

# Health & Wellness: Enhancing Partnerships



# Health & Wellness Context: Community Need

Health of Klamath County residents is poor  
Difficult to entice providers to rural Oregon  
Cultural diversity is minimal



# Health & Wellness Context: Oregon Tech Mission

Oregon Institute of Technology (Oregon Tech), Oregon's public polytechnic university, offers innovative, professionally focused undergraduate and graduate degree programs in the areas of engineering, health, business, technology, and applied arts and sciences.

To foster student and graduate success, the university provides a hands on, project based learning environment and emphasizes innovation, scholarship, and applied research. With a commitment to diversity and leadership development, Oregon Tech offers statewide educational opportunities and technical expertise to meet current and emerging needs of Oregonians as well as other national and international constituents.

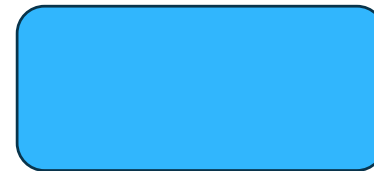
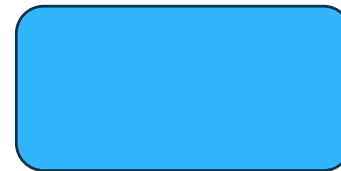
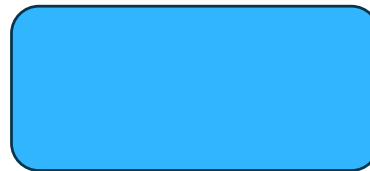
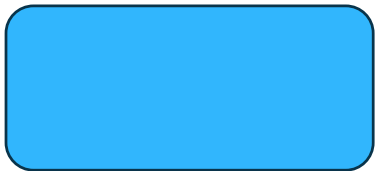
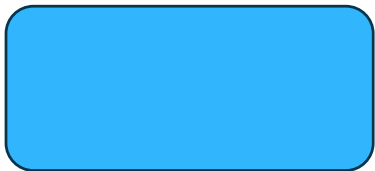
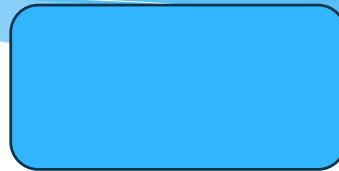
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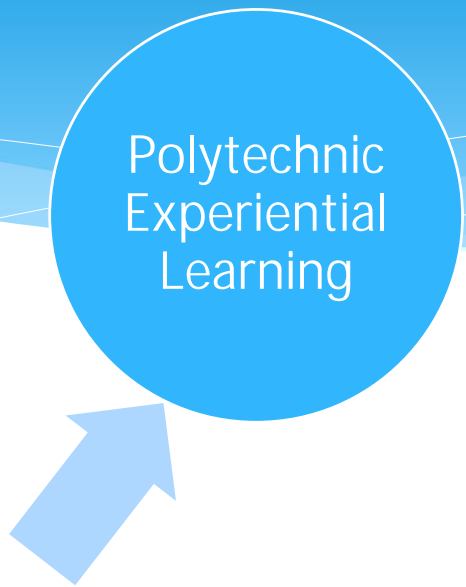


# Health & Wellness Context: Mission & Strategic Plan Compel Us To



# Health & Wellness Initiative : Systemic Approach

Strengthening the partnerships between polytechnic experiential learning and rural healthcare to transform the collective wellbeing of rural Oregon



Polytechnic  
Experiential  
Learning

Phase One:  
Align Existing Components





# Future Ready Oregon Grant



# Future Ready Oregon Grant: Rural Scholars

Priority Population: Allied health students coming to Oregon Tech from rural Oregon  
Goal: Increase percentage of Oregon Tech allied health students intending to work in rural healthcare post graduation

Four components to support the healthcare workforce:

Recruitment – Targeted recruitment to rural counties; High School Pathway program & shadowing; stipends

Education – Enhanced coursework focusing on rural healthcare (Interprofessional Education, IPE)

Training – Increasing local hands on training opportunities (Medical Imaging and PT Clinics, Year Two)

Retention – Mentoring program for additional support

# Rural Scholars Project: Proposed Partnerships

## Recruitment

Cascades East Area Health Education Centers (CE AHEC) coordinating regional high school students to shadow in Oregon Tech clinics and labs  
High school healthcare pathways program with Sky Lakes & Klamath County Schools

