

PLUMAS RURAL SERVICES

JULY 2025

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

DISABILITY PRIDE - 1

STAFF HIGHLIGHT - 2

FEC & EARLY START - 2

SUMMER CAMPS - 3

*TRANSIT RUNS FOR
HSMF - 3*

PROBATION TRAINING - 3

CALENDAR - 4

JOB OPENINGS - 4

JULY IS DISABILITY PRIDE MONTH

Commemorating the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in 1990, July is nationally observed as Disability Pride Month. This month celebrates people with disabilities and promotes disability culture and visibility.

More than 1 in 4 adults in the United States - over 70 million people - have a disability. This month calls on everyone to promote inclusion and ensure people with disabilities are accepted exactly as they are, without conditions. The Arc's National Council of Self-Advocates selected the 2025 Disability Pride Month theme: We Belong Here, and We're Here to Stay. It delivers a powerful message—people with disabilities are a vital part of every community.

During the month of July, we invite you to follow PRS on social media to hear from members of and advocates for the disability community. Learn more about the programs PRS offers that support:

- early screening and identification ([Plumas STARS](#));
- early intervention and support ([Early Start Family Resource Center](#));
- advocacy and support during the school years ([Family Empowerment Center](#));
- independent living and employment support ([ALIVE](#)); and
- respite care for families providing full-time care ([In-Home Respite Care](#)).

PRS is proud to support individuals with disabilities in a wide variety of ways from birth through every point of their life.



Continued...

"I know what it's like to be a parent and feel stressed or embarrassed to ask for help," Genevieve explains, "so I can relate to parents who are trying to navigate this world they're unfamiliar with." She enjoys being able to provide some reassurance and guidance for parents, finding special meaning in helping groups that are frequently underrepresented or requiring more support from their community. When working with families through the IEP process, for example, she notes that "they feel heard, they feel hopeful, and to be able to witness that feels amazing!"

When she's not working, Genevieve is in a Bachelor's program in Business Administration with Chico State University. She loves to spend time with her girls outside - finding Forest Service roads to explore and cross off the list, finding an abandoned mine, or treasure hunting in the forest.

GENEVIEVE MIERLOT

FAMILY SPECIALIST

In 2009, Genevieve Mierlot, FEC Family Specialist, moved to Quincy, following her family who had moved to Portola. She realized that she loved the kind of community she found in Plumas County for raising kids. Genevieve has raised her 3 daughters in Plumas County and enjoys the way neighbors know one another and greet each other around the community - the many ways connection is built into the fabric of small towns.

Genevieve felt fortunate to stay at home raising her children when they were young, but as her youngest moved into child care she was ready to reenter the workforce. She was thrilled in February of this year to have the opportunity to join PRS and the Family Empowerment Center (FEC) as a Family Specialist, working side by side with Coordinator Cheyanne Tiradeau, someone she had worked with years before in another field.

Genevieve has a soft spot for children and families. "It is so rewarding to build those relationships with families and caregivers, to hear them feel so supported that they can better advocate for their student," she says. She is inspired by the FEC program's dedication to inclusion and efforts to think outside the box to ensure children with disabilities can participate at all levels of daily life in school.

FEC & EARLY START

PRS's Family Empowerment Center ([FEC](#)) provides information, training, support and advocacy to parents and guardians of children and young adults with any disability in Lassen, Modoc, Plumas and Sierra Counties. Families can learn about navigating the process of working with the educational system and get resources to learn more about their child's disability and how to advocate for them.

The Early Start Family Resource Center ([ESFRC](#)) offers services to families of children with disabilities ages 0-3, either stand-alone or coordinated with Far Northern Regional Center, school districts, and other community service providers. This program coordinates parent-to-parent support with outreach, information, and education resources. ESFRC addresses concerns for children transitioning from Early Start to the school district. This program also works to connect parents and families facing similar challenges to promote social interaction, engagement, and support.

Both these services are free to families, and more information can be found on the PRS website.

SUMMER CAMPS

June ushered in two youth summer camps in Greenville. PRS hosted this summer's first Nature Made Kids Camp on Saturday, June 14th, at Wild Plumas. Kids enjoyed activities such as the climbing wall with Paralympian Mark Wellman, zip lining, and playing at a Lego station. 70 Plumas County kids ages 2-14 signed up for the day, enjoying a delicious lunch by Crushabowl as well as snacks.

PRS also held the 3-day Teens in Nature camp at Coppercreek Camp on June 25th-27th for 13 youth in Plumas County ages 13-15 and 2 older teen helpers.

Participants enjoyed the camp's low ropes course, a variety of outdoor games, a lake day complete with paddleboard yoga (pictured),



multiple opportunities for self-exploration with journaling and arts projects, and a party on the last day with live music from the "Toy Store Kids".

