



Community Advisory Council (CAC) Meeting
minutes

September 4, 2025, 5:30pm

Agenda Item
<p>Attendance:</p> <p>Voting CAC members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Katie Gonzalez, Jeanifer Imbruglia, Shannon Hunter, Coreen Lee, Holly Boardman (proxy for Katrinka McReynolds), Charolette Carver (proxy for Sara Stephens), Kayce McGilvery (proxy for Stephanie Brouse), Matthew Lehman, Ariel Hicks, Jess Howell. <p>Staff and Guests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sam Baugh, Bevin Ankrom, Anna Marie Slate, Liz Hill, Scott Cooper, Helen Goche, Kera Hood, Lisa Frischkorn, Siemone Moll, Matt Vorderstrasse,
<p>Council Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roll call• August 2025 minutes – Motion TO accept Matthew L, 2nd Jeanifer I. – All in favor• Approve Agenda – Motion to accept Jeanifer I. 2nd Matthew L. – All in favor.• Suggestion Box https://forms.office.com/r/B9NTwd9Mte - no new items in the suggestion box.
<p>Open Floor/feedback loop voting CAC Representatives-</p> <p>Consumer Representatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Consumer member discussed frustration with a couple of Hospital Visits earlier in the year. The Member had went to the ER to get help with an infection was told they did not have an infection and it was not an emergency and should not have been there.. They were seen 3-4 times during the summer for the same infection that was never treated properly. Member was then held for Psych when they continued to push for treatment. She did file a complaint. With the original complaint with Advanced Health there was a miscommunication and there needed to be another complaint filed 30 days later. <p>-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Partner Representatives
<p>2025 CHIP grant- Chip grants are being reviewed – there have been some eliminated because they do not meet the criteria. The Award team will meet in the coming weeks.</p>
<p>Food Smart- Lisa gave an update on the Food Smart program.</p>
<p>Provider portal Feedback – Advanced health is looking for feedback on the Provider look up tool on the website. Please use this link and come with feed back in October. https://advancedhealth.com/find-a-provider/</p>
<p>OHA update – Oregon, Washington, and California form Western Health Alliance</p>

Oregon Governor Tina Kotek joins governors in California and Washington to help ensure the public has access and credible information for confidence in vaccine safety and efficacy.

Oregon Governor Tina Kotek, California Governor Gavin Newsom, and Washington Governor Bob Ferguson announced they will launch a new West Coast Health Alliance to ensure residents remain protected by science, not politics. The alliance represents a unified regional response to the Trump Administration's destruction of the U.S. CDC's credibility and scientific integrity.

Joint statement from Governors Newsom, Kotek, and Ferguson: "President Donald Trump's mass firing of CDC doctors and scientists — and his blatant politicization of the agency — is a direct assault on the health and safety of the American people. The CDC has become a political tool that increasingly peddles ideology instead of science, ideology that will lead to severe health consequences. California, Oregon, and Washington will not allow the people of our states to be put at risk."

Sejal Hathi, MD, MBA, Director, Oregon Health Authority said: "Our communities deserve clear and transparent communication about vaccines — communication grounded in science, not ideology. Vaccines are among the most powerful tools in modern medicine; they have indisputably saved millions of lives. But when guidance about their use becomes inconsistent or politicized, it undermines public trust at precisely the moment we need it most. That is why Oregon is committed, alongside California and Washington, to leading with science and delivering evidence-based recommendations that protect health, save lives, and restore confidence in our public health system."

Details about this new Alliance:

Our three states share a commitment to ensuring 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. Through this partnership, the three states will start coordinating health guidelines by aligning immunization recommendations informed by respected national medical organizations. This will allow residents to receive consistent, science-based recommendations they can rely on — regardless of shifting federal actions.