## Education

Joint curriculum between OHSU Campus for Rural Health, Physical Therapy program, OHSU Nursing, and Oregon Tech Rural Scholars (IPE)  
Preparing students for AHEC Scholars program and certification

## Training

Sky Lakes and Oregon Tech partnering to create Medical Imaging & Physical Therapy clinics (Year Two)  
Contracted position with Sky Lakes for Director of Clinical Services (precept OHSU Medical residents at ISHC & clinical oversight)

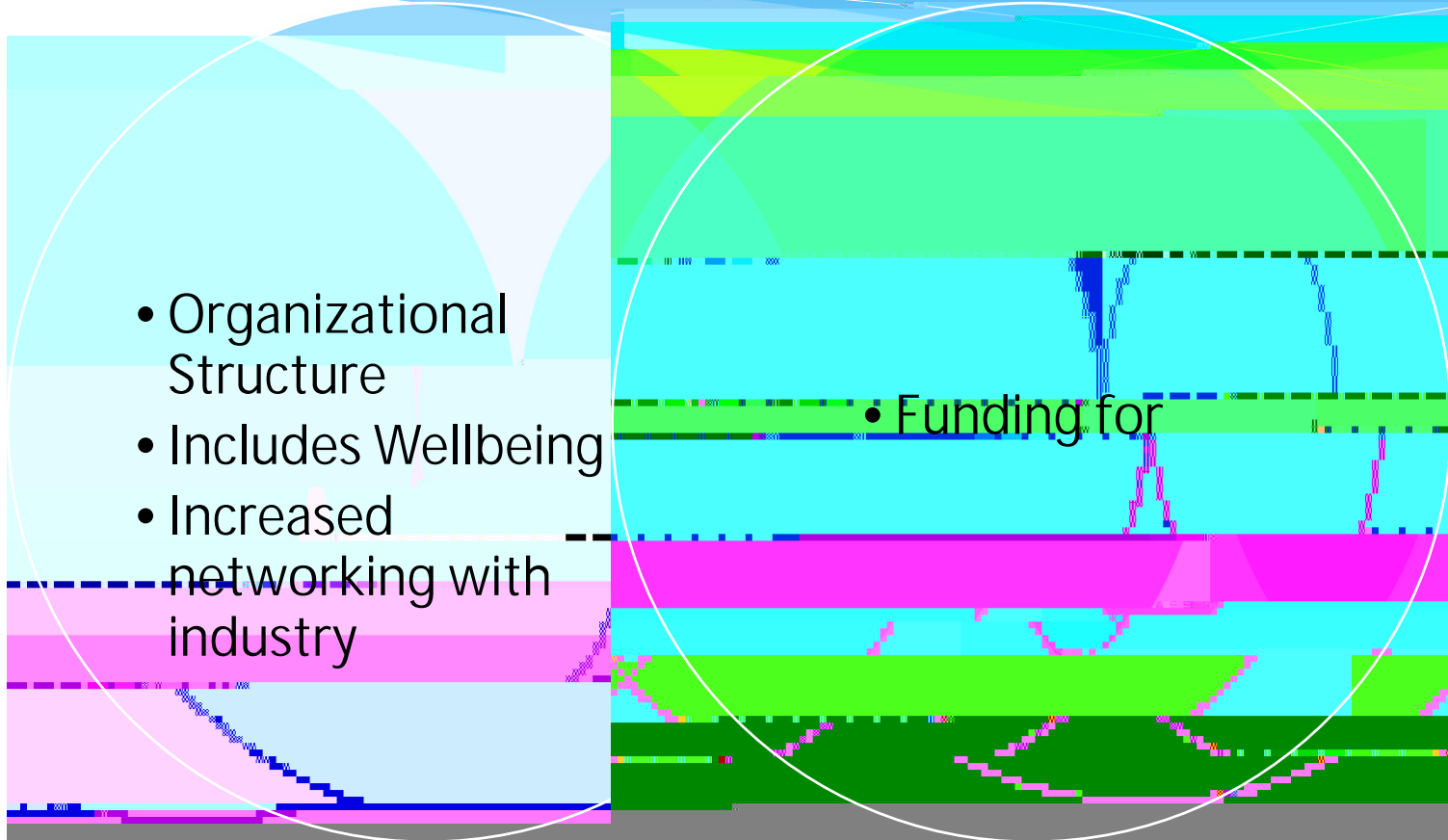
## Retention

Mentoring program engaging AHEC Scholars as Mentors

# Health & Wellness & Future Ready Oregon Grant Overlap

- Organizational Structure
- Includes Wellbeing
- Increased networking with industry

