



SUMMER
2026

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COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM NEWSLETTER

CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH THE RESOURCES
THEY NEED TO CARE FOR THEMSELVES AND
THEIR FAMILIES

Spotlight on Staff!

Thank you for your service!

35 years - Lori Wilson-Honl

20 years - Sherrie Frost

Sunday Kamppi

5 years - Allison Hoch

Heather Williams



CAT turns 60!

In June, CAT turned 60. That reflects countless hours and hands on efforts to support the community through decades. From a start in 1966 with fewer than 20 employees and a focus on Senior programs, CAT has

now grown to about 150 employees, and serves everyone from prenatal to those aging in their homes. CAT provides case management and in-home support, as well as financial assistance by providing services including: Veteran programs, home delivered meals, rent and homeless assistance, Head Start, early childhood support, rehab and repair to homes, and a variety of other opportunities as funding allows. Community Action Team has touched the lives of thousands of households in Columbia, Clatsop, and Tillamook counties, and is committed to continuing that work. Thank you to everyone who has worked with us, for us, or supported us financially or with volunteer hours. Your impact is recognized and felt. Please join us in continuing our mission of connecting people with the resources they need to care for themselves and their families.

Please celebrate with us on October 10th at our Denim & Diamonds gala fundraiser. Tickets and event details can be found at givebutter.com/cat-60



Veterans Services

In April, VSO Erin Nolan gathered representatives from the Elks Veterans Committee, the VFW and the American Legion to

celebrate a local veteran who was turning 91!

The Mayor of Rainier came out to help honor the local Coast Guard veteran on his birthday.

Lunch was held at the Cornerstone Café, complete with cake and balloons. When it was time to light the candles, the entire restaurant sang “Happy Birthday”.

The veteran has been checking in each week with the VSO, an arrangement that has been ongoing for more than five years, but the two had never met in person.

“Being able to celebrate this wonderful human on his birthday was a great honor. We will do it again on his 95th”, Erin said.

The following Tuesday, the veteran checked in and said “I hope you’re doing alright after last Friday, that was outstanding. You just about blew my pacemaker”. Mission accomplished!

Utility Assistance

Summer cooling assistance for electricity bills opened in June! Those interested will need to complete an application and provide qualifying documentation.



Diaper Distribution

CAT still has diapers available for families in need. Families may be able to receive 200 diapers per child per month!

Please contact our office by phone or visit us for more information and to pick up diapers.

*while supplies last.





Early Literacy

Community Action Team received a literacy grant aimed at supporting childhood education. Head Start/OPK held

events focused on family engagement that provided families with practical tools, engaging activities, and meaningful guidance to support early literacy. Each event paired activities with books the families took home.

The Healthy Families team distributed over 80 developmental play kits to support enrolled families. Each kit was developed based on age to best support children's development and early literacy. Home visitors paired this with curriculum to support play and language skills.



We need volunteers!

The Home Delivered Meals program is a valuable resource for providing nutritious meals to homebound individuals in need. We need drivers to help distribute food! Please call our office to inquire about how you can be involved in the community!

CAT's mission is to connect people with the resources they need to care for themselves and their families.

Our work strengthens individuals and communities through programs that combat homelessness, promote affordable housing, enhance early childhood development, support disaster recovery, and provide utility assistance. Grounded in our values of empowerment, compassion, collaboration, and equity, we work to ensure access to opportunities and resources.

CAT is guided by a community-based Board of Directors, ensuring decisions reflect our community's best interests. Funding comes primarily from state and federal programs, supplemented by foundation grants. We value diverse funding sources and community involvement to sustain our mission and expand our impact.

Since 1966, we have grown from operating federally funded Head Start programs to building a broad network of services. In response to Oregon's call for Community Action Partnership, we established advisory boards in Tillamook and Clatsop counties, which evolved into Community Action Resource Enterprises (CARE) in Tillamook and Clatsop Community Action (CCA) in Astoria.

With decades of service and a commitment to our vision, CAT is dedicated to making a lasting difference—providing safe housing, educational opportunities, and the support people need to reach their potential. As needs change, we adapt, creating positive change and building thriving, resilient, inclusive communities for all.

CAT-TEAM.ORG/GIVE

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO SUBSCRIBE TO FUTURE NEWSLETTERS!

125 N 17th Street - cat-team.org - (503)397-3511
St Helens, OR 97051