



Aging & People with Disabilities (APD)
<https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/agency/Pages/apd.aspx>
Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC)
in partnership with the Area Agency on Aging
Monday, November 3, 2025
Virtual Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS & CHECK IN – Called to order. This is a regular meeting of the DSAC. All DSAC meetings are open to the public. Visitors are welcome. This meeting was recorded. ASL Interpreters were provided.

DSAC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cody Guinn (chair)
Denyce Gavin
George Adams
James Naegele (vice chair)
Kerrie Walters
Leslie McIntyre
Paul Golding
Sharen Yeager

EXCUSED ABSENCE:

Katy Callies

UNEXCUSED ABSENCE:

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

GUEST:

Betsy Miller – Ombudsman

STAFF:

Jeremy Wolf, APD District 8 District Manager
Ann Marie Alfrey, Rogue Valley Council of Governments Executive Director
Patrick Vejar, APD Disability Services Manager
Diana Burney, APD District Office Specialist

CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS: What are you thankful for?

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Denyce is running a temporary food bank from her house for those in need. Please let her know if you know of anybody that use her assistance. Her phone number is 541-200-5156.
- George said the Salvation Army will be giving away turkeys Tuesday, 11/25/25 1 – 3:00pm at 922 N. Central Avenue, Medford – first come first served until they are gone. Drive-thru style, walk-ups welcomed too.
- Food insecurity resources -
 - Find resources in your area by calling 211, texting your ZIP code to 898-211 or visiting 211info.org.

- Find services for older adults and people with disabilities on the [Aging and Disability Resource Connection website](#) or by calling 855-673-2372
- <https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/food/pages/default.aspx>
 - Help with groceries, community meal programs, home delivered meals and more.
- <https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/es/alimentos/pages/default.aspx>
 - Same information, but in Spanish
- Gleaners are another source for food - \$60 quarterly, \$240 annual. Located in Central Point. 541-665-1500.
- Joanna recently went to Jury duty and wasn't allowed to have both ASL and use of a transcription device as accommodations.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: n/a

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 2025 MINUTES: Minutes are unanimously approved as presented. (Sharen, Denyce 2nd)

LONG TERM OMBUDSMAN PRESENTATION:

Betsy Miller, Deputy Long Term Care Ombudsman, did a power point presentation discussing what they do and the volunteer requirements, which I will include with the minutes. Here are a few notes that are not on the presentation.

- The four Jackson and Josephine County Volunteers work around 16 hours a week.
- Who is responsible for letting people know they exist?
 - Each facility should have posters that talk about APS and Ombudsman
 - A brochure is usually given out when people join the facility.
- They have a recruiting and screening committee that specifically looks for volunteers.
- Their phone number is 1-800-522-2602
- Betsy Miller's phone number is 541-613-5367
- The Oregon Public Guardian program is part of the Ombudsman program. They have up to 20 consumers each who need a public guardian and are always needing more volunteers.
- Residential Care Facilities Ombudsman program covers the developmentally disabled / mental health facilities and could use more volunteers.
- Current county volunteer numbers – Jackson has two; Josephine has two; Coos has eight; Douglas has two; Curry has none, which Betsy covers. There is always a need for more volunteers.

UPDATES & NEWS:

Jeremy –

- SNAP benefits for November are not being issued due to the Federal shutdown. State of Emergency has been declared and \$5,000,000 has been released to food banks in the state and the offices are sharing resources with the community. This website has more details - <https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/news/Pages/federal-updates.aspx>
- Temporary rules – long term care consumers that might need transportation or assistance to get food boxes or get to congregate meal sites can talk to their case managers to request additional exception hours and mileage for providers.
- At the recent DSAC quarterly meeting Jane Ellen shared the APD budget reduction process. APD is looking at a 5% reduction exercise. It hasn't been released yet, but he will share when it is.
- In addition to the current 5% reduction, they are also looking forward to 2027 / 2029 to see if there are APD services that are missing and things we can do differently.

Ann Marie –

- Oregon Project Independence Medicaid program (OPIM) is still going strong, referrals look like they have gone down a little bit recently.
- Food insecurity resources have not been completely clear about how the senior meals programs, Food & Friends and the congregate meal sites work. With Medicaid you can potentially qualify for up to two meals a day, seven days a week. With the Older American Act only you can qualify for one meal a day, five meals a week. If there is an emergency situation, you might be able to get two frozen meals for the weekend. Congregate dining sites would be a better resource. Anybody that is 60 or older or is a caregiver of somebody that is 60 or older, can go there for a meal. There is a suggested donation of \$3, but they will not be turned away if they cannot pay. Here is a link with more information -

<https://rvcog.org/home/sds-2/food-friends-meals-on-wheels/food-friends-meal-services-2/food-friends-senior-dining-sites-meals-on-wheels-service-areas/>

- www.rvcog.org
- <https://www.adrcoforegon.org/>

INFORMATION SHARING:

- Accessible Parking Workgroup –
 - John is putting together a synopsis of the two presentation we received from volunteer accessible parking enforcement groups so that we can present them to the RVCOG and others.
 - We hope to do at least one tabling at Walmart during November.

- SAC / DSAC Joint Advisory Council –
 - This group has cancelled all upcoming meetings until further notice, as they do not have a chairperson. If anyone is interested in being the chairperson, please contact Natalie Mettler at natalie.mettler@ashlandoregon.gov, 541-552-2482
- George's Updates –
 - HCW commission – there are emergency kits that APD could give to consumers. Leslie got one of the emergency back backs for her and her caregiver and got an electric backup generator from her APD worker.
 - Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) will be starting their third year in January, more to come on medical transportation.
 - JCC and AllCare will likely have transportation cuts soon.
 - Valley Lift / RVTD – Starting Monday, October 6th, RVTD will operate one additional early morning trip at 5:00am on both Route 10 and Route 60.
 - Regular 30-minute service resumes at 6:00am.
 - One-time early trip: Leaving Front Street Station at 5:00am on Route 10 and Route 60
 - All other service times remain unchanged. Regular 30-minute service begins at 6:00am
 - Does the DSAC want to a draft a letter to ODOT about how not having weekend service is impacting them?
- Announcements and Upcoming Events –
 - There was a conversation about the new protentional baseball stadium. Here is the City of Medford website to get more information about it - <https://www.medfordoregon.gov/News-Articles/City-Introduces-Creekside-Quarter-Concept-and-Potential-Stadium-Opportunity>

MEETING ADJOURNED: 4:21

NEXT MEETING: December 1, 2025, 2:45 – 4:30

This message is also attached as a PDF file for accommodation purposed. This document will be provided in alternate formats upon request, including but not limited to language other than English, large print, captions, braille, audio file, American Sign Language interpretation. Please contact APD.ServiceEquityCommunications@odhs.oregon.gov for alternate format.