



Population 24,170\*



**Sharon Guidera, M.A., Director**

Mid-Columbia Center for Living

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www.mccfl.org

**Mental Health,  
Addictions and  
Developmental  
Disabilities Services**

**Screening**

(541) 296-5452,

Wasco County Courthouse

Annex A, 419 East 7th Street, The Dalles

Clackamas MHO

Member services

(503) 742-5335

(888) 651-2134

**After-Hours Crisis**

(541) 296-6307 or (541) 386-7534

**Wasco County Court:**



Dan Ericksen,  
Chair



Sherry Holliday



William G. Lennox

County government is the local fiscal agent for state funds and provides program oversight and facilitation of local system planning.

**Mental Health Services**

**Prevention and Early Intervention**

Early Assessment and Support Alliance (EASA)\*, screening and observation, schools and early childhood program

**Outpatient**

Screening and assessment, individual and group therapy, medication management\*, case management, 24-hour crisis evaluation and response

**Community Housing and Residential Services (Adults)**

Supported housing\*, residential treatment, crisis respite beds

**Acute Care**

Oregon State Hospital, McNary Place (Pendleton), St. Charles (Bend), 15 nursing home beds for enhanced care services to adults with severe physical health and mental health needs

**Recovery Supports**

Peer-delivered services for adults (Consumer Drop-In Center\*), young adults (peer-to-peer supports), and children (mentors), supported employment\*, wraparound services\*

**Services to Special Populations**

Jail services, Columbia River Wrap Around (System of Care) and Intensive Children, Youth and Family Services, including family care coordination, wraparound services\*, diagnosis and assessment, therapy, day treatment, mentors, therapeutic classrooms and foster homes, residential treatment, skills training, support groups and youth leadership group

\* An Evidence-Based Practice

\*Population Research Center, PSU, March 2009

## Mid-Columbia Center for Living, Inc.

provides and coordinates mental health, addictions and developmental disabilities services, quality improvement and utilization management of state-county shared services on contract with Hood River, Sherman and Wasco Counties

### Addictions Services

#### Prevention (contracted to the local Commission on Children & Families)

Alcohol and other drug youth coalitions and leadership, public education/awareness, school programs, community events, support for enforcement of underage-drinking laws, Change Community Norms program

#### Youth Early Intervention and Treatment

STEP (Strengthening Teens and Empowering Parents) Program: web-based or face-to-face, providing screening and assessment, parent/youth individual and group treatment, blogs monitored by counselors at [www.stepprogram.net](http://www.stepprogram.net)

#### Adult Treatment

Screening and assessment, individual and group treatment, intensive outpatient treatment, referral to residential and detox services statewide, DUII diversion services, integrated services address co-occurring disorders\*

#### Recovery

Aftercare, medication management\*, Intensive Treatment and Recovery Services (wraparound)\*

\* An Evidence-Based Practice

#### Drug and Family Dependency Court\*

7th Judicial District Court (Wasco & Hood River Counties) includes intensive outpatient treatment, wraparound services and compliance monitoring provided by Mid-Columbia Center for Living

### Developmental Disabilities Services

#### Program Administration

Eligibility determination, quality assurance, foster care licensing, family support, contracts, protective services (investigation, reporting, arrange for alternative care if indicated), eXPRS payment authorizations and monitoring

#### Service Coordination

Crisis services, referral, person-centered planning, monitoring, advocacy, and information and training.

**Contracts and Monitoring of residential, in-home, adult support, vocational and transportation services**

The state Seniors & People with Disabilities Division contracts outside of the local planning and quality assurance process for adult support services with **Eastern Oregon Support Services Brokerage**

February 28, 2008

## Dependency court graduates first participant: new program helps families work out drug-related woes

By ELROY KING  
of The Dalles Chronicle

“Congratulations, mom.”

This comment from Evan Lamb IV, the son of Leah Lamb, the first graduate of Family Dependency Court, pretty well summed up the comments at her graduation ceremony on Friday.

