities (Medical Imaging and PT Clinics, Year Two)
  - \* Retention – Mentoring program for additional support



# Rural Scholars Project: Proposed Partnerships

## Recruitment

- \* Cascades East Area Health Education Centers (CE-AHEC) coordinating regional high school students to shadow in Oregon Tech clinics and labs
- \* High school healthcare pathways program with Sky Lakes & Klamath County Schools

## Education

- \* Joint curriculum between OHSU Campus for Rural Health, Physical Therapy program, OHSU Nursing, and Oregon Tech Rural Scholars (IPE)
- \* Preparing students for AHEC Scholars program and certification

## Training

- \* Sky Lakes and Oregon Tech partnering to create Medical Imaging & Physical Therapy clinics (Year Two)
- \* Contracted position with Sky Lakes for Director of Clinical Services (precept OHSU Medical residents at ISHC & clinical oversight)

## Retention

- \* Mentoring program engaging AHEC Scholars as Mentors

# Health & Wellness & Future Ready Oregon Grant Overlap

## Health & Wellness

- Organizational Structure
- Includes Wellbeing
- Increased networking with industry

New  
Clinics

## Rural Scholars Project

- Funding for Support Personnel
- Focus on Rural Healthcare

# Health & Wellness: Long-term Impact

- \* Local partnerships are committed to hands-on student training while expanding healthcare services for our community
- \* Targeted recruitment of students coming from rural communities has the potential to significantly enhance enrollment
- \* Consolidating business aspects of clinics will:
  - \* Increase efficiency
  - \* Allow faculty to focus on instruction, research, and professional development
- \* This model will elevate Oregon Tech's reputation as a significant contributor to the healthcare industry while expanding revenue streams for the university

Thank you for your time!  
Thoughts? Questions?

Additional Information (if needed)

# Future Ready Oregon History

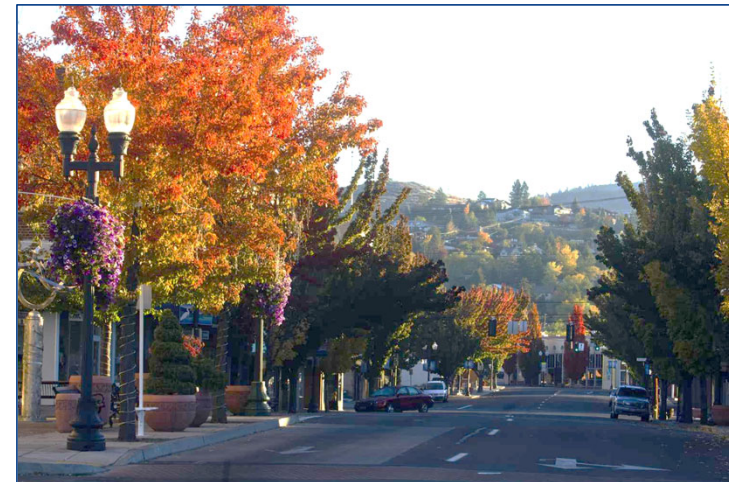
- \* Oregon Senate Bill 1545 passed in 2022 (known as “Future Ready Oregon”)
- \* \$200 million investment package designed to:
  - \* Support education and employment of underserved and underrepresented Oregonians
  - \* Expand partnerships between communities, educators, and employers
  - \* Connect businesses to a diverse, skilled workforce
- \* Created three Industry Consortia:
  - \* Manufacturing Consortium
  - \* Technology Consortium
  - \* Healthcare Consortium
- \* Each Consortium is responsible for recommending funding to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) through RFA process





# Healthcare Consortium: Workforce Ready Grant Priorities

- \* Request for Applications: Regionally identified workforce needs (\$9 Million available)
- \* Will prioritize applications that:
  1. Clearly identify **local/regional data** to support the local workforce need that is different from what statewide data might otherwise suggest
  2. Have **strong partnerships** between education and training providers, employers, and community-based organizations
  3. Clearly articulate how the proposed project is **innovative**
  4. Provide **culturally-specific and responsive education** and training programs, including wrap around supports for priority populations
  5. Clearly articulate a **sustainability** plan



**Local Data**  
to Support Workforce Need  
(Different from Statewide Data)

# Local Data to Support Workforce Need

- \* Klamath County routinely ranks in the lower 25% of Oregon counties for Health Outcomes and Health Factors in County Rankings and Roadmaps<sup>1</sup>
- \* Klamath County is “faring worse than the average county in Oregon and worse than the average county in the nation”<sup>2</sup>

