



CLARK COUNTY
WASHINGTON

proud past, promising future

NEWS RELEASE

October 21, 2004

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Substance abuse treatment organizations to merge

Vancouver, WA – The boards of directors from Clark County Council on Alcohol and Drugs (CCCoAD) and Pacific Crest Consortium (PCC) have unanimously agreed to merge operations effective January 1, 2005. The timing of the merger coincides with each organization's pending move to the Center for Community Health facility now under construction at the US Department of Veterans Affairs campus in Vancouver. Occupation is scheduled for December 2005.

"The ultimate goal in merging our organizations is to provide the best possible services to those people in our community most in need of substance abuse care," said Stephen Capellas, president of the board of directors, Pacific Crest Consortium. "The strengths of both organizations will be enhanced by this merger, and the community will benefit from the teaming of professionals from both entities."

CCCoAD, offering services since 1962, represents the longest standing chemical dependency treatment operation in Southwest Washington. Its services currently include assessment, referral, involuntary treatment commitment and multiple levels of outpatient treatment for both youths and adults. CCCoAD also operates the Vancouver Detoxification unit as well as the John Owens Recovery House, a residential treatment facility that helps patients transition back to the community.

PCC provides chemical dependency treatment, alcohol and drug testing, and case management services for Clark County's Drug Court, Substance Abuse Court and the Washington State Division of Children and Family Services.

Adult outpatient chemical dependency treatment, specialized services for women and offenders, is available as well as traditional treatment. Intensive case management services for pregnant and parenting women is provided by the Positive Start program. The NW Deaf Addiction Center offers residential and outpatient treatment for Deaf and Hard of Hearing adults

The organizations combine to serve more than 3,500 clients annually with budgets totaling more than \$3 million.

(MORE)

Page two - Substance abuse treatment organizations to merge

“The merger epitomizes the collaborative synergy of the Center for Community Health project,” said Michael Piper, Director, Clark County Department of Community Services. “The fact that both organizations are healthy and well-respected in the community and under no pressure to merge is reflective of the forward thinking nature of all of the project’s partners.”

The facility will host the Clark County Health Department, Clark County Department of Community Services, CCCoAD, PCC, Mental Health Northwest and Northwest Recovery Center.

“This merger will result in a continuum of services unlike any other in Southwest Washington,” said Jan Anderson, president of CCoAD’s board of directors. “Both boards are very excited to be working together and the leveraging of our assets and talent will better address the county’s growing needs.”

John Cox, currently executive director for CCCoAD, will serve as chief executive officer of the new organization. Lynn Samuels, executive director of PCC, will serve as director of operations and program development and Paul Kubiak will direct clinical services and program improvement.

A new corporate name for the private, non-profit group will be selected at a later date.

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