

# NEWS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Umpqua Health Alliance Awards \$507,650 to Four Local Projects Supporting Youth, Families and Public Spaces

**Roseburg, Oregon** — Umpqua Health Alliance's Community Advisory Council has awarded \$507,650 in funding to four community-led initiatives in Douglas County. The selected projects focus on expanding access to child care, youth development, public recreation and workforce education.

The grants are part of Umpqua Health Alliance's 2025 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), which supports strategies related to the social determinants of health, behavioral health, nutrition, and services for children and families.

*"Our commitment to community health begins with investing in the wellbeing of our youth, supporting families, and revitalizing the public spaces where we live, learn, and connect. This funding is a promise to create expanded access, healthier and safer environments for every member of our community."*  
Says Umpqua's CEO, Brent Eichman.

### **South County YMCA After-School Program**

*Lead organization: YMCA of Douglas County | Funding: \$72,650*

The YMCA will launch a licensed after-school program at Tri City Elementary School, serving students in Myrtle Creek, Tri-City and Canyonville. Up to 30 children in kindergarten through fifth grade will participate in academic support, physical activity, STEAM enrichment and healthy snacks. Transportation will be provided from Canyonville Elementary and Myrtle Creek Elementary. The grant will primarily fund scholarships and supplies.

### **Youth Workforce Development Pilot**

*Lead organization: Boys & Girls Club of the Umpqua Valley | Funding: \$90,000*

The Boys & Girls Club will implement a summer pilot program for 60 students in grades four through eight, integrating career exploration into its regular STEAM and after-school activities. The program, titled Workforce Wednesdays, will include visits to partner sites and focus on industries such as healthcare, manufacturing and natural resources. Participants will be invited to continue in school-year cohorts beginning fall 2025.

**Stewart Park Revitalization Project**

*Lead organization: Thrive Umpqua / Funding: \$195,000*

Thrive Umpqua will begin work on an updated Stewart Park Master Plan in Roseburg, originally developed in 2000. The grant supports foundational work, including a natural area restoration, an archaeological study and installation of a new drinking fountain. Future planning may include upgrades to the skate park and Fir Grove field infrastructure.

**Riddle Activity Center Playground**

*Lead organization: Riddle Roots Community Projects / Funding: \$150,000*

A new outdoor playground will be built at the Riddle Activity Center (RAC), a 30,000-square-foot community facility currently under construction. The playground will serve early childhood and preschool programs, supporting licensing requirements and providing safe, age-appropriate outdoor space. The RAC is led by Riddle Roots in partnership with Riddle School District and more than 40 other organizations.

Each of the funded projects was selected through a competitive process guided by Umpqua Health Alliance's Community Advisory Council, composed of community members, local leaders and public health advocates.

Together, these initiatives represent a shared commitment to closing health gaps, supporting children and families, and investing in the long-term wellbeing of Douglas County communities.

**About Umpqua Health**

Umpqua Health is the parent company of Umpqua Health Alliance, one of 16 Oregon coordinated care organizations serving the Oregon Health Plan. The Roseburg-based company and its subsidiaries are focused on expanding access, improving care, and reducing unnecessary costs across the clinical space for more than 40,000 Douglas County residents on the Oregon Health Plan.