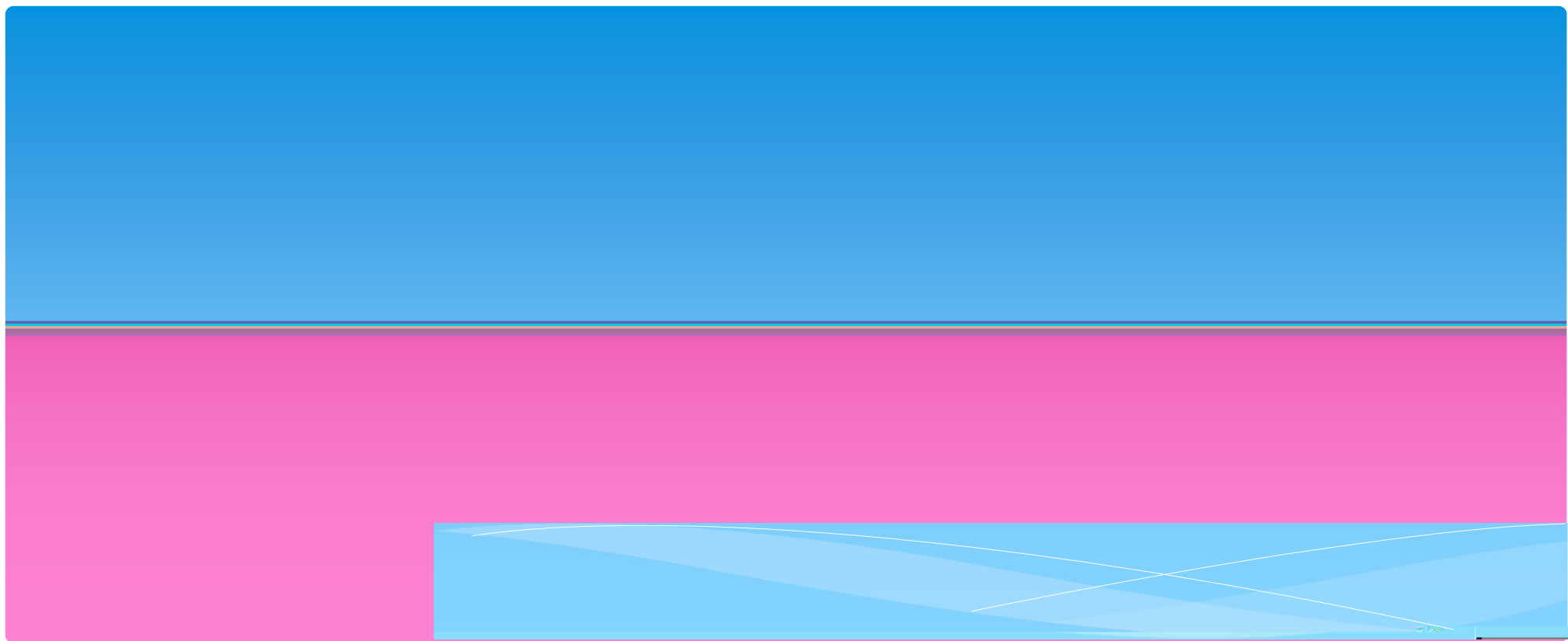
- Funding for



# Health & Wellness: Long term Impact

Local

Thank you for your time!  
Thoughts? Questions?



