



# **NEWS** from **Clatsop County**

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Public Health Staff Fans Out in Community to Connect Families and Local Farmers**

(Astoria, OR) — This summer, Clatsop County Department of Public Health employees distributed more than \$3,000 in nutrition funds at local farmer's markets and fairs.

"When families are able to select and prepare fresh produce, they have an additional source of nutritious food and education. These coupons provide that opportunity at local farmer's markets and participating farm stands," said Norma Hernandez, Women Infants and Children program coordinator.

Through the Farm Direct Nutrition Program, the Clatsop County Department WIC program has distributed \$3,300 in FDNP farmers market coupons to eligible families. An estimated additional \$1,800 will be distributed by the end of September.

In addition to fresh produce outreach, public health employees have signed up new, and re-enrolled past families as well as provided breastfeeding and nutrition education to more than 415 market and fair visitors this summer.

"We are supporting the long-term health of women, infants, children and families when community members participate in WIC. The program results in more full-term pregnancies and healthier births," Hernandez said.

To find out more or to apply for WIC, caregivers of children under five can call 503-338-3637 or visit [ClatsopCounty.gov](http://ClatsopCounty.gov).

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