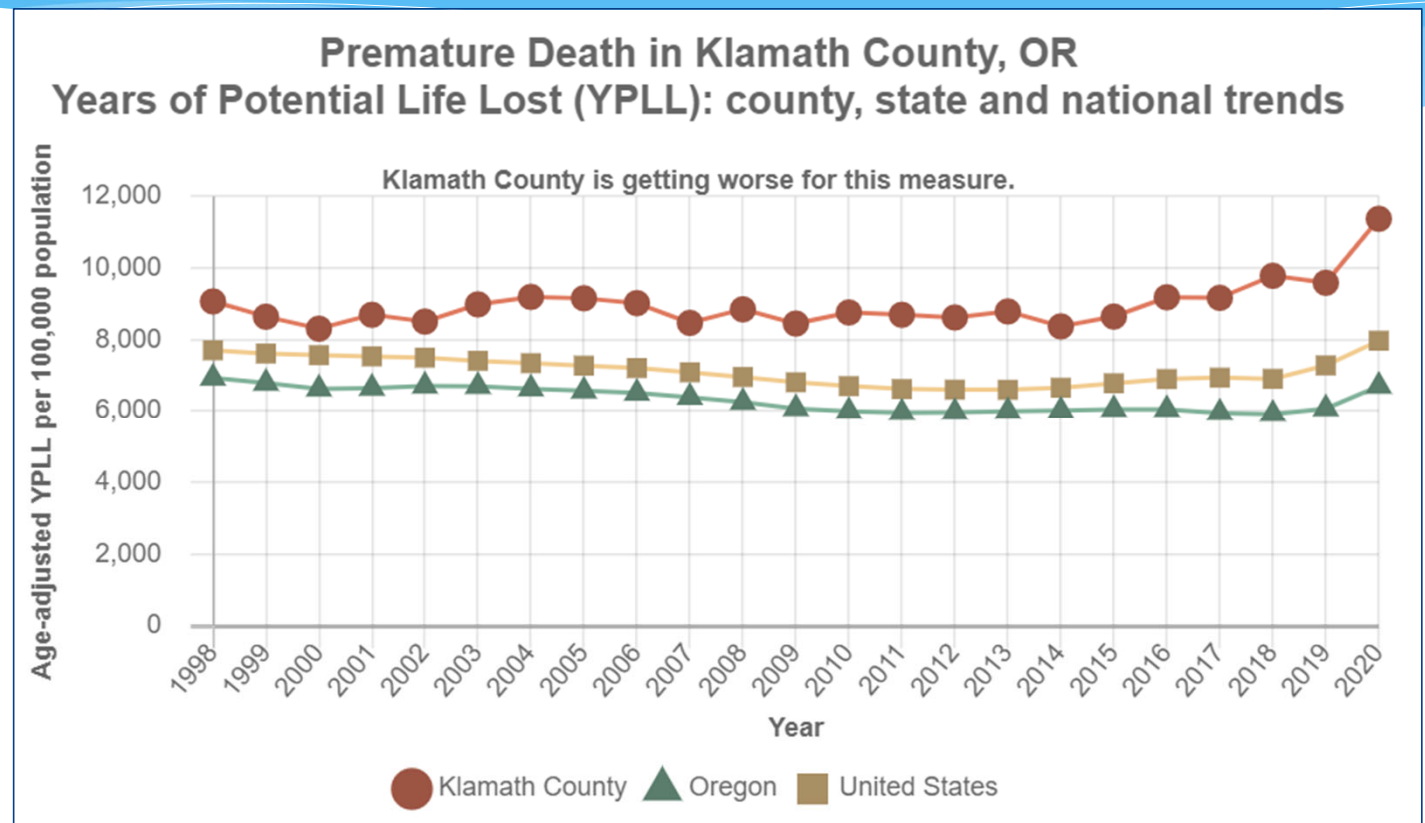
2024 Health Outcomes & Factors <sup>2</sup>	Klamath County	Oregon	United States
Premature Death	11,400	6,700	8,000
Poor or Fair Health	18%	14%	14%
Poor Physical Health Days, Past Month	4.1	3.3	3.3
Poor Mental Health Days, Past Month	5.9	5.4	4.8
Low Birthweight	9%	7%	8%
Life Expectancy	73.9	78.7	77.6
Mammography Screening	37%	41%	43%
Flu Vaccination	33%	40%	46%
Completed Suicide (per 100,000 people)	36	19	14

<sup>1</sup>Healthy Klamath. (2022). Klamath County Community Health Assessment, 2021.

