



# Western Oregon Advanced Health

## **SERVICE AREA**

Coos and Curry counties

## **MEMBERS SERVED**

18,627 Oregonians

## **FEATURED PROGRAM**

WOAH recognized that new foster parents faced many challenges within the first month of child placement, including physical, mental and dental check-ups. Dr. Carla McKelvey, a pediatrician and a member of WOA, proposed a solution: bring all providers under one roof. New foster families are now able to complete all required appointments at one convenient time. Because of these check-ups, medical issues are identified early, giving these families the best opportunity to thrive.

## **WEBSITE**

[www.woahcco.com](http://www.woahcco.com)

## **VIDEOS**

### ***Dental Sealants***

Because of CCOs like WOA, more kids ages 6 to 14 now have dental sealants, an important tool in preventing cavities.

<https://vimeo.com/195666098>

### ***FEARsome Clinic***

WOAH is making it easy for foster parents to get all their child's checkups in a timely manner by bringing physical, mental and dental health providers to one place.

<https://vimeo.com/157356547>

### ***CCO Success***

Physicians on Southern Oregon's coast are actively involved in addressing local issues in conjunction with the CCO, which serves more than 20,000 OHP members living in Coos and Curry counties.

<https://vimeo.com/157353760>

## **FACEBOOK PAGE**

[www.facebook.com/woahcco](http://www.facebook.com/woahcco)

# Improving care for foster children with one-stop clinic

Children who enter Oregon's foster care system often come with uncertain health histories and fragmented medical records. Providing prompt health assessments for these children helps make sure they receive appropriate physical, mental and dental attention, without long gaps in care.

In fact, Oregon requires that a child's health be evaluated by a qualified physician within 60 days of entering state custody. But, as necessary as these appointments are, scheduling evaluations with three different providers and transporting children around town can be stressful for foster families, especially those who host more than one child at a time.

Carla McKelvey, M.D., MPH, a Coos Bay pediatrician at North Bend Medical Center, saw firsthand how challenging it was for foster parents to coordinate evaluation appointments. She had a simple but brilliant realization: By bringing a dentist and mental health provider into her office, even just once a week, she could provide families with the opportunity to receive all three assessments at the same time.

The FEARsome Clinic was established. The name is short for Foster Education and Resources and is a nod to the fierce advocacy foster parents display for their foster children, as well as the confidence they gain by receiving the care and support they need from a strong partnership with the local coordinated care organization (CCO), Western Oregon Advanced Health (WOAH).

When families come to the clinic, Dr. McKelvey performs a short health exam and reviews any records provided by The Oregon Department of Human Services. Depending on the child's age, a counselor from Coos Health & Wellness conducts a developmental, psychological and/or behavioral assessment. Then the dental hygienist completes a simple checkup, looking at teeth and reviewing any available dental notes.

All of a child's health data is recorded into the clinic's electronic health record system, and the child is referred to a primary care physician and other providers for ongoing care. The new providers access the health records and coordinate with each other to offer wraparound support.

"It used to take up to six months to do all these appointments," says long-time foster parent Dolly Daggett. "This is so much better for the kids, as well as the foster parents."

Establishing children with a primary care provider, dentist or therapist also removes emotional barriers to health care by providing much-needed consistency for kids who come from unstable backgrounds. To these children, a doctor or therapist is one more caring adult they can depend on seeing regularly.



*Dr. Carla McKelvey examines a young patient.*



**Serving 18,627 Oregonians living in Coos and Curry counties**