Family Dependency Court helps families with drug-related problems recover and stay together.

Similar comments came from John V. Kelly, the presiding judge over that court; Carol Yakish, who supervises the grant that funds the program; Lamb’s attorney; a group of scheduled guest speakers and some nonscheduled guest speakers.

The Family Dependency Court proceedings are a little less formal than the Drug Court proceedings. The district attorney is not a part of this ceremony, and the judge, rather than starting out seated behind his presiding judge bench, starts seated at the table with the soon-to-be graduate.

This difference is explained by the fact that Family Dependency Court does not deal with the criminal aspect of the participant’s lives, only family issues, Yakish said.

Yakish opened the ceremony by saying that the path Lamb had followed to graduation is “not an easy path but a true path which takes lots of commitment and has a demanding structure.”

Some of Lamb’s accomplishments: 18 months of sobriety, getting her ODL and getting a job and earning promotions. She called Lamb an inspiration to all of us. “...major life changes,” Montag said.

Judge Kelly presented Lamb with her graduation certificate, and said “everything I had written down someone else has already said, anything I could say would be a little hollow.” But he proceeded to say some things anyhow.

He said when they considered starting family dependency court “we didn’t really know where we were at, but knew where we wanted to go. We wanted to offer something different to the community.”

He called the ceremony a milestone in the start of a successful process.

He agreed with those who called Lamb a role model for others in the program but said she was also a role model for the community. He cited her working in the CLIC program as an example of her giving back to the community.

“You started off at a low point that took a lifetime to reach, and now has come a long way up in just 18 months,” Kelly said.

When it was her turn, Lamb thanked “everyone in this room for walking this walk with me ... it’s been a long road, but this is the road I’m going to stay on.”

March 31, 2008

## Dependency court graduates two: Court helps reunited families divided by drug dependency

By ELROY KING  
of The Dalles Chronicle

Getting through Family Dependency Court is not an easy process.

But TS and JF became the second and third women to do so at a graduation ceremony Thursday at Wasco County Circuit Court.

The first graduation from the court-monitored recovery program, which targets women with methamphetamine dependency, was held last month.

Carol Yakish, who supervises the Byrne Grant through Mid-Columbia Center for Living that funds the Family Dependency Court, read a list of the requirements that participants have to meet before they get that certificate of graduation, a process that can last up to 18 months.

It includes: 138 therapy sessions, in group and alone; 32 court appearances; 228 support meetings; 50 check-ins; 52 UA tests and 24 to 50 other appointments for a total of 535 obligations. All of this is crowded around other activities, family, studies for GEDs or other academic accomplishments, work and family responsibilities.

“We ask a lot,” Yakish said of the Dependency Court, including giving up old habits, friends and sometimes even family. But she said the two graduates made the choice to change not only all of this but themselves and found the courage to change the road they had been following.

Telles, who is from the Department of Human Services, said client’s route to graduation had been “quite a journey for all of us,” recalling that “when client first came to DHS she was deep into drugs.” She said at one point client almost quit the program, but came back to fight to regain custody of her children. She said client is now a role model for others to follow.

Then, Judge John Kelly, who oversees the court and handed out the graduation certificates, spoke. He recalled that when he became a judge 20 years ago the methamphetamine problem was below the horizon, but during the 1990s it became more and more visible, to a point where nearly all of the cases that came before him - criminal, divorcee or juvenile - had a connection to meth at some level.

He said at one point he came to believe that recovery from meth addiction was not possible, as the same people kept coming up before him time after time, and then their children began to show up too.

But now, he said, he has begun to see people succeeding, and



“My mom is in recovery” adorns a lightbox at the “Caring Community” event staged this year in The Dalles. Community members celebrated one another’s victories over addiction. Wasco County’s continuum of care includes community education and outreach.

recovery is becoming part of the fabric of the community, as people who have recovered help others who are trying to.

Family Dependency Court is newest of the court-monitored recovery programs, and the two new graduates were among the original four participants when it started last year.