

Klamath River Promise Neighborhood Abstract

The Klamath River Promise Neighborhood brings together cross-sector partners including tribes, schools, the Del Norte Unified School District and County Office of Education, community-based organizations, institutes of higher education, local government, and parent & resident groups, who intend to improve educational, health, and developmental outcomes for children by building a continuum of solutions centered around great schools in Del Norte County and adjacent Tribal Lands, the northwesternmost county of California. The county includes many persistently low-performing public schools. The people of Del Norte County suffer from many social and economic challenges, including food insecurity, generational poverty, obesity, smoking, trauma, drug and alcohol addiction, and homelessness, which impact the ability of the District's students to effectively engage with academics at school or at home.

The Klamath River Continuum comprises 4 major components:

- (1) **Early Learning Network** designed to support children from birth to age 5 and their parents, so children enter kindergarten ready to learn.
- (2) **K-12 + College Strategy** designed to support academic excellence and college preparation.
- (3) **Career Technical Education (CTE) Program** designed to train and support youth to excel in locally in-demand careers with living wages, and to support parents to upgrade their employment options to increase family stability.
- (4) **D. Supportive services for parents** so children grow up in safe, stable families and parents are able to support their children's success.

The Yurok Tribe has worked with a local community organizing project, True North Organizing Network, to bring together multiple cross sector partners to plan the Klamath River Promise Continuum of Solutions. The partners undertook an extensive community mapping

effort to inventory current services and supports, analyze gaps and unmet needs, and design a cradle to college and career continuum so that children have no choice but to succeed, wrapped around with family and parent supports. Some of the solutions are existing programs or services that were working well but with limited geographic scope or funding, and so could only serve a small sub-set of the community. These will be strengthened and expanded to serve more families and more neighborhoods. Others are new programs which have been carefully selected because they directly meet an identified gap or need. The backbone organization staff and the shared database platform will ensure that all partner organizations' services are aligned, working towards a shared vision for the community.

Klamath River Promise will target the 5 worst-performing elementary schools (Margaret Keating, Pine Grove, Smith River, Bess maxwell, Joe Hamilton), the only middle school (Crescent Elk), and 2 high schools (Del Norte High and Sunset Continuation High). The schools are located the following zip codes: 95532, 95548, and 95567.

- Klamath River Promise addresses **Absolute Priority 3** by serving the Yurok Tribe, a federally recognized tribe, as well as members of several other tribes.
- Klamath River Promise addresses **Competitive Priority 1** (Opioid Prevention) through a formal partnership with the Rx Safe Del Norte Coalition to provide community-level prevention strategies with a focus on opioids and new emerging drug issues.
- Klamath River Promise addresses **Competitive Priority 2** (Applications from New Potential Grantees) because The Yurok Tribe has not previously applied for a Promise Neighborhood grant or participated in another organizations' Promise Neighborhood grant proposal.
- Klamath River Promise addresses **Competitive Priority 3** by implementing numerous evidence-based service models with fidelity within the continuum of Solutions.