



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, December 1, 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 Naegle (vice chair)
Joanna Wilson
Katy Callies
Leslie McIntyre
Paul Golding
Sharen Yeager

EXCUSED ABSENCE:

Kerrie Walters

UNEXCUSED ABSENCE:

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

GUEST:

Betsy Miller – Ombudsman
Tyler Johnson – Mid Rogue Foundation
Andrea Hollenbeck – National Alliance on Mental Health (NAMI)

STAFF:

Kathleen Iriawan, APD Adult Protective Services Manager
Ann Marie Alfrey, Rogue Valley Council of Governments Executive Director
Diana Burney, APD District Office Specialist

CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS: What do you enjoy most about the winter holiday season?

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tyler mentioned that some consumers using All Care Ready Ride with electric wheelchairs have felt insecure, even though they are secure. It may be the larger vans. It should be reported to OHA.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: n/a

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

PRESENTATION FROM NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS (NAMI):

Andrea Hollenbeck gave a very informative presentation with a power point that I will share with the minutes. Here is some additional information.

- Slide 5 - Connections – Medford support group meets first & third Thursdays, and they meet in Ashland on the second and fourth Thursdays. Starting in January they will be on Mondays.
- Slide 5 - Family Support group meets in Medford and Ashland (6:00-7:30 and on Zoom)
- You do not need to have a diagnosis to attend
- If you have a mental condition, you can self-report, complete a form and submit it to your local police department, so they have it on record. It would be great if it could be statewide.
- They do not venture into developmental or intellectual disabilities.
- Contact information -
 - Health & Human Services Building, 140 South Holly Street, Ste 1300, Medford, OR 97501
 - Namisouthernoregon.gov
 - 541-774-7872

UPDATES & NEWS:

Kathleen –

- SNAP update – the government shutdown is concluded; the full November benefits were issued on 11/7/2025. December benefits will be issued as normal.
- Next biennium budget – the original projected shortfall was going to be \$370 million dollars, however the new revenue forecast from last week shows the shortfall as \$63 million dollars. All agencies were requested to submit suggestions for 5% cutbacks.

Ann Marie –

- The workshop for accessible housing on 11/21/2025, went well, great conversations about accessible housing, aging in place, the lifelong housing checklist. <https://lifelonghousing.org>.
- The OPIM work with APD is continuing. About 300 people have been onboarded or will be soon.
- ADRC might be able to help with transportation issues since the transportation cuts. Please advocate for not cutting funds to the Older Americans Act.
 - Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) 541-618-7572 or the state-wide website www.adrcforegon.org

INFORMATION SHARING:

- Accessible Parking Workgroup –
 - John is close to completing the synopsis of the two presentations we received from volunteer accessible parking enforcement groups so that we can present them to the RVCOG and others.
 - We are looking for tabling opportunities that are indoors. Let Diana know if have any events that would be good for us to attend.
 - Tyler knows of a group that might be interested in a presentation – Partners Assisting the Homeless (PATH) – they meet once a month and have a community partner present at each one.
- 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
 - Ann Marie - It is a subcommittee that talks about any pending legislation that we need to advocate for, spread the word on, etc. The legislature is not in session right now, so there isn't much to talk about, but the short session is coming soon. There is no requirement other than caring about advocating for older adults and adults with disabilities.
- George's Updates – **1:12:08**
 - JCC Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) – as of January 2026 there will be no shopping with doctor appointments.
 - APD Advocacy Award Initiative and section committee recruitment. They are looking for partners to serve on the Award Selection Committee, contact them before 1/5/26. They will be taking nominations for individuals in January. If you have any questions, please reach out to the APD Equity Strategy Unit by phone at 971-372-4357 or by emailing EquityStrategy.Unit@odhs.oregon.gov. More information can be found at <https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/engagement/pages/apd-engagement.aspx>.
 - Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) committee is starting their third year. If you would like to join the committing, please contact George. **1:16:24**
 - There is an ADA lottery for the 2027 Superbowl, please contact George for more information. **1:19:49**
- Announcements and Upcoming Events –
 - Joanna – On 12/5/25 at the Jackson County Health Department there will be a presentation for deaf & hard of hearing and others for what services they provide. You need to pre-register.

- Joanna – Reach out to Deaf Activities of Southern Oregon for more information about events and activities for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. They plan to have 2 activities a month during the winter. And are working on a website. Currently they have a Facebook page with the following contact information – Phone: 541-246-3446 and Email: DeafActivSOR@gmail.com.
- Paul – Walmart is open to delivering food and medications to Medicaid customers at no cost or half the cost. However, the drivers expect a tip.
- Tyler - Grants Pass is having a rent burden forum on 12/9/25 6:00pm and he will send Diana a flyer to share with the group.
- Paul – The city of Medford has received an application for a 585-unit apartment complex off North Phoenix at Coalmine Road and the plan does not include a traffic signal, which is dangerous.
- Cody - United Spinal Association is looking for pictures / videos of accessible parking situations gone wrong or full spaces.
 - Record a brief video (under 60 seconds) showing or describing an accessible parking issue you encounter.
 - Keep it safe, respectful, and focused on the problem.
 - [Upload your clip](#)
- Cody – There are changes happening in some states where pregnant women can get placards to use accessible parking, which would make spaces even harder to come by.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 4:30

NEXT MEETING: January 5, 2026, 2:45 – 4:30

This message is also attached as a PDF file for accommodation purposes. 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.