

Coos County Community Advisory Council (CAC) Meeting Notes

Date: November 6, 2025

Time: 12:00 PM

Facilitator: Katie Gonzalez

1. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

Meeting called to order by Katie Gonzalez

Attendance:

CAC members:

Katie Goonzalez, Jeanifer Imbruglia, Coreen Lee, Holly Boardman, Trudy Simpson, Charlotte Carver, Stephanie Brouse, Kristy Wixon, Matthew Lehman, Amber Nichole Majeski, Ariel Hicks, Anna Marie Slate, Helen Goche

Advanced Health Staff:

Sam Baugh, Liz Hill, Lisa Castle, Kera Hood, Ashley Matsui, Anna Warner, Lisa Frischkorn, Naomi Brazille,

Guests:

Avery Horton, Bevin Ankrom, Alice Gates, Sarah Swanson, Matthew Vorderstrasse, Mike Hanks, Alexandra Campbell, Kelli Dion,

Motion: Approve previous meeting minutes.

Moved by: Matthew Lehman

Seconded by: Jeanifer Imbruglia

Motion passed unanimously.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Approve meeting agenda.

Moved by: Anne Marie

Seconded by: Matthew Lehman

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Open Floor / Consumer Representative Feedback

Flea Infestation Concern

A CAC Member raised concern about a widespread flea infestation in the Coquille area. Discussion around potential public health implications and possible resources or supports available through HRSN (Health-Related Social Needs) or housing benefits. Sam will look into whether any health-related resources could address community pest infestations.

Dental Care Access

A member shared concerns about long wait times (June) for dental appointments for an individual with a painful tooth. Sam recommended referring members to Customer Service for assistance in finding earlier appointments when possible.

Bay City Brokerage / Focus Card

A member shared positive experiences with Bay City Brokerage but raised concerns about new fees associated with the Focus Card. The member noted the closure of local bank branches and difficulty using the prepaid card in stores. The member will send a copy of the fee notice to Sam for review.

Acknowledgment: Praise given to Bay City Brokerage for improved scheduling and coordination.

4. Community Partner Updates

Wally's House

Bevin gave a shout-out to Lisa Castle for her strong partnership and responsiveness with Wally's House (Child Advocacy Center, Curry County).

Lung Cancer Awareness Month (Sarah Swanson, OHSU)

November is Lung Cancer Awareness Month.

Events and initiatives:

- Nov 7–8: Low-dose lung CT event at Bay Area Hospital for pre-screened patients (20 pack-year smoking history).
- Nov 12: Parent Safety Series in Reedsport (High Water Café, 5:30 PM) – topics include sun, water, sleep, and car seat safety.
- Nov 13: Lung Cancer & Tobacco Cessation THW Training (virtual, 3–5 PM).

Sarah will send registration links to Sam.

North Bend City/Coos-Curry Housing Authorities (Matthew Vorderstrasse)

North Bend Family Housing is progressing ahead of schedule. Buildings A & B roofed; Building C under construction; 105 total units in Phase 1. Expected completion: January 2027, possibly earlier. Includes 20 Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) units in partnership with Coos Health & Wellness. SPARC Network launched (Service Providers and Regional Connections) to build a housing continuum from homelessness → shelter → affordable housing → homeownership. State recognition received for innovative rural collaboration.

Compass Outreach (Mike Hanks)

Preparing for winter warming center activation. Working with Harmony United Methodist Church for emergency operations. Updates will be shared via partner emails, radio, and Facebook.

5. Shared Grants Program (Ashley Matsui)

Final Food & Nutrition category recommendation presented. Award: \$30,000 to Nancy Devereaux/ Compass Outreach, for their five-day-a-week hot meal program.

Motion to Approve:

Moved by: Ariel Hicks

Seconded by: Anna Marie Slate

Motion passed unanimously.

Ashley thanked the group for their work on the CHIP priorities and subcommittee participation. Awards will move forward to the Advanced Health Board for approval in mid-November.

6. Presentation on SDoH

Transition to Lisa Castle for discussion on Social Determinants of Health

7. OHS Update

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:

Nov 18, 2025 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.

ODHS Updates and Information

The starting point is the [ODHS Federal Government Shutdown webpage](#). Most pages are also available in Spanish and can be found from the English pages by clicking the Español button near the upper right. On this webpage you will find up to date information, including documents that are available in 11 languages.

