

Curry CAC Meeting Minutes

● Attendance

CAC Members:

Brett Bailey Jill Tevelde Polo Pedraza Alicia Benavidez
Trudy Simpson **Jonathan J. Trost** **Matt Vorderstrasse**

Other Guests:

Sam Baugh **Veronica Delmoral** **Gordon Clay** **Beth Dickinson**
Adam Martin **Brandy Hille** **Kera Hood**
Liz Hill **Samyukta Vendrathi**

- Advanced Health Updates
 - Sam Baugh asked if any members would like to do a presentation in 2026
 - Matt V volunteered to talk about SPARK, housing & homelessness
 - Gordon would like to speak on suicide data in the county and prevention
 - Alicia would like to hear about behavior health, autism services, and mental Health
 - Jill would like to hear about childcare updates and resources
 - Sam Baugh mentioned that Advanced Health is nominating for CCO Advocate for the Year, anyone that works with individuals on Medicaid
 - Link to Vote:
- OHA Update, presented by Sam Baugh created by Bevin Ankrom
 - *full presentation will be provided to members and guests in minutes via email
 - 6 tips to support health in 2026
 - Quit tobacco. Tobacco is bad for your health. They have in here a couple of links on. If you are struggling to

quit and you want to, there's some links and some resources available for you.

- Get vaccinated for RSV, Respiratory syncytial virus, whatever that word is, virus and pertussis, which is whooping cough. We've had a large outbreak of pertussis in Coos and Curry counties over the last level.
 - Get vaccinated for influenza and COVID.
 - Eat better. The presentation provides links for family meals, better snacks, and better options.
 - Rethink the drink. Start having conversations about alcohol and the role it has in your life.
 - Reach out for help when you need it. We included the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline as well as other resources available throughout the state
- OHA urges screening during Cervical Cancer Awareness Month. Free screenings are available just about in many, many locations. They are also encouraging individuals to get a HPV vaccination. HPV is. Is been linked directly to cervical cancer, so make sure you get your HPV vaccination. Screen wise program helps alleviate the burden of cancer.
 - The OHA statement West Coast Health Alliance continues to endorse AAP recommended child adolescent immunization schedules. American Academy of Pediatrics, which is AAP, recommends all children and adolescents.
 - On January 5th, 2026, the acting director of the Center for Disease Controls and Prevention, or the CDC, signed a decision meant. Memorandum to revise the child and adolescent immunization schedules and significantly reduce the number of vaccinations routinely recommended for all US children. This decision did not follow established procedures for vaccine policy and threatens an increase in vaccine preventable diseases. In children nationwide, children getting sick from the disease is prevented by recommended immunizations lead to missed school for children, missed work for parents, and even hospitalization and death in some children. West Coast Alliance, which is the states of Oregon, Washington, California and Hawaii, have all got

together and said we're still recommending these even though CDC has adjusted their regulations.

- There are no changes to gender affirming care in Oregon for now. There is proposed federal rules to limit gender affirming care and it is now open for comment. This is another Department of Justice and Oregon Health plan. They're taking comments and public feedback until February 17th at 1:00 PM.
 - Oregon is to receive \$197.3 million in federal investment in rural healthcare and they are that has been announced in 2026.
 - Hep B is a highly infectious virus that attacks the liver and can cause chronic liver disease, liver cancer, liver failure and death. It spreads easily, even without visible blood or body fluids, and can survive on surface for up to seven days.
 - Senate Bill 605 stops medical debt from going on to your credit report. Beginning January 1st, they can no longer use medical debt against you in your credit reporting. Medical service providers like hospitals and clinics are prohibited from notifying consumer reporting agencies that you owe money for your care or how much you owe.
 - Coordinate to reduce confusion and increase trust, trust in public health. Provide evidence-based post position statements, policy recommendations and guidance.
 - Call centers and other CCO staff and community partners. CMS requires all waivers to be evaluated by independent parties. So, 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 or HRSN benefits, young adult and special health with special healthcare needs. That program and continuous eligibility for children from birth to age 6 and for two years to for adults and the temporary extension of Medicaid following the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
 - 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.
- Questions

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 - Beth: Is three food smart? If you all with advanced could possibly give me a good person to connect with in Curry County regarding the Food Smart program.
 - Matt V mentioned he will look into why there isn't a current person for food smart program.
 - Matt V asked when the CHW grant is available?
 - Sam mentioned it's available now and Brandy mentioned there are some strict requirements to apply. There are five different types of traditional health workers and one of them is the community health worker.
 - Jill followed up asking if there is training involved in person? Brandy mentioned the program is more of a hub to get together to connect and meet and share resources and build relationships. However, coordinated trainings are in the works.
- Announcements
 - The first Thursday event in Douglas County at the Roseburg ODHS office, will likely be in May covering Curry County programs.
 - On July 17th, the federal government shut down 988 crisis line with a plus. Three and this is plus one is veterans, +2 is Spanish, +3 is LGBT and so that was removed from nationally from the 988 program. In Oregon, the Trevor Oregon tied in with Trevor House, which is very, very good because that's LGBT. Texting or calling 988 does not get you to the crisis text line 741741.

Next Meeting: February 26th at 12:00pm at Gold Beach Library