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, October 5, 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 (vice chair)
Denyce Gavin
George Adams (chair)
Joanna Wilson
Katy Callies
Kerrie Walters
Leslie McIntyre
Roxanne (Sage) Franklin

EXCUSED ABSENCE:
Sharen Yeager

UNEXCUSED ABSENCE:

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

GUEST:
James Naegele – Advocate
Betsy Miller - Ombudsman
David Gross – Senior Advisory Council (SAC)

STAFF:
Ann Marie Alfrey, Rogue Valley Council of Governments Executive Director
Diana Burney, APD Medford AS1

CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS:
If you could go on a free trip to anywhere, where would it be?

PUBLIC COMMENT: Roxi read us a poem she wrote – "Where Voices Become Change"

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:
Agenda approved (Denyce, Roxi 2nd)

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 2026 MINUTES: Minutes are unanimously approved as presented. (Joanna, Katy 2nd)

ANNUAL SPRING EVENT / BUDGET SPENDING:

Traditionally we have done a spring event for recruiting or DSAC member training for the past several years. Examples of what we have done are:

- DSAC Disability Awareness for D8 ODHS Staff Training - June 10, 2025
- DSAC Member Retreat at the Butte Creek Mill, April 1, 2024
- DSAC Recruitment, Accessibility & Resource Fair at HASL June 29, 2023
- DSAC Recruitment Picnic Hybrid Event June 6, 2022

We do not need to have an event though; we can focus our energy and funds on other things. The policy states that ODHS / APD will provide the resources for local districts to start, maintain, and sustain local DSACs. Funds may be allocated for recruitment, outreach and training and development for DSAC members. DSACs have the ability to budget their activities in development with the annual allocation. All funds will be managed, authorized, and recorded by management at the district level. The following items were discussed and we will discuss again at the next meeting -

- Monthly highlight for people that help the disabled community
  - There is a parking lot company that is including No Parking in the hash marks and van parking only in the stalls, Cody will find out who it is to give them a shout out / certificate / kudos
- Recruitment advertisements in the local newspapers with the kudos
- Invisible disabilities – raise awareness / empathy
- Tabling (look at the list RVCOG shared with us)
- Creative expression booths
- Add some art making – coloring, etc.
- Talent show
- More ideas: poetry slam, flower arranging, jewelry making, karaoke, etc.

FUTURE PRESENTERS:

We discussed having the following presenters at a future DSAC meeting, which Trevor and Diana will be looking into -

- Oregon Eligibility Partnership (OEP) / ABAWD (Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents)
- LGBTQIA+ for disabled
- Public Safety regarding citations for inappropriate accessible parking
- HASL
- Invisible disabilities

ADRC (AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CONNECTION), MELANIE GREELY:

Melanie gave a great presentation, and we will include the Power Point (PP) presentation with the minutes. Below are some notes not in the PP.

- The toll free 855 number is statewide.
- Private entities must have been in business for at least a year to be included in their resources.
- STAR C is no longer in service.
- RVCOG SDS has a Facebook page as well as Food & Friends of Southern Oregon
- RVCOG's website is being revamped to be cleaner and in compliance with new ADA requirements.

UPDATES & NEWS:

Ana – not present

Ann Marie –

- OPIM – the number of approvals coming through the state (30-40 a month) is overwhelming, with the struggle with having enough case managers. 70 cases is a full case load, but some case managers have 120 and working two programs. Training takes around six months. We are at two-year mark, so recertification renewals are starting now. Three newish case managers are learning the program, and they are working on a job description to hire a case-aide to assist with support work.
- O4AD quarterly business meeting is this week in Salem; the general session is on Thursday. If anybody is interested in attending virtually, please, let Ann Marie know asap so she can get you registered.
- Food & Friends volunteers needed – it could be for a couple hours a day or even as little as one day a week.
- Legislative Forum – thank you to those that could come and please vote.
- George asked about housing updates. Connie with the Lifelong Housing Program is trying to create a simpler way for their member jurisdictions to go through their checklist to figure out if they are a type A or type B, which is different than their checklist, but within the building codes, that come from the Department of Land Conservation Development (DLCD). They have a type A that is their definition of accessibility. It can get a little convoluted, and Connie has been working with some state partners in figuring out a way to streamline that to be easier and figure out if it does qualify as an accessible unit. There are new regulations at the state level where we should see a higher percentage of accessible units as the new building and facilities are built. There are also two land trusts developments that they are partnering with, which will be more affordable homes, as the trust owns the land. It will allow the first owner to build some equity, but at a lower rate than if they owned the land as well.

INFORMATION SHARING:

- Accessible Parking Workgroup –
  - They are working on identifying which communities have accessible parking violations cited and by whom, which has been challenging.
  - There is a local parking lot striping company that includes van only and no parking in the spots and cross-marked areas which we would like to give kudos to.
  - We keep trying to educate one person at a time.
- SAC / DSAC Joint Advisory Council –
  - Dave will be attending O4AD and the breakout session regarding transportation challenges. He would like to bring some personal stories from our community and our members, as our voices can make a difference. The speaker will be Dave Daley. Here are the three questions –
    1. What transportation challenges are you seeing or hearing about from older adults and people with disabilities in your community – both urban and rural areas?
    2. Do any of you or your fellow advisory council members have any stories around transportation concerns you would like to share? Should we add stories like these to our story collection?
    3. What kind of advocacy work around transportation do you feel like AAA Advisory Councils would be most interested in, and where do you think Advisory Council voices could make the greatest difference?
  - Please contact Dave at grossdj.144@gmail.com.
- George's Updates –
  - Home Care Worker (HCW) commissioners meeting – the house and senators support bill H. Res 1586, however George has concerns about the discontinuation of long-term-care services.
  - Food stamp cards will have chips in them soon, possibly in January 2027.
  - Centers for Medicaid Service (CMS) advisor – does anybody have any topics for the next meeting? Yes, three items.
    - Denyce - pain management
    - Roxi - Individuals with coexisting dual diagnoses and how the adult foster homes are sending them away because of the lack of a liaison with some power between the physical disabilities and mental health disability funding streams. Roxi has a power point she can share with George.
    - Roxi – Pacific Power has a program that gives reimbursements to people for generators to run medical equipment in the homes for when the power goes out. The generators are expensive and they cannot apply until after the unit is purchased, which is a

hardship for those on a fixed income. Diana added that if you have an APD case manager, they might be able to purchase a generator for you.
    - George met with the new CEO of JCC, and it was brough up that immigrants that do not have a CCO will be on an open card because of HR1.
    - Valley Lift has a new program with AI software, will also be included with non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) in March or May of next year.
- Announcements and Upcoming Events –
    - Cody – the Black Oak Physical Therapy Outpatient clinic was shut down. New Motion typically would help people get their chairs fitted for people there, not