

It's more than science.
It's about outreach and engagement.

The Hallie E. Ford Center builds relationships among people and organizations in our community and state.

AFFILIATED PROGRAMS IN THE COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

- Bates Child Development Laboratory
- Extension 4-H Youth Development Program
- Extension Family and Community Health
- IMPACT
- KidSpirit

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

Our undergraduate and graduate students conduct research, participate in internships, volunteer in the college's well-known programs for kids, and work on degrees that will prepare them for careers related to children and families.



“It's not what you have, but what you give to your family, your community and your country.”

- Hallie E. Ford, 1905-2007

For more information:

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College of Public Health
and Human Sciences

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Hallie E. Ford Center for Healthy Children and Families



“We have a real passion for children and families.”

*- Rick Settersten
Hallie E. Ford Center Endowed Director*

At the Hallie E. Ford Center, we appreciate that children are our future — and we're devoting our efforts to making sure that future is a bright and healthy one.

We understand that the early years of life are of fundamental importance for optimizing health and human development, and for ensuring a successful launch into adult life.

That's why our mission is to promote the development and well-being of children and families by generating, translating and sharing research-based knowledge.

The Hallie E. Ford Center is a lively hub where scholars from multiple disciplines work together on research that not only advances science but also has far-reaching consequences for Oregon and beyond.



Oregon State
UNIVERSITY



Photo by Karl Maasdam

It's been said that the most important work we will ever do is within the walls of our homes.

The Hallie E. Ford Center is our scientific home. And it's our mission to do our most important scientific work through this center.

Made possible by the visionary gift of late Oregon philanthropist Hallie Ford, the three-story, 19,000 square-foot building opened in September 2011.

The center provides synergy for collaboration and focused strategic research in our core areas and is home to funded research and outreach projects, as well as grant-writing and publishing workshops, writing groups, colloquia and public events related to research, policy and practice.



A Home for Knowledge and Application

Our four core areas of research reflect our greatest strengths and some of the most pressing topics for science, policy and practice in the years from birth to young adulthood.



Healthy Eating and Active Living

- Determinants of healthy lifestyles
- Physical activity promotion
- Healthy eating promotion

Children are increasingly at risk for health problems such as heart disease, diabetes, cancer and asthma. We work to understand the behavioral and environmental factors that influence obesity and what families, schools and government programs do to promote healthy lifestyles.



Early Childhood

- Self-regulation, school readiness and child development
- Quality standards for child care
- Effects of environmental health on child development

The early years set the foundation for development throughout life. Our researchers study children's self-control and school readiness, which are early signs of future success. They also examine how families, educational settings and communities play critical roles in ensuring positive early development.

Parenting and Family Life

- Parenting education systems
- Best practices for parenting and family life
- Relationships and support across generations



Families are central to raising healthy children, and communities are central to supporting them. That's why we're evaluating what strategies work best for parents and communities in enhancing children's development.

Youth and Young Adults

- Positive youth and character development
- Healthy sexual development
- Successful transition to adulthood



Adolescence offers opportunities for positive development. Because the experiences of youth are crucial in shaping their paths into adulthood, we strive to understand the behaviors and settings that promote their development, protect them from risk and promote their resilience.

The center generates, translates and shares research-based knowledge to improve the health and well-being of children and families.