Florence Pourtal-Stevens
Collection of feasibility data on existing obesity prevention programs and built environments in Coos County
Coalition: South Coast
Organization: Coos County Health & Human Services

A significant proportion of Coos County's population is challenged with poor health outcomes associated with being obese, overweight and/or physically inactive. The project we are proposing is embedded within Coos County's Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), which is a county-wide collective impact health improvement initiative led by a committee of multi-sector community partners. One of the five priority goals we identified in the CHIP is to prevent and reduce obesity by developing and implementing healthy eating and active living (HEAL) strategies, which is being worked on by the HEAL subcommittee of the CHIP. Current individual and community initiatives might be contributing to this CHIP goal, but there has been no overall assessment of the resources, programs, systems and environments that exist to tackle these issues. Therefore, the subcommittee's ability to identify effective and non-duplicative community wide health improvement strategies is limited. The purpose of our project is to fill this gap by conducting this much-needed countywide comprehensive assessment. This assessment is necessary to forward progress and will need to be completed by the CHIP committee regardless of financial support. The Oregon Clinical & Translational Research Institute (OCTRI) Community Research Coalition grant is a great opportunity to get technical and financial support to help us improve the quality and outcomes of the assessment, and develop relevant strategies and supportive environments that will promote healthy eating and active living in the county.