



COLUMBIA COUNTY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
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COUNTY RECOGNIZES EMPLOYEE AT BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S MEETING

The Columbia County Commission on Children and Families presented Jan Greenhalgh with a certificate of appreciation and flowers for her work to support Columbia County's children and their families. Making the presentation were Sunday Kamppi, Healthy Start Program Supervisor, Jan Spika Kenna, Commission on Children and Families Director, and Jim Wilson, Healthy Start Advisory Committee Chair.

The certificate thanked Jan for being "A partner committed to the health and well being of Columbia County children and their families". Jan challenged volunteers to make over 120 items for the Commission's Holiday Book Bags. She also mobilized donations of cash and things for children in the Health Start program.

Over \$2,000.00 in cash was donated to Healthy Start because of Jan's effort and about 100 volunteer hours were clocked for the Holiday Book Bags. At Jan's suggestion, the recipient of the 2009 County's Giving Tree was the Healthy Start program. Almost \$1,000.00 in donated items were given by County employees.

Columbia County employees and the Board of County Commissioners were warmly thanked by the presenters for supporting the local Commission and Healthy Start. Healthy Start is a Commission on Children and Families' program contracted with Community Action Team (CAT).

Through the Commission, CAT was recently awarded funds to expand Healthy Start family services to Clatsop County children. At the presentation, they were thanked for making this child abuse prevention program available to more children.

The Holiday Book Bag project supports reading and healthy family activities. 50 book bags were given to families served by the Department of Human Services, Self Sufficiency office. In addition to items in the bags, families are able to choose books for their children. Most of the books are donated by the St. Helens Kiwanis Club.

For more information about enrolling in or providing cash or in-kind donations to the Healthy Start program contact Sunday Kamppi at 503.366.6556. For information about donating gently used or new books for Columbia County children, please contact Jan Spika Kenna at 503.397.7225.

Pictured, left to right are Sunday Kamppi, Jan Greenhalgh, Jim Wilson and Jan Kenna.
Photo taken by Janet Wright, County PIO.

