

Volunteering

Many hands make light work



Head Start of Lane County

*ENSURING THAT OUR YOUNGEST CHILDREN HAVE SOLID
FOUNDATION FOR LIFE*

A birth to five early childhood education program

Head Start of Lane County

Head Start of Lane County (HSOLC) is a birth to five program providing Head Start (HS) / Early Head Start (EHS) preschool services in Lane County. HSOLC is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) whose mission is *ensuring that our youngest children have a solid foundation for life*. The agency serves over 1,000 low income children and families from the coast to the mountains, covering over 4,620 square miles. HSOLC supports 22 sites and employs over 300 people.

The Federal Office of Head Start requires all Head Start/Early Head Start agencies to follow Performance Standards. How each agency meets the Performance Standards is individualized to the need and resources of that community. The Performance Standard related to volunteering is 1302.94(a)(b)

- (a) A program must ensure regular volunteers have been screened for appropriate communicable diseases in accordance with state, tribal and local laws. In the absence of state, tribal or local law, the Health Services Advisory Committee must be consulted regarding the need for such screenings.*

- (b) A program must ensure children are never left alone with volunteers.*

Does HS/EHS Make a Difference?

Yes, HSOLC helps over 1,000 children and families annually prepare for public school with growth in all school readiness domains. There are 11 school readiness domains; each has a place for volunteers:

1. **Approaches to Learning** are skills in completing a challenging or frustrating task, following directions, making mistakes and working as a group.
2. **Creative Arts and expression** can be in the form of dance, music and play.
3. **Literacy skills** in learning to listen, understanding what is seen or heard and expressing one self.
4. **Math skills**, like adding/subtracting, time, measuring.
5. **Science** is simple – it's called curiosity, exploration and asking questions. It's active engagement in observing, exploring and experimenting.
6. **Physical health** means making healthy food choices, and having an active life style.
7. **Social emotional** learning is about friendships and self control. It's learning to cooperate.
8. **Social studies** is learning about family history, sharing stories about places and people.
9. **Logic and reasoning** is asking questions to help come to own conclusion – right or wrong (unless it is unsafe).
10. **Language development** is understanding what is said and having conversations. It is also developing English language when it is not the first language spoken in the home.
11. **English Language development** is for children who speak a home language other than English.

What are the Volunteer Opportunities?

Volunteer opportunities can be found in the classrooms, special projects, gardening and more. Matching a volunteer's skills, interest and professional growth is important when matching volunteers to openings/needs.

Is Training Provided?

Volunteers receive orientation and training on the expectations of being a HSOLC volunteer. Depending on topic and available seating, volunteers may attend staff training.

Are there Costs, Will I Need Immunizations?

Volunteers are asked to provide current immunization information. There are no costs.

What is the Time Commitment?

Volunteers keep a regular schedule as much as possible. Most shifts are 1-3 hours to optimize the benefits for children and occur during regular business hours, Monday-Friday. A volunteer's hours will be fixed: same place, time, day of the week. However, depending on the volunteer position, time commitment can vary. The Part Day program follows the public school calendar, nine months, Monday-Thursday. Full Day and Early Head Start operate year round, five days a week with extended care hours. Extended day is six hours a day, five days a week.

Who Do I call if Absent?

Volunteers should contact the assigned supervisor or the Volunteer Coordinator (541-747-2425) when absent for any reason.

If I have a Problem or Issue, Who do I Speak With?

Volunteers are to contact the onsite supervisor. If unable to reach the onsite supervisor, the volunteer will contact the Regional Manager for that site. The Volunteer Coordinator is also available at 541-747-2425

What do I do if I want to Change my Placement or Volunteer Position?

Contact the Volunteer Coordinator (541-747-2425) to discuss placement options and other changes to your volunteer assignment.

AT the End of my Placement can I Request a Letter of Acknowledgement?

Volunteers who have left the agency in good standing after 120 volunteer hours (3 hrs x 40 days=120 hours) may ask for a letter of acknowledgement from the onsite supervisor.

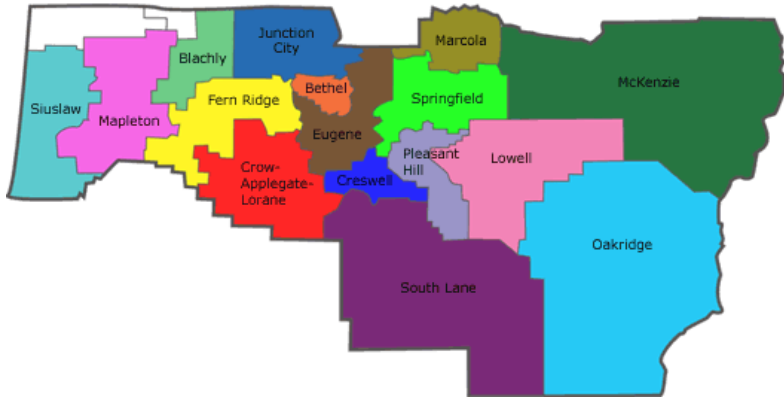
Volunteer George checks out books from the library to read to children in the Head Start classroom.

George read a story about boats and turned it into a classroom activity where the children built their own boat and then tested how well it would float.

George is a welcome addition to the classroom. He is another adult in the classroom that can watch, listen and be a support to children. George has been a Head Start volunteer for five years.



Head Start of Lane County Locations

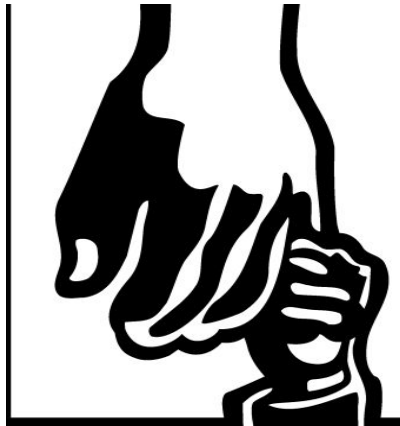


<i>Eugene</i>	<i>Springfield</i>	<i>South Lane</i>	<i>Rural</i>
Fairfield & Clear Lake	B Street	Cottage Grove	Florence
LCC & Cesar Chavez	Main St		Junction City
Howard & Danebo	The Park		Oakridge
Ross Lane and Charlemagne	Village		Lowell
U of O & El Camino del Rio			
Whiteaker & Edgewood			

Head Start of Lane County volunteers build our organizational strength and enrich our sense of community ownership. Children benefit from volunteers being in the classroom, sharing stories, reading to them, tending the garden and sharing smiles and laughter.

Head Start of Lane County values the time and energy given by volunteers. As of June 2018, over 2,000 volunteer hours, worth \$17,000 has been given to support the children and families in Lane County.

Contact the Volunteer Coordinator for more information or visit the Head Start of Lane County web site for volunteer opportunities.



HEAD START of LANE COUNTY

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