Oregon Senate Bill 1545 passed in 2022 (known as “Future Ready Oregon”)

\$200 million investment package designed to:

- Support education and employment of underserved and underrepresented Oregonians

- Expand partnerships between communities, educators, and employers

- Connect businesses to a diverse, skilled workforce

Created three Industry Consortia:

- Manufacturing Consortium

- Technology Consortium

- Healthcare Consortium

Each Consortium is responsible for recommending

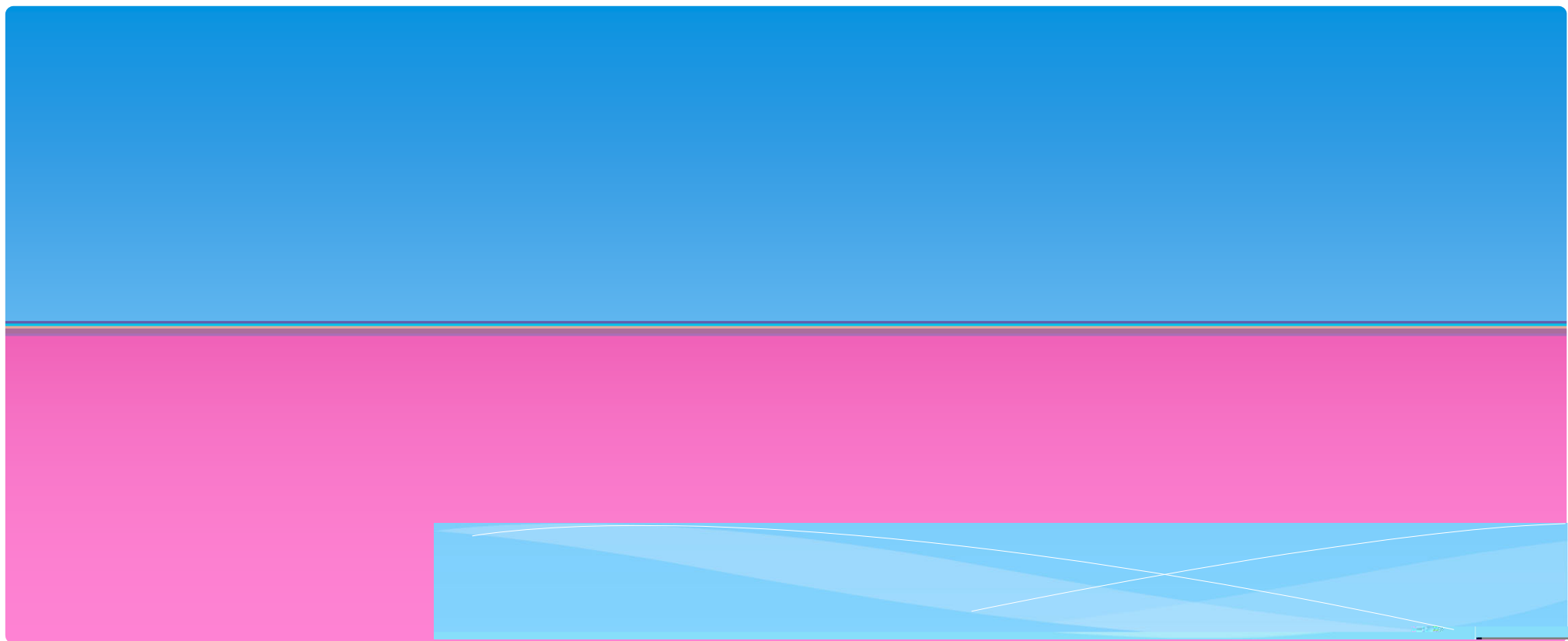


## Request for Applications: Regionally identified workforce needs (\$9 Million available)

Will prioritize applications that:

1. Clearly identify

to



# Local Data to Support Workforce Need

Klamath County routinely ranks in the lower 25% of Oregon counties for Health Outcomes and Health Factors in County Rankings and Roadmaps<sup>1</sup>

Klamath County is “faring worse than the average county in Oregon and worse than the average county in the nation”<sup>2</sup>

