

# Curry CAC meeting: September 25, 2025

## Attendance

### CAC Members

Alicia Benavidez	Polo Pedraza	Brett Baily	Sage Halvorson
Connie Hunter	Corinne Pots	Tudy Simpson	Matt Vorderstrasse
Jill TeVelde			

### Other Attendees

Sam Baugh	Siemone Moll	Liz Hill	Becky Yaeger
Sarah Swanson	Danita Tracey Carter	Brandy Hille	
Kera Hood	Lisa Frischkorn	Beth Dickinson	

- Ice Breaker: What is your favorite thing about the fall season?
- Welcome new CAC Members!
- Approval of Minutes and Agenda (February - August)
  - Quorum available to vote; minutes & agenda approved
- CHIP Committee
  - We would like to gather a CHIP committee for our recent grant applications. The following people are interested: Alicia Benavidez, Jill TeVelde, Corinne Potts
- CAC Member updates
  - Follow Up: Advanced Health is taking initiatives to give members announcements on upcoming events, updates, etc. Follow Advanced Health Facebook page for updates.
  - Sam Baugh asked members what they would like to hear and address in the CAC Meeting. CAC Members & guests expressed interest in cancer topics, mental health, drug use for teens, anger management, autism awareness, and updates regarding youth services.
- Member 1
  - **Feedback 1: Need access to mental health services**

- Kera: Coos and Curry Community Hub, Mental Health Hub. Waterfall does do that to provide a service where you can find a provider. For more information, please refer this website: <https://cooscurryhub.com/>
- Member 2
  - **Feedback 1:** Mentioned that there's a lot of doctors in Medford and Grants Pass that people can't use because it's outside of the network and it gets really hard. Would like to suggest Advanced Health partnering with other providers outside of Curry County to provide more services.
  - **Feedback 2: Experience of Poor Dental Care, specific to Advanced Dental**
    - **Lisa:** If you have a complaint, please call Advanced Health Customer Service 541-269-7400; customer service records complaints and addresses feedback accordingly. Feedback is highly encouraged; the more feedback on a specific topic, the higher the priority of that issue becomes.
- OHA Update presented by Siemone Moll on behalf of Bevin Ankrom
  - \*Refer to slides shared via email for more details\*
  - **OHA Oregon, Washington, California and Hawaii form Western Health Alliance**
    - These states share a commitment to ensure that public health recommendations are guided by safety, efficacy, transparency, access, and trust. The Alliance will help safeguard scientific expertise by ensuring that public health policies in California, Oregon, and Washington are informed by trusted scientists, clinicians, and other public health leaders.
  - **Accessing COVID Vaccines in Oregon Today**
    - The Oregon Board of Pharmacy has not made any changes to pharmacists' authority to administer the COVID-19 vaccine in Oregon.
    - The FDA approved the 2025-2026 COVID-19 vaccine formulation, an update to the 2024-2025 formulation, for use on August 27th. The FDA's approval of the 2025-2026 COVID-19 vaccine formulations was narrower than in previous years, limiting use to certain age groups, and those with high-risk medical conditions.
    - The federal government has not adopted a protocol for this new formulation but may do so during the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) meeting on September 18-19th.
- **Canning Season!**
  - During peak canning season (July to October), you can call Oregon State University's (OSU) free [food preservation helpline](#) to get advice for the best and safest way to can your fruits and vegetables.
- **Community Updates**
  - **Sarah Swanson**

- **Update: Opportunities for Cancer Conversations**
    - Event 1: Next Tuesday in Elkton in the evening at the Elkton Community Education Center
    - Event 2: Location TBA but Reedsport in October as part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.
    - Event 3: In celebration of their arrival of 3D Mammo at Lower Umpqua Hospital, we'll be doing a community cancer conversation on breast cancer education and support.
    - Free for the community to attend!
    - [swansosa@ohsu.edu](mailto:swansosa@ohsu.edu) - please send an email to begin planning events regarding cancer awareness! Events can be held virtually if that is more accessible for folks!
  - Corinne Potts
    - Early Learning Hub
      - Virtual Zoom event for parents and providers to attend.
      - This event is a collaborative effort between a couple of different early learning providers to provide socialization and opportunities for families and parenting support
    - Training called What Helps People Change and Grow Translating Motivational Interviewing Theory into Practice.
      - Two-day in-person opportunity. It will be in Coos Bay at the History Museum. It will be free to folks. Priority will be given to those who work in early childhood, parenting, education, family.
      - October 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>
  - Matt Vorderstrasse
    - Ellensburg Housing is still continuing to move forward; working with OHCS on financial eligibility so that we can continue moving forward to get that project actually started.
    - The Ellensburg site will provide 20 affordable housing units, prioritizing seniors coming out of homeless and then also having one unit that would be set aside for a DV survivor household. We're also deploying some additional support to Brookings core response to help out with Courage Lane Cottages.
    - Next Monday, there will be an announcement with OHCS for the Spark Summit; Shelter to provide affordable housing to affordable homeownership so that we can create a system that has upward mobility in our community again.
    - Matt is looking for a site in Brookings, so if anybody has land or a lead on land, please talk to me. I would love to figure out a way to get down there and build units in Brookings too.
  - Sam Baugh
    - **Curry County Health & Wellness Expo + Suicide Awareness Walk** – Sept. 27 at Port of Brookings Harbor.
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## **Final Announcements**

- **Upcoming Meeting**
  - **Next CAC Meeting: October 23**
  - NO OHA Update next month
- **Meeting Adjourned at 1:12pm**