PLUMAS RURAL SERVICES



MAY 2025

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PLUMAS TRANSIT SYSTEMS

Plumas Transit Systems provides public transportation throughout Plumas County. Its fixed routes provide service Monday through Friday, excluding major holidays. Routes run from <u>Chester through Greenville to Quincy</u>, between <u>Quincy and Portola</u>, and a <u>local route in Quincy</u>. Plumas County Public Works has secured grant funding in order to provide free fares for Transit riders, which promotes accessibility for all County residents.

Plumas Transit Systems supports individuals with disabilities. Drivers can deviate their routes up to ¾ of a mile within their route schedule for pickup or drop off. Individuals requesting route deviation should call Transit at 530-283-2538 at least 24 hours in advance to schedule the additional time for pickup. All Transit buses are equipped with hydraulic lifts and are designed to accommodate wheelchair users.

For riders traveling out of Plumas County, Transit buses meet the Lassen Rural Bus daily Monday through Friday for riders needing to travel to Susanville. Transit buses also go to Hallelujah Junction 3 times per week to meet Sage Stage for people to get to Reno. (For information on these connections, see here.) On Thursdays, Senior Transportation takes riders to Reno; you don't have to be a senior, though seats are limited, reservations are required, and seniors have priority. Transit takes reservations throughout the week and provides rider names to Senior Transportation for pickup at the Veterans Halls in both Quincy and Portola.

If you haven't yet taken advantage of Plumas Transit Systems, we recommend you give it a try - get more information <u>here</u> or by calling 530-283-2538.



KELLY MCELWAIN

TRANSIT COORDINATOR

Kelly McElwain, Transit Coordinator, grew up in Plumas County and has lived here most of her life. When she married she stayed to raise her family as well. She likes her mountains and hills and the wide variety of things to do here.

Kelly worked for Alliance for Workforce Development (AFWD) as a part-time file clerk when AFWD operated Plumas Transit Systems. Looking for full-time work, she transitioned to working for Plumas Transit when the opportunity arose. In 2009, PRS began operating Plumas Transit Systems for the County, and Kelly, along with many other staff, moved with the program. Starting as the Transit Program Assistant, she was promoted to Dispatcher, then Assistant Coordinator and eventually became the Coordinator in 2017.

"Transit is a vital resource in the community." Kelly says of the program. "Many people who don't use it routinely don't understand how critical it is to our community infrastructure. I like knowing we're providing a good service. So many people really need it, and they thank us for it every day, especially now that riding Transit is free, making it accessible for everyone in our community." Kelly also likes that she's not doing the same thing every day; there's always something coming up to present a different task or new challenge. While she oversees the

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program, Kelly also handles dispatching, driving, and other staff coverage when the program needs it.

In her free time, Kelly likes to bowl, spend time outside, hike, listen to good music (varying from 70s and 80s rock to country to bluegrass), and watch good movies - action films and mysteries keep her on her toes.

SPAGHETTI FUNDRAISER

PRS invites you to support the agency and all the services it provides by attending a Spaghetti Fundraiser. On Friday, May 30th, from 4:00 - 7:00 PM, PRS will hold an evening with a spaghetti dinner including beer and wine, a raffle and a silent auction at the Graeagle Fire Hall (7260 CA-89 in Graeagle).

The delicious dinner will be provided by Gumbas II Go - take-away meals will also be offered. Tickets are \$30/adult, \$15/children (kids 3 & under eat free), and can be purchased at Gumbas II Go (250 Bonta Street in Blairsden), PRS's main offices (711 E. Main Street in Quincy), or online here.

We would love to see you and your family and friends there!



PRS RESOURCE FAIR

Plumas Rural Services hosted a Resource Fair on April 8th in the Tulsa Scott Pavilion at the Plumas-Sierra County Fairgrounds in Quincy. The event was designed to help local residents discover the resources PRS has available in their community and connect with staff members. The evening was a success, with dozens of individuals and families in attendance.

All PRS services and programs were represented at the event. The public was invited to come and learn about the wide variety of services PRS provides to families and individuals of all ages:

- Child Care Payment Program
- Child Care Resource & Referral
- Plumas STARS, promoting early learning and developmental screening
- Women, Infants and Children, providing nutrition and breastfeeding support for young families
- Family Empowerment Center, supporting families of children with disabilities
- Early Start Family Resource Center, providing options for families of children ages 0 – 3 with disabilities
- ALIVE, supporting adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- In-Home Respite Care
- Plumas Transit Systems
- Domestic Violence Services and Shelter
- Trauma Recovery and Education
- Mindful Living Services/Mindful Parenting
- Grief Recovery
- Visions, a Quincy-based youth development program
- Plumas Information and Referral
- Community Training and Development, offering mental health trainings and business/personal development



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Light refreshments were served, and attendees were invited to enter to win prizes from a drawing, including baskets with self-care items and goodies for children. The child-friendly event included snack bags and stickers just for kids, as well as swag bags for attendees to fill with items from each table.

PRS aims to host Resource Fairs in other communities in the coming months as well. Up-to-date information about these opportunities and PRS services, including how to access them, can be found online here or by calling 530-283-2735.



MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

May is Mental Health Awareness Month nationally. Mental health is essential for overall well-being at every stage of life. Regardless of age, background, or experience, prioritizing mental health strengthens individuals, families, and communities. The month focuses on different weekly themes: Supporting Older Adults' Mental Health; Building Strong Foundations for Children's Mental Health; Hope and Support for Serious Mental Illness and Serious Emotional Disturbance; The Connection Between Mental and Physical Health; and The Power of Community and Connection in Mental Health.

PRS will be posting information about these themes all month on its social media channels. If you don't already, we encourage you to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and X. You can also learn more about our many free mental health trainings here and access our video library of Connect the Dots training webinars on mental health and wellness.

JOB OPENINGS

PRS is hiring! The following information includes a snapshot of available positions at the time of this newsletter's publication. Click on job titles for more information including job requirements and hours.

RESPITE CARE PROVIDER \$17.49-\$23.26/hr
RESPITE PROVIDER II \$20.53-\$25.53/hr
The Respite program provides respite care for caregivers of the elderly and people with physical and/or developmental disabilities. These positions provide in-home care and developmentally and age-appropriate activities for clients. May also provide transportation. Seeking Provider for Quincy & Portola and Provider II for Susanville & Modoc County.

TRANSIT DRIVER \$18.00/hr during training. \$20.00/hr after getting Class B License On-call position available. 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 a \$500 hiring bonus, another \$500 after obtaining the appropriate license, and another \$1,000 after 1 year of employment.

ALIVE GENERAL AIDE \$17.49 - \$23.44/hr

ALIVE SUPPORT SPECIALIST I \$19.32-\$25.71/hr

1 on-call General Aide, 1 part-time Support Specialist, and 1 full-time Support Specialist position open.

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

Up-to-date information on employment opportunities may be found on <u>PRS's website here</u>.

Each applicant must submit an application, cover letter and resume. Applications and instructions for submitting can be found at the link above, by visiting PRS' offices at 711 E. Main Street in Quincy, or by calling 530-283-2735, ext 873.

Apply Now

WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS

May is national Wildfire Awareness Month. The Plumas County Fire Safe Council and Plumas Children's Council are teaming up to host the Wildfire Preparedness & Children's Fair on Saturday, May 17th, from 10AM - 2PM at the Plumas-Sierra County Fairgrounds. PRS will be onsite at this free, family-friendly event which will feature free food, fun activities like a Go-bag Challenge, prizes, and plenty of community resources for family and wildfire preparation needs.

Wildfire Community Preparedness Day is a campaign that encourages people and organizations everywhere to come together on a single day to take action to raise awareness and reduce wildfire risks. It is held annually on the first Saturday in May, which is May 3rd this year. For 2025, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is highlighting the value and impact that preparing the FIRST FIVE FEET immediately around the perimeter of the home (the immediate zone or 'Zone Zero') can have on reducing the risk of home ignition. With this focus in mind, NFPA is encouraging folks to take on projects that address Zone Zero, such as:

- clearing dead leaves, debris and pine needles from roofs and gutters;
- installing ½-inch metal mesh screening in eaves and exterior vents;
- moving flammable material (mulch, flammable plants, leaves/needles, firewood piles, etc.) away from exterior walls; and
- removing anything flammable stored under decks or porches.

For more information about how to be prepared for wildfire, download the Listos California Disaster Ready Guide in <u>English</u> or in <u>Spanish</u>. Wildfire preparedness resources and information, including local assistance and programs to support wildfire prevention activities, can also be found at the <u>Plumas County Fire Safe Council</u>, the <u>Lassen Fire Safe Council</u>. <u>Modoc Fire Safe Council</u>, and <u>Fire Safe Sierra County</u>.



Tuesday, May 6, 6:00 - 8:00PM

<u>Sensory Workshop</u> with Ashlee Wraa FRC Child Development Center 570 Golden Eagle Avenue, Quincy Pre-registration required: 530-283-4453, ext 824

Friday, May 9

Child Care Provider Appreciation Day

Wednesday, May 14, 11:00AM - 12:00PM

IEP Meeting Preparation & Organization Training Virtual Zoom Meeting <u>Register here</u>

Wednesday, May 14, 2:00 - 3:00PM

What is a Section 504 Plan? Training Virtual Zoom Meeting <u>Register here</u>

Wednesday, May 14, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Provider Cafe, a free virtual event for those who care for or teach children

<u>Register via email</u> or 530-283-4453 ext 815

Saturday, May 17, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Youth Mental Health First Aid Training Alturas, CA (Location provided after registration) <u>More information and registration</u> Continued...

Saturday, May 17, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Wildfire Preparedness & Children's Fair Plumas-Sierra County Fairgrounds, Quincy

Monday, May 26

PRS Offices closed in observance of Memorial Day

Friday, May 30, 4:00 - 7:00PM

PRS Spaghetti Fundraiser Graeagle Fire Hall, 7260 CA-89, Graeagle Purchase tickets here



My heart is light with May!
The sky is soft; the coming birds
Are silent on their way.

- Mary Mapes Dodge



DONATE TODAY:



530-283-2735

www.PlumasRuralServices.org
Facebook: @prs.social

X (formerly Twitter): @PRS_Inc
Instagram: @plumasruralservices_inc