



## April THW Monthly Newsletter

April showers bring a stream of new updates and THW trainings. Read on to see how you can get involved this spring!

This month has public health in the spotlight!

April 7th-13th is [National Public Health Week](#), a time to recognize the contributions of public health and highlight issues that are important to improve our nation. The American Public Health Association will release new materials to raise awareness about public health and prevention.

April 7th is World Health Day, a day that kick off the new, year-long WHO campaign *Healthy Beginnings, hopeful futures* focused on maternal and newborn health. To learn more and see activities to join in on, visit [World Health Day 2025](#).

We hope you can take a moment to enjoy these celebrations!

## EOCCO Updates

### **NEW!** Harney County Flooding Resources

If you or members you are working with have been impacted by the flooding in Harney County and need to replace medical equipment, supplies, prescription drugs or dentures, EOCCO is here to help. Visit [Harney County flooding assistance](#) for more information. We're working to get you the replacements you need as quickly as possible.

### **NEW!** THW Newsletter Archive

Want to find a previous THW newsletter? Now you can! 2024 and 2025 newsletters are now available on the EOCCO Provider Education webpage, <https://www.eocco.com/providers/Education>

### **NEW!** CCBF Grant | [Learn more here](#)

Applications for the 2025 CCBF grant cycle are now available. As part of the Oregon Health Plan's (OHP or Medicaid) Health Related Social Needs (HRSN) benefit to offer climate devices and services, nutrition services and housing

supports to members experiencing a qualifying life transition, EOCCO will be granting Community Building Funds (CCBF) to eligible community partners. Learn more about the grant and HRSN on the EOCCO Grants webpage.

### **NEW! Eastern Oregon Car Seat Guide | [Access here](#)**

EOCCO has created a Car Seat Resource Guide to help our Eastern Oregon community find local car seat resources. It includes options for free and discounted car seats, as well as information on free car seat safety checks.

### **REMINDER! Refer Members to a Birth Doula | [Make a referral](#)**

If you're working with a pregnant EOCCO member who wants additional support throughout the pregnancy, labor, and postpartum process, refer them to one of our birth doulas! The member will be matched to a doula in their area within four weeks of referral.

### **Member Social Needs Screening Referral Form | [Access the screener](#)**

EOCCO has developed a user-friendly social needs screening form for members, enabling them to easily complete and submit an assessment. After submission, an EOCCO staff member will promptly reach out to offer support, assistance, and resource connection.

### **THW Training Suggestions | [Suggest a training](#)**

Is there a training you wish you had as a THW, or one that could benefit your organization or community? Or a CEU opportunity you'd like to see offered? Let EOCCO know! The new THW CEU Suggestions form allows EOCCO to hear directly from THWs and work on developing needed support.

## **Ongoing Opportunities**

- Add a resource to the EOCCO Resource Directory | [Access here](#)
- Add your information to the EOCCO THW Directory | [Access here](#)
- Join the EOCCO THW Workforce Committee | [Apply here](#)
- EOCCO "Traditional Health Workers" program available for referrals on Unite Us | Request to join by emailing [THW@eocco.com](mailto:THW@eocco.com)
- Join EOCCO's Searchable Provider Registry | [Join here](#)
- Onboard onto Unite Us | email [THW@eocco.com](mailto:THW@eocco.com)
- Personal Health Navigator Certification (Legacy Clause) | email [THW@eocco.com](mailto:THW@eocco.com)

## **Resources**

### **Flyers**

#### **English**

- [Birth Doula Flyer](#), providers
- [Birth Doula Flyer](#), members
- [Birth Doula Referral Form](#), providers/members

- [CHW Flyer, members](#)
- [THW Flyer, members](#)
- [THW Satisfaction Survey, link for members](#)
- [THW Satisfaction Survey postcard, for members](#)

## Spanish

- [Birth Doula Flyer, providers](#)
- [Birth Doula Flyer, members](#)
- [CHW Flyer, members](#)
- [THW Satisfaction Survey postcard, members](#)

## THW Guides

- [EOCCO THW Quick-Start and Billing Guide](#)
- [EOCCO's Community Resource Guide](#)
- [Become an EOCCO DMAP Provider](#)

# Community Updates

### **NEW! 2025 Peer Workforce Conference**

\$175 | August 21-22 | Pendleton, OR | [Register here](#)

GOBHI's Peer Workforce Conference is a place for peers working in behavioral health in Eastern Oregon and across the state to connect, learn, and grow together. The two days of presentations and training sessions will be centered around the theme of Resilience, Perseverance, and Integrity—qualities that peers bring to their work every day while using their lived experience to support their clients. CEUs through MHACBO and NASW will be available.