These events were made possible by funding from North Valley Community Foundation, Dixie Fire Collaborative and The Almanor Foundation. While the Teens in Nature camp was a one-time camp in June, Nature Made has two more camps on July 12th and August 9th. More information, including links to register, can be found [here](#).

TRANSIT RUNS FOR HSMF

Plumas Transit Systems will be providing transportation support during the High Sierra Music Festival. The Quincy Local route will run on Saturday, July 5th (8:00 AM - 9:00 PM), and Sunday, July 6th (9:00 AM - 6:00 PM), to help festival goers navigate around town safely, alleviate issues with parking, and encourage responsible transportation. Ride the bus this weekend for \$1/trip. The Quincy Local route and schedule can be found [here](#).

PROBATION TRAINING

Over two half days in May and June, PRS's Community Training program delivered a newly designed training for the Plumas County Probation Department: Trauma Informed Care in the Criminal Justice System. This interactive training is specifically designed for those working in the criminal justice system to increase their awareness of the impact of trauma on the population they serve and their families and how this shows up behaviorally. Trauma-informed approaches can yield benefits such as better treatment outcomes, reduced recidivism, increased public safety, and reduced occupational stress.



The training also helps service providers to understand the impact of their own trauma history and their own response triggers, helping them identify how they can engage with others in the most productive ways and avoid adding to the traumatic experiences of those they serve, their colleagues and themselves. Those serving in the criminal justice system are exposed to trauma on a regular basis and are at high risk for burnout and compassion fatigue. This training provides an avenue for them to identify stressors and develop their own self care plan in order to mitigate the impact of trauma exposure.

Chief Probation Officer Keevin Allred appreciated the training for his staff: "In our line of work it is important to recognize trauma in our clients' lives, as well as our own, in order to provide a service and environment that encourages health and growth. This class will help us to do so."

This training is available for others in the criminal justice system seeking both to understand how past trauma can affect themselves and those involved in the justice system and to adapt approaches to minimize further harm. To get more information about this training, how to customize it, and scheduling, contact Community Training Manager Dana Nowling [via email](#) or at 530-283-2735, ext 856.



Friday, July 4

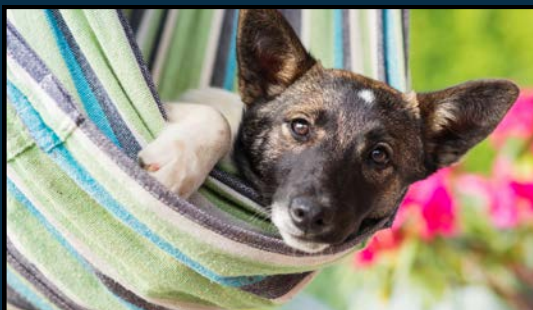
PRS Offices closed for Independence Day

Saturday, July 12, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Nature Made Kids Camp at Wild Plumas
1323 Greenville Wolf Creek Road, Greenville
Pre-registration required by July 3rd
[More Info and Registration Link](#)

Wednesday, July 30, 1:00 - 4:00 PM

safeTALK Suicide Alertness Skills Training
PRS Offices
711 E. Main Street, Quincy
[Registration Required](#)



July is hollyhocks and hammocks, fireworks and vacations, hot and steamy weather, cool and refreshing swims, beach picnics, and vegetables all out of the garden.

- Jean Hersey

JOB OPENINGS

The following information includes a snapshot of available positions at the time of this newsletter's publication. Click on job titles for more information.

TRANSIT DRIVER (On-call)

Provides safe, reliable and courteous service to the general public while operating any Plumas County Transit vehicle. Applications must include a DMV driving record. This position includes various bonuses.

ALIVE GENERAL AIDE (On-call)

ALIVE SUPPORT SPECIALIST (Full-time & part-time)

The ALIVE program provides day services, independent living, job development and job coaching services to individuals with developmental, intellectual and physical disabilities.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCATE (Part-time)

The DVS program provides counseling, legal assistance, emergency shelter, housing and job search assistance, food, clothing and transportation for survivors of domestic abuse and their children. Position works directly with clients and their children at the emergency shelter.

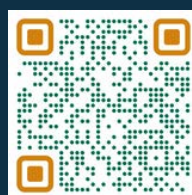
CHILD CARE PAYMENT PROG ASST IV (Full-time)

The Child Care Payment Program helps to reimburse for child care for eligible families with a child care provider of the parent's choice. The position supports the Child Care Payment Program with a variety of clerical supports and may provide outreach and support for Hispanic providers.

Up-to-date information on employment opportunities may be found on [PRS's website here](#).



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530-283-2735

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