

Agency Administrator's Report

April 25, 2024

Community Listening Sessions - Mendocino

The next Mendocino Community Listening session is on May 15 at 6:00pm at the Community Center of Mendocino. We are still making plans to get to Elk and to Comptche and dates will be announced in the next few days.

Community Health Forum - May 30, Fort Bragg Town Hall

A Community Health Forum will be held at Fort Bragg Town Hall on Thursday, May 30, 6:00-7:30 pm. The Keynote Speaker will be one of the Authors from the Humboldt State report entitled, "California's Rural North - Evidence-based Strategies and County-Level Best Practices to Improve Health Equity, November 2023". Local panelists from various medical practitioners and local stakeholders, will report on the state of health services within the district. The panelists will include:

- * Dr. William Miller, M.D., FAPC, Adventist Health Mendocino Coast Hospital;
- * Chief Neil Cervenka, Fort Bragg Police;
- * Lucretia Renteria, Mendocino Coast Clinics;

The presentations will be followed by a round of Q&A. The event will be available to attend in person, and via zoom, and it will be recorded so those who couldn't attend will be able to view it at their convenience.

Translation Services - English to Spanish

I have been working with various individuals to identify someone willing to contract with the district for Spanish translation services, for district documentation and notices to the public. More information will likely be brought forth to the Board at their May 2024 meeting.

Seismic Retrofit Presentation at the May Board Meeting

Carl Sheurerman from HCAI (California Department of Health Care Access and Information) will be attending the May 2024 Board meeting in person, to explain the seismic retrofit requirements, and to answer questions about the retrofitting timelines.

Learning-Aligned Employment Program

I recently learned (from Susan) of the California state student employment opportunity program offered to institutions (like Mendocino College to place students in organizations, including non-profits. The students earn comparable wages to others performing similar work in the organization, and the exact wage is set between the institution and non-profit. California pays 90% of the wages and the organization pays 10% of the wages. Students have to be from an under-represented group which includes first generation college students, low-income students, students who are current or former foster youth, homeless students or those at risk of becoming homeless, students with disabilities, displaced workers, students with dependent children, formerly incarcerated students, undocumented students, students meeting the requirements of Assembly Bill 540 of the 2001–2002 Regular Session of the Legislature, and students who are veterans. Any age student is allowed except for the foster care students with a maximum age of 25. Full information including a taped webinar can be found at:

<https://www.csac.ca.gov/learning-aligned-employment-program>

They give priority to students in STEM fields, which is defined as the traditional science, technology (including computer science and information technology), engineering, and mathematics, but also specifically calls out Health Sciences. It is possible that we might be able to take advantage of this as part of a health-related workforce development project soon or in the future. In addition to prioritizing STEM, however, they also allow other majors (such as business), as long as students make satisfactory academic progress in a program leading to a degree or a certificate.

*Katharine (Kathy) Wylie, MS Ed.
Agency Administrator
Mendocino Coast Health Care District*