In the coming weeks, the Alliance will finalize shared principles to strengthen public confidence in vaccines and in public health. While each state will independently pursue strategies shaped by their unique laws, geographies, histories, and peoples, these shared principles will form the foundations of the Alliance. Importantly, the three states affirm and respect Tribal sovereignty, recognizing that Tribes maintain their sovereign authority over vaccine services.

CDC's dismantling:

Since its founding, the CDC has been central to protecting Americans from disease. But recent leadership changes, reduced transparency, and the sidelining of long-trusted advisory bodies have impaired the agency's capacity to prepare the nation for respiratory virus season and other public health challenges. In a vacuum of clear, evidence-based vaccine guidance, manufacturers lack reliable information to plan production, health care providers struggle to provide consistent plans of care, and families face uncertainty about access and coverage.

In June, California, Oregon, and Washington condemned Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s removal of all 17 members of the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. Today, we reaffirm our commitment to science-driven decision-making. We will continue to provide clear, evidence-based guidance to people living in our states, look to scientific experts in trusted medical professional organizations for recommendations, and work with public health leaders across the country to ensure all Americans are protected. The absence of consistent, science-based federal leadership poses a direct threat to our nation's health security. To protect the health of our communities, the West Coast Health Alliance will continue to ensure that our public health strategies are based on best available science.

Federal Response – Forward Together Oregon Zoom Partner Webinars

Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) and Oregon Health Authority (OHA) warmly invite you to attend two hour-long webinars that will provide an opportunity to connect with us and receive updates about federal changes impacting Oregon.

These webinars are intended for provider, contracted, community and faith-based partners.

Date and time:

Tuesday, September 30th, 10:00 am

[REGISTER HERE:](#)

https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_QRVxhTy1RzWRH3r48gz9Dw#/registration

What to expect:

All participant microphones will be muted.

There will be an option to submit written questions.

This webinar will not be recorded.

Materials shared during the webinar will be e-mailed to all registrants. You can also find information on the [ODHS web page](#) and the [OHA web page](#). Questions? Email feedback@odhsoha.oregon.gov.

Spanish language and ASL Interpretation along with Real-time captioning (CART) will be available.

Oregon Health Plan 1115 Medicaid Waiver Evaluation – 2026 Survey

Talking Points Intended audience: CCO Community Advisory Council members, CCO call centers, other CCO staff, and community partners

What is the waiver evaluation?

- CMS requires all waivers to be evaluated by independent parties. Evaluation plans for the current waiver were developed last year and approved by CMS in December 2024.
- The evaluation will focus on elements of the Medicaid program that are new in the current waiver, including: Health Related Social Needs (HRSN) benefits; the Young Adults with Special Health Care Needs (YSCHN) program, continuous eligibility for children from birth to age six and for two years for adults; and the temporary extension of Medicaid following the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- The evaluation will examine roll-out and implementation of those elements, and explore the impacts on member experience, continuity of coverage, access and use of care, health differences among specific populations, and costs and sustainability. The evaluation is critical to understanding what is working well in the waiver and what can be improved.

OHA has selected the Portland-based Center for Outcomes Research & Education (CORE) to lead the evaluation, in collaboration with Oregon Health & Science University's Center for Health Systems Effectiveness (CHSE). What should people involved with or participating in waiver programs expect from the evaluation?

CORE and CHSE will be contacting OHP members and key entities (CCOs, HRSN service providers, state staff, and others) to invite them to participate in the evaluation starting summer 2025. Outreach may happen by phone, email, text, or mail.

OHP members may receive an invitation to participate in a virtual or phone interview with CORE or CHSE staff. Starting in 2026, OHP members who have received HRSN benefits may receive an invitation to participate in an online survey.

Members will be compensated for their participation.

CCO staff and HRSN service providers may receive invitations for virtual or phone interviews and/or participation in online discussion boards.

- **Participation is voluntary**, but the evaluation plays an important role in understanding what's working well in the waiver and what can be improved.