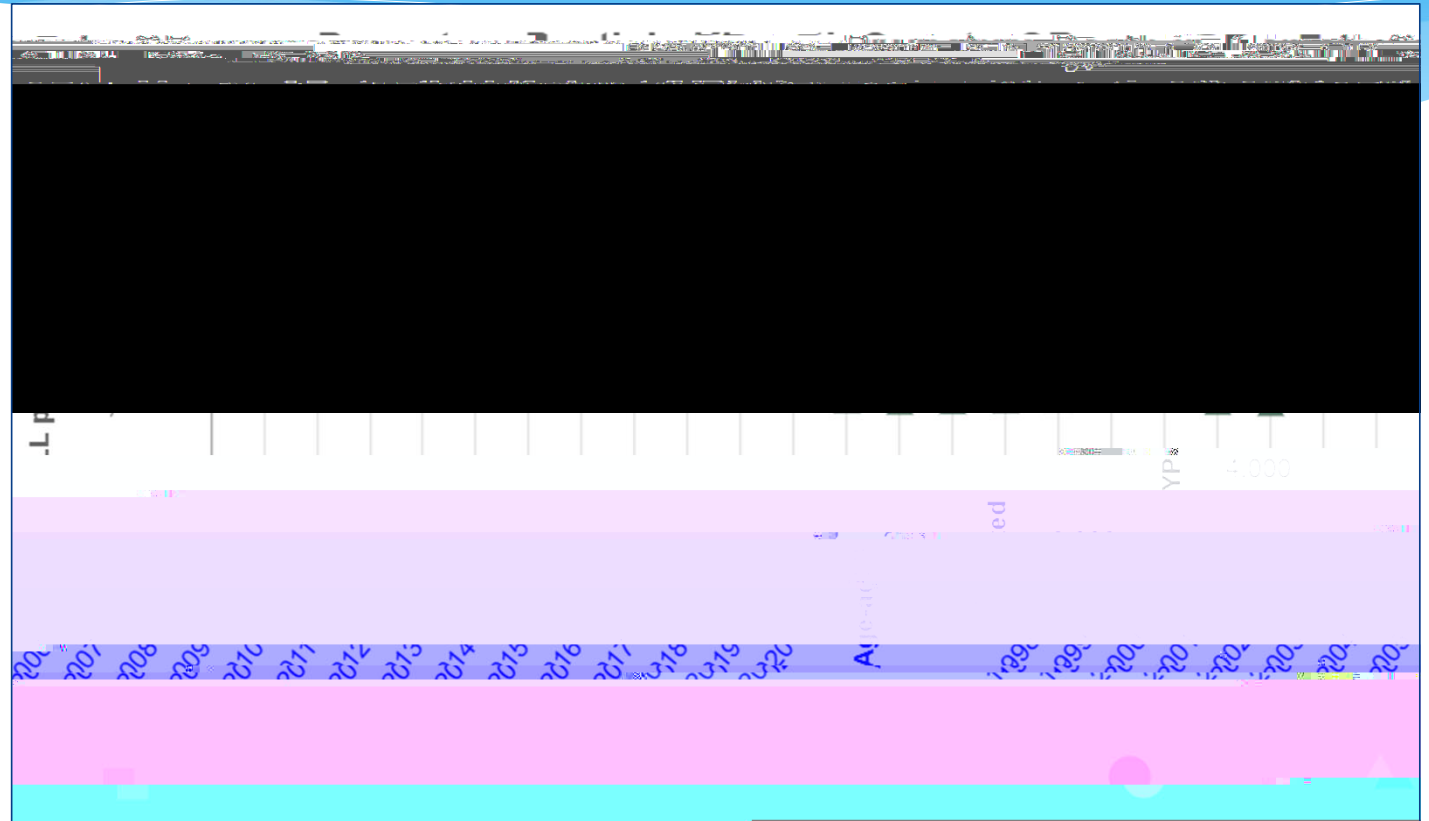
	11,400	6,700	8,000
	18%	14%	14%
	4.1	3.3	3.3
	5.9	5.4	4.8
	9%	7%	8%
	73.9	78.7	77.6
	37%	41%	43%
	33%	40%	46%
	36	19	14

<sup>1</sup>Healthy Klamath. (2022). Klamath County Community Health Assessment, 2021.

<sup>2</sup>University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. (2024). County rankings and roadmaps, Klamath County, Oregon. [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org)

# Local Data to Support Workforce Need (Cont'd)

Klamath County residents demonstrate more years of potential life lost before age 75; a trend that has historically been elevated and is worsening over time<sup>2</sup>



<sup>2</sup>University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. (2024). [CIB&P](#)





The Health Resources and Services Administration<sup>3</sup> has designated Klamath County as follows:

Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) for each of the following disciplines:

Primary Care

Dental Health

Mental Health

Maternity Care Target Area (MCTA)

Medically Underserved Area (MUA) per Governor's Exception

The county exceeds the state ratios of population to provider for primary care, dentistry, and mental

Will build upon currently existing clinics as well as providing the opportunity for new endeavors

Each component will:  
a population  
student  
education & training