<sup>2</sup>University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. (2024). County rankings and roadmaps, Klamath County, Oregon. [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org)

# Local Data to Support Workforce Need (Cont'd)

- \* Klamath County residents demonstrate more years of potential life lost before age 75; a trend that has historically been elevated and is worsening over time<sup>2</sup>



<sup>2</sup>University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. (2024). County rankings and roadmaps, Klamath County, Oregon. [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org)

# Local Data to Support Workforce Need (Cont'd)

\* Klamath County is underperforming in terms of Health Outcomes and Health Factors<sup>2</sup> when compared to:

- \* A comparable county (Douglas)
- \* An urban county (Clackamas)
- \* A neighboring county (Jackson)

2024 Health Outcomes & Factors <sup>2</sup>	Klamath County	Douglas County	Clackamas County	Jackson County
Premature Death	11,400	10,200	5,600	7,500
Poor or Fair Health	18%	16%	12%	15%
Poor Physical Health Days, Past Month	4.1	3.7	3.1	3.7
Poor Mental Health Days, Past Month	5.9	5.4	5.1	5.8
Low Birthweight	9%	7%	6%	8%
Preventable Hospital Stays	1,902	1,314	1,772	1,623
Mammography Screening	37%	40%	43%	43%

<sup>2</sup>University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. (2024). County rankings and roadmaps, Klamath County, Oregon. [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org)

# Local Data to Support Workforce Need (Cont'd)

- \* The Health Resources and Services Administration<sup>3</sup> has designated Klamath County as follows:
  - \* Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) for each of the following disciplines:
    - \* Primary Care
    - \* Dental Health
    - \* Mental Health
  - \* Maternity Care Target Area (MCTA)
  - \* Medically Underserved Area (MUA) per Governor's Exception
- \* The county exceeds the state ratios of population to provider for primary care, dentistry, and mental health

2024 Population to Provider Ratios <sup>4</sup>	Klamath County	Oregon
Physicians	461	358
Nurse Practitioners	1,562	1,245
Registered Nurses	211	151
Certified Nursing Assistants	423	351
Dentists	2,051	1,753
Counselors, Therapists	3,717	1,725
Psychologists	24,826	4,169

<sup>3</sup>Health Resources and Services Administration. (2024). Shortage areas by address. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. <https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/shortage-area/by-address>

<sup>4</sup>Health Care Workforce Reporting Program. (2023). Oregon's health care workforce: Supply and profiles. Interactive display accessed 4/27/24. Portland, OR: Oregon Health Authority. <https://go.usa.gov/xvn3Z>

# Partnerships

## Center for Wellbeing

### Mental Health

**Integrated Student Health Center**  
*Serving:* Oregon Tech students  
*Supporting:* OHSU Residents  
*Funding:* Student Fees

**Marriage & Family Therapy (MFT) Clinic**  
*Serving:* Employees  
*Supporting:* Oregon Tech MFT st.  
*Funding:* Foundation (Donation)

**Applied Behavior Analysis Clinic**  
*Serving:* Community  
*Supporting:* Oregon Tech ABA st.  
*Funding:* Billing (Self-generated); Grant (State)

**Relationship Building & Wellbeing Programs**  
*Serving:* Community  
*Supporting:* Oregon Tech Psych. st.  
*Funding:* Grant (DHS)

### Medical

**Dental Clinic**  
*Serving:* Community  
*Supporting:* OIT Dental Hygiene, OHSU Campus for Rural Health  
*Funding:* Billing (Self-Generated)

**Imaging Clinic**  
*Serving:* Community  
*Supporting:* Oregon Tech MIT st.  
*Funding:* Billing (Self-generated)

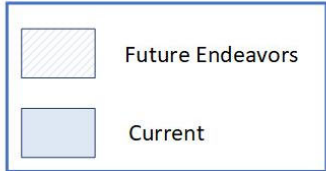
**Medical Clinic**  
*Serving:* Employees, Community  
*Supporting:* OHSU Residents & Nursing, Campus for Rural Health  
*Funding:* Billing (Self-generated)

**Physical Therapy Clinic**  
*Serving:* Community  
*Supporting:* Oregon Tech DPT st.  
*Funding:* Billing (Self-generated)

### Wellbeing

**Wellbeing Program**  
*Serving:* Employees & students  
*Supporting:* OHSU Nursing st.  
*Funding:* Oregon Tech Strategic Initiative Funds

**Basic Needs Program**  
*Serving:* Oregon Tech st.  
*Funding:* Grant (State)



- \* Will build upon currently existing clinics as well as providing the opportunity for new endeavors
- \* Each component will:
  - \* **Serve** a population
  - \* **Support** student education & training