**If you or anyone in your community has questions, please email
OR1115WaiverEval@providence.or**

Comment Now to Shape Oregon's Rural Health Transformation Program

While the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) awaits guidance from the federal government, the agency is proactively seeking input to inform the state's strategic approach to applying for and implementing the Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) in Oregon.

OHA welcomes public comment from any interested parties and is specifically interested in comments from people who live in rural areas and access health care services, as well as from health care providers and health systems. Those who would like to provide input are encouraged to fill out OHA's survey, which is available through Sept. 5

at <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HPA/HP/Pages/rural-health-transformation.aspx>.

You can also stay up-to-date on the RHTP at the Oregon Office of Rural Health's webpage, available here: <https://www.ohsu.edu/oregon-office-of-rural-health/rural-health-transformation-program>

It's canning season! OSU helpline answers questions about proper and safe food preservation

Canning is a great hobby... it's not only fun and delicious, but also economical. It must be done safely, however, to prevent foodborne illnesses. (Read: [Home Canning and Botulism](#))

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. The helpline is staffed by certified [Master Food Preserver](#) volunteers across Oregon who can provide a wide range of information, including how to safely prepare canned salsa, fruits and seafood, safe storage temperatures, and where to get your pressure canner gauge checked. In 2024, the volunteers fielded 723 calls.

Proper canning will remove oxygen, destroy enzymes, and prevent the growth of undesirable bacteria, yeasts, and molds. The food will retain nutrients and flavor and last much longer. However, canning foods incorrectly can create the perfect environment for harmful bacteria to grow and cause [botulism](#)—a rare but potentially deadly illness.

Safe canning tips include:

- Make sure to use the right equipment for the kind of foods you are canning, including the right-sized pressure canner. Low-acid foods such as corn, green beans, mushrooms, potatoes, and most other vegetables must be canned under pressure to be safe. Learn more about pressure canners [here](#).
- After canning, check that your cans are properly sealed.
- Label and date your jars. Home-canned food should be thrown out after a year.
- Keep jars in a clean, cool, dark, dry place between 50 and 70°F.
- Stack jars no more than two high so you don't damage the seals.
- Once a jar is opened, must be refrigerated.

Another great source for food preservation information is the [National Center for Home Food Preservation](#) at the University of Georgia.

OSU's Food Safety and Preservation helpline takes calls Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., until October 10. Call **800-354-7319**, and feel free to leave a message after hours. Learn more from OSU Extension Service's Home Food Preservation program [here](#), including details about [food preservation events](#) in your area.

ORH Launches Interactive Map of Oregon Hospitals' Community Health Needs Assessments

The Oregon Office of Rural Health (ORH) is excited to announce the launch of the new [Community Health Needs Assessment \(CHNA\) Mapping + Analysis Project](#) - an interactive map highlighting topics identified in Oregon hospitals' most recent CHNAs.

Explore the interactive CHNA map [here](#).
Learn more about the project [here](#).

Every nonprofit hospital in Oregon—including all 25 Critical Access Hospitals—conducts a CHNA at least once every three years to identify and address the most pressing health needs in their communities. ORH analyzed each hospital's most recent CHNA to uncover trends and themes across the state.

The map organizes findings into five key categories:

1. Type of health care that is difficult to access;
2. Common barriers to care and gaps in service;
3. Needs of each community;
4. Community and organizational strengths; and
5. Hospital priorities.

Workgroup: Families leading children's behavioral health policy systems

This group provides feedback for the work of the Child and Family Behavioral Health Unit and our strategic plan, or what we have previously been calling our [Roadmap](#).

- Date: Second Tuesday of each month, Noon to 1 p.m. Pacific Time
- Next meeting: September 9, 2025

If you're part of a family group, we welcome your input. It's crucial to center the voices of those who have been historically marginalized and those experiencing developmental disabilities. [If you are a family member and would like to be involved, please email Hilary Harrison for the link and more details.](#)

Open Floor – Public comment

Adjourn

Thursday, October 2, 2025, 12 pm