- [Flyers](#)
- [Wallet cards](#)
- [FAQs](#)

We also have this [Ready-to-publish article](#) that can be shared in your newsletters or email communications. It is also available in multiple languages on our website.

Additional food resources can be found at [Needfood.oregon.gov](#) and [alimentos.oregon.gov](#).

When the federal government is reopened or provides funding for SNAP, it will be important to remember that benefits cannot be issued immediately. There are administrative processes that must take place, but they will be issued as soon as possible.

Key State Actions

Governor Kotek announced three key actions on [Oct. 29, 2025 in a news release](#):

Food Emergency Declaration: The Governor has declared a food emergency to ensure the state can use all available resources to keep food flowing. The ODHS Office of Resilience and Emergency Management (OREM) will lead the agency response in coordination with Oregon Emergency Management (OEM).

\$5 Million in Emergency Food Funding: ODHS will release \$5 million in Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) carryover funds to support Oregon's network of food banks. This will help food banks purchase and distribute food and sustain local operations. This action will not affect Oregon's ability to issue monthly TANF benefits on time for November. TANF families will receive their November benefits.

Statewide Call to Action: The Governor is encouraging all in Oregon to come together by donating to their local food pantry or the Oregon Food Bank, contributing to “Blue Bag” food collection bins at grocery stores, and volunteering in their communities.

Notices relating to H.R. 1

The first batch of mailed notices relating to SNAP eligibility changes went out October 15. You can access copies of the notices within the [ODHS Updates about Federal Pages webpage](#). The individual notices are found within the "SNAP Eligibility:" sections and linked below. Other notices are still being sent out as changes in eligibility and renewals occur.

[Energy Assistance Allowance mailed notice](#)

Refugees, Asylees and Other Lawfully Present Immigrant mailed notices:

[Benefit reduction notice](#)

[Benefit closure notice](#)

[Work Rules for Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents \(ABAWD\) mailed notice](#)

All Come Webinar – OHP Waiver Update

All Come webinar (English)

Wednesday, November 12, 2025

10-11 a.m. Pacific Time

This is the last webinar in the 2025 series. If you don't have the Nov 12 webinar on your calendar, register [here](#). More information on 2026 webinars coming soon.

The November 12 webinar will include updates and info on the following topics:

Reentry Health Care implementation status

Benefit Update Project (BUP) federally mandated changes to how Oregon Health Plan organizes benefits

Health-Related Social Needs (HRSN) fruit and veggie benefit and pantry stocking benefit implementation; housing eligibility update

If you need any additional help or accommodations to participate, please email Lisa Bren at lisa.bren2@oha.oregon.gov

Para Todos (Español) at 2pm

9 de noviembre

Este es el último seminario web de la serie 2025. Si aún no ha inscrito el seminario web del 12 de noviembre en su calendario, regístrese [aquí](#). Pronto habrá más información sobre los seminarios web de 2026.

El seminario web del 12 de noviembre incluirá información actualizada sobre los siguientes temas:

Estado de implementación al reingreso a la atención médica

Proyecto de Actualización de Beneficios (BUP, por sus siglas en inglés): Cambios federales obligatorios en la forma en que el Plan de Salud de Oregon organiza los beneficios.

Necesidades sociales relacionadas con la salud (HRSN, por sus siglas en inglés): implementación de beneficios para frutas y verduras y el suministro de provisiones; datos sobre beneficios para la vivienda.

Si necesita ayuda adicional o adaptaciones para participar, envíe un correo electrónico a Lisa Bren a lisa.bren2@oha.oregon.gov

Coffee Connection for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

We have a breakfast/coffee connection opportunity for them coming up to meet with other grandparents who are also raising their grandchildren. We've found that this group really desires connection with others who can relate with them in their shared experiences of parenting a second time around.

Attendees will receive breakfast goodies, coffee, connection and a \$20 Fred Meyer gift card for attending.

Please see below for these upcoming events in Brookings and Coos Bay:

Nov. 18, 10:30- Noon ~ Chetco Public Library, Brookings

Nov. 21, 10:00-11:30 am ~ South Coast ESD, Coos Bay

Bonnie Ell

ODHS Child Welfare | Resource Family Retention and Recruitment Champion~ D7 (Coos & Curry)

Bonnie.Ell@odhs.oregon.gov. Mobile: 971.719.3453

My office hours are Mon.- Fri., 7:00 am – 3:30 pm

OHA and ODE Partner to Boost Schools' Capacity to Reverse Overdoses

Oregon's schools are better equipped to prevent and respond to opioid overdoses following a collaboration between OHA and ODE. Nearly 700 middle and high schools, colleges and universities across the state received free opioid overdose reversal kits and expanded substance use prevention resources.

