

**Building Healthy Families**  
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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Building Healthy Families receives an Oregon Parenting Education Collaborative Grant from The Oregon Community Foundation**

Building Healthy Families (BHF) is the recipient of a \$120,000 Oregon Parenting Education Collaborative (OPEC) Grant from The Oregon Community Foundation in partnership with the Meyer Memorial Trust, The Ford Family Foundation, The Collins Foundation and Oregon State University. The grant will support BHF's work as a parenting education Hub for Wallowa, Baker and Malheur counties.

Building Healthy Families is headquartered in Wallowa County with programs and staff in Baker and Union Counties. The OPEC grant will allow for expansion of services to the families of Malheur County through a Parenting Education Hub that includes Wallowa, Baker and Malheur counties. These funds will provide for the delivery of evidence-based series, workshops, marketing campaigns and parent support activities that strive to increase parent knowledge and cultivate a culture where positive parent/child engagement is the community norm. Additionally, the funding will provide for the continued coordination of parent education services and expansion of collaborative partnerships and networks to not only increase the efficiency and effectiveness of services, but result in enhanced children's health, development and school readiness.

Although BHF took the lead in the granting process, the award represents a true collaboration and demonstrates a regional desire to support exciting and engaging opportunities for parents and children. Collaborations included Head Starts, School Districts, Department of Human Services, Malheur County ESD, Child Care Resources and Referral, Treasure Valley Relief Nursery, County Libraries and the Health Care Community. Collaborative roles range from housing staff and classes to co-facilitation, Hub Advisory, recruitment and referral, and providing best practices at parent education opportunities.

The mission of Building Healthy Families is to strengthen families through proven family education and support programs and to help create family environments that assure children's school readiness, success, and life skills.

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