**Call for Abstracts:** GOBHI is accepting proposals for workshops that educate and inspire peers. Please visit [this link](#) for more information and to submit a proposal.

### **NEW! FolkTime/OHCC's PHN Info Session**

April 21, 6-8pm PST | Hybrid & Tigard, OR | Email [training@folktim.org](mailto:training@folktim.org)

OHA has approved a PHN training! Join FolkTime and the Oregon Home Care Commission for an informational session and open house. Learn about their upcoming personal health navigator (PHN) training program and explore FolkTime's new office and training session.

### **Healthcare Workforce Equity Conference**

Free | May 22 | Salem, OR | [Register here](#)

Healthcare Workforce Equity Conference is focused on strengthening the healthcare workforce through collaboration, diversity, and equity. This conference is for individuals and organizations dedicated to improving workforce development and fostering a diverse and inclusive healthcare workforce.

## Oregon Office of Rural Health Policy Updates | [Register here](#)

ORH is hosting hour-long, bi-weekly policy updates to keep attendees up to date on all things health policy. Speakers will share important state and federal policy changes impacting rural communities and answer questions about their implications on your work and organization; stay updated by joining these regular sessions.

### 2025 THW Legislative Updates

Oregon's 2025 Regular Legislative Session is in full swing, and there's a handful of THW-related bills preparing to be introduced and voted on. This includes:

- All THWs: SB 161, SB 529, SB 695
- CHWs: HB 2216, HB 2751
- Doulas: SB 690 (momnibus), SB 692, SB 693, SB 691 & SB 695
- Peers: HB 2954, SB 691

To track these bills, provide public comment, and get involved, visit the [Oregon State Legislature](#).

For information on the Oregon Legislative Process and how you can get involved, watch CLHO's overview at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LWe8RHZhJL0> (start at 23:23).

### Rural Health Resource Hub | [Access here](#)

The Oregon Office of Rural Health has created a Rural Health Resource hub for THWs and providers to easily gather information and resources to events, education, funding, and technical assistance across Oregon.

# Meetings

### **NEW!** CCBF Grant TA Webinars

Interested in CCBF funds? Join EOCCO's Grant Team to understand the 2025 CCBF cycle, application, and important dates. Learn about CCBF and HRSN. Get your questions answered and 1:1 assistance with your application. All applicants must attend one webinar or one-on-one TA session. Only one session is required.

Register below:

- [April 4, 12-1pm PST](#)
- [April 16, 12-1pm PST](#)
- [April 30, 1-2pm PST](#)
- [May 12, 1-2pm PST](#)

### EOCCO QI Team Office Hours

Monthly | 11am - 12pm PST | Virtual | [Register here](#)

Come hang with the EOCCO Quality Improvement Team and meet other clinical partners from across Eastern Oregon! EOCCO is hosting a series of office hours to support our clinical partners in impacting CCO Incentive measure performance and

meeting state/EOCCO reporting requirements. Topics vary monthly. All are welcome to come learn, share their experiences, and build community.

## **EOCCO THW Collaborative**

5/15, 7/17, 9/18, 11/20 | Third Thursday @ 11am PST | [Register here](#)

Join the redesigned THW Collaboratives! These meetings have been revamped and changed to a bi-monthly cadence to better suit the needs of you. New meetings will discuss real experiences THWs would like to work through and provide opportunity for feedback. Join our growing group and be in the know everything EOCCO!

- Submit a case study to discuss [here](#)

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# **Training Opportunities**

## **Featured Foundational Trainings**

### **NEW! OCHIN CHW Internship Training Program**

FREE | Begins May | Hybrid, La Grande | [Apply here](#)

Throughout this program, participants will learn the essential concepts and skills needed to function as a CHW to become a vital bridge between healthcare, social services, and the people in your community who need them most. After completion, participants can apply for CHW certification in Oregon. 550 hours total with a \$7500 stipend and internship placement.

### **NEW! Personal Health Navigator Training**

Virtual | [Apply here](#)

OHA's first approved PHN training is here! Oregon Home Care Commission's 70-hour, virtual PHN training provides a pathway to THW certification. Anyone is welcome to apply for current and future trainings. Training schedule TBA.

### **Peer Support Specialist/Certified Recovery Mentor Training**

\$350 | April 9 - 11 | Virtual | [Register here](#)

Peer Recovery Solutions is offering a 3-day, virtual OHA-approved PSS- Adult Addictions. This class is approved for Adult Addictions Peer Support Specialist. To become certified you need to identify as a person with lived addiction experience. If you do not have lived experience, you can still take the class and receive credit.

## **Featured Continuing Education**

### **NEW! OHSU & EOCCO Cancer Training**

Free | May, July, August | In-person | Email [THW@eocco.com](mailto:THW@eocco.com)

Join OHSU and EOCCO to learn about protective and risk factors associated with cancer, essential communication skills for working with community and cancer patients, and the role of THWs in cancer awareness and care. All trainings in-person. Light refreshments will be provided. 3 CEUs.

- May 13 in Hermiston, 1-4pm PST

- July 11 in La Grande, 12-3 pm PST
- August 7 in Ontario, 12-3pm PST

### **NEW! Clinical Learning for CHWs**

Free | Thursdays, 4/17-5/15, 10am-12pm | Virtual | [Apply here](#)

Healthy Rural Oregon is sponsoring 15 seats for rural Oregon CHWs to participate in the Clinical Learning for CHWs training, a program hosted by the Northwest Primary Care Association. The program is designed to train CHWs on the basic knowledge and skills needed to work in a clinical primary care setting. The deadline to apply is April 2nd, 2025!

### **NEW! Loss, Bereavement, and Termination Support for Doulas**

\$400\*/600 | April 25-26 | Virtual | [Register here](#)

A two-day, in-depth training designed for doulas supporting individuals and families through abortion, pregnancy loss, and bereavement. Participants will learn best practices for emotional and physical support, including compassionate communication, grief rituals, and sensory considerations. The training features specialized Bereavement/Loss Doulas and a panel discussion with bereaved parents and doulas. Graduates will be invited to participate in the OHSU Abortion Doula Demonstration Project, with stipends available. 17 CEUs! \*\$200 off with promo code *LBT200*\*

### **Poverty and Related Social Determinants of Health**

\$200/\$145 | April 28 - May 25 | Online | [Register here](#)

OSU's course is designed for current CHWs and will help you in your critical work with low-income populations. In this course, you will investigate the multiple links between poverty, race, ethnicity and trauma with healthcare. You will also look at evidence-based approaches that you can implement as a CHW to improve health equity for disadvantaged and low-income populations. 15 CEUs.

### **Other Trainings & Continuing Education**

For more training and CEU opportunities, follow [this link](#) to an updated Google Sheet. If you know of training opportunities you'd like to see in the sheet, please email [THW@eocco.com](mailto:THW@eocco.com).

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# **Good news**

At the March OHA THW Commission meeting, OHA announced that new Personal Health Navigator (PHN) billing codes will soon be available! PHNs will be able to bill using Community Health Worker and certain Peer codes. Stay tuned for more updates!

If you're interested in becoming a PHN through the Legacy Clause (requires 3,000+ hours of experience in a similar scope of practice), please reach out to [THW@eocco.com](mailto:THW@eocco.com) for more information.

**Have good news, a success story or want to be featured for your work?  
Submit your Good News here!**

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If there is something you would like to see in our monthly THW Newsletter, please reach out to the THW Liaison by email at [THW@eocco.com](mailto:THW@eocco.com) or by phone at (503) 952-4995. TTY users, call 711.

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