The partnership provided 692 schools with more than 14,000 doses of naloxone as part of an expansion of the Save Lives Oregon program, funded through Oregon's Opioid Settlement Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Board. Previously limited to junior high schools and above, all Oregon schools are now eligible to receive these kits.

Naloxone, a proven opioid overdose reversal medication, restores breathing while waiting for emergency medical services. Each school received three metal boxes containing 24 doses and face shields for easy access.

The kits reached:

- 137 public school districts, about 70% of Oregon districts
- 31 private schools and 47 charter schools
- 10 universities and five community colleges

More than 80% of schools placed the kits in publicly accessible areas. According to a survey, schools used the kits to respond to seven overdose events involving students and community members.

OHA and ODE highlighted this effort during National Substance Use & Misuse Prevention Month, emphasizing the importance of overdose prevention among youth. Although half of youth who overdosed had someone present, only 24% received naloxone in time. This program aims to change that.

Fall is a critical time to prioritize suicide prevention in Oregon schools

Fall is an important time to increase awareness of suicide prevention. OHA and our partners are encouraging all elementary, middle and high school leaders to ensure their school communities are prepared to recognize young people who may be at risk of suicide and connect them to appropriate help. Fall can be a particularly challenging season for Oregon's youth, with data showing that suicide attempts and related deaths often increase during this time.

OHA, Oregon Department of Education (ODE), Lines for Life and the University of Oregon's Suicide Prevention Lab's [Call to Action](#) provides resources and practical steps to help school administrators, staff, caregivers and other trusted adults build the skills needed to support students who may be at risk and connect them with qualified mental health providers.

For more information on suicide prevention in Oregon, contact [the OHA Suicide Prevention team](#).

Suicide Prevention Trainings

OHA funds a comprehensive range of suicide prevention trainings occurring regularly across Oregon at low or no cost. These programs equip professionals and community members with suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention skills.

For more details, training dates, and to access these programs, refer to our [interactive PDF](#) with all available programs and resources. Simply scroll over each program to be directed to the relevant web page. Each program provides practical, evidence-based approaches, and enhances skills in suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention across a variety of settings and roles.

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

West Coast Health Alliance – COVID Vaccine Access Updates

Below are the Consensus WCHA 2025-2026 Respiratory Virus Season Immunization Recommendations, announced earlier today, September 17, 2025.

See the [West Coast Health Alliance Frequently Asked Questions for the Public](#) for specific recommendations for those at increased risk.

COVID-19 Vaccines

The updated COVID-19 vaccines are available to anyone, 6 months of age and older, who wants them —just as they have been during recent respiratory seasons.

Influenza vaccine

The WCHA endorses the ACIP's current universal recommendation for the influenza vaccine. All people 6 months of age and older should receive an updated influenza vaccine. These recommendations are unchanged from last year.

RSV vaccine

The WCHA endorses the ACIP's current recommendations for RSV immunization products. Please see the FAQ for the WCHA specific recommendations.

What does this mean for people in Oregon who want a COVID-19 vaccine?

The updated COVID-19 vaccine is available to everyone 6 months of age and older in Oregon. Pharmacies can vaccinate anyone 7 years and older.

No prescription is required for the COVID-19 vaccine – either in pharmacies or in provider offices.

Medicaid and Medicare and most commercial insurers will continue to cover the cost of the updated COVID-19 vaccines in Oregon.

Learn more: [West Coast Health Alliance Frequently Asked Questions for the Public](#)

We will continue to update you as we learn more from the WCHA. Look for up-to-date information on our OHA website.

Action Items & Follow-Ups

Item	Responsible	Notes
Explore response options for local flea infestation	Sam Baugh	Determine if public health or HRSN resources apply
Review Focus Card fee changes	Member → Sam	Member to share letter for review
Dental access referral process	Sam / Customer Service	Continue supporting members with earlier appointments
Share Lung Cancer Awareness event details	Sarah Swanson	Send registration links to Sam
Report back on Shared Grants approvals	Ashley Matsui	Updates at December meeting