



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, March 2, 2026
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)
Katy Callies
Leslie McIntyre
Sharen Yeager

EXCUSED ABSENCE:

Joanna Wilson
Kerrie Walters

UNEXCUSED ABSENCE:

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

GUEST:

Roxanne Franklin (Roxi) – Advocate
Dave Gross – SAC Member
Jason Wenig – ODHS Civil Rights

STAFF:

Ana Gonzales, APD Deputy District Manager
Ann Marie Alfrey, Rogue Valley Council of Governments Executive Director
Patrick Vejar, Medford DSO Manager
Diana Burney, APD SE Medford

CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS: What Is Your Favorite Rainy-Day Activity?

PUBLIC COMMENT: George is new Centers for Medicaid Services (CMS) advisor, with his first meeting on 3/4/26.

Roxanne (Roxi) Franklin's third DSAC meeting will be next month, and we will be voting for her DSAC membership.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: n/a

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2026 MINUTES: Minutes are unanimously approved as presented, with one person abstaining. (James & Katie 2nd)

PRESENTATION FROM ODHS CIVIL RIGHTS - Jason Wenig

Jason did an informative power point presentation, which I will include with the minutes.

UPDATES & NEWS:

Ana –

- Program changes and budget cuts are coming. The legislation short session ended last week, we should hear something in the next couple of weeks.
- Agency with Choice is a new program that should be launching in April. Training for the case managers will be in March. It is a new benefit for in-home care clients through Medicaid that is an additional option for our consumers, where this agency shares the employer responsibility by taking a more active role. It will also take over the payment of the HCW, licensing, and background checks. This should allow more person-centered service for the case managers, as referrals have doubled in Jackson County. They would like to expand to find home care workers in underserved / rural areas as well. It is an additional option to what we currently have, which is hiring an in-home care provider, hiring an in-home care agency provider and the Independent Choices Program (ICP).
- The intake process is having delays due to the eligibility process. Our district has case managers split into intake and ongoing units so that once a consumer has gone through intake and financials and the care plan has been completed, they are transferred to the ongoing unit for them to continue their ongoing care coordination.

Ann Marie –

- RVCOCG has some limited emergency funds available through a trust for Jackson County that can be used for transportation. They are trying to carve out some Older American Act funding for Josephine County as well. Call ADRC 541-618-7572 if you need help, it is no if you don't ask.
- If you are 19 – 59 years of age, with a physical disability or 60+ years of age there could be resources available for you with ADRC. The lack of transportation is having a huge impact on wellbeing, social needs / isolation. They are also seeing a housing and affordability shortage and many first-time homelessness with seniors.

INFORMATION SHARING:

- Accessible Parking Workgroup –
 - Not much new to report, we talked about partnering with a larger agency to do some PSAs and might have a local contact.
- Access Senior Fair Schedule –
 - We filled up the schedule and are ready for the event on 3/24/26.

- SAC / DSAC Joint Advisory Council –
 - They are getting a new chairperson, Dave Gross, and Ann Marie will let us know when the new meeting schedule is set.
- George's Updates –
 - Transportation – people are needed for the ODOT committee. There is a measure coming out in May that could bring back Saturday service and extend M-F hours to 8:00pm. Valley lift provider applications are due in November.
 - Center for Medicaid & OHP Services (CMS) Services Exercise of Enforcement Discretion for Requirements for a Medicaid Fee for Service (FFS) Grievance System of Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Until December 2027 bulletin was discussed.
 - Recommendations for Improving the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS Quality Measure Set Summary of a Workgroup Review of the 2028 HCBS Quality Measure Set was discussed.
 - Home Care Commission – there are over 26,000 state providers, and they want to push it to 57,000. This is a huge project, there is advertising going out, Ana is working on it and will get me a brochure / flyer. They are heavily recruiting for Spanish providers as well.
 - <https://oregonhomecarejobs.com/>
 - https://oregonhomecarejobs.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Home-Care-Flyer-8.5x11-EN_0925.pdf
 - <https://oregonhomecarejobs.com/partnertoolkit/#flyer>
 - Valley Lift is coming out with a new program, the committee will be testing out the new program before it goes out, and it might be attached to TransLink for medical rides. You should be able to see where the driver is and know what time they will be arriving.
- Announcements and Upcoming Events –
 - Discussion about forwarded emails. Diana agreed to continue sending them out individually with a good subject line and will try to not send them all in one day.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 4:30

NEXT MEETING: April 6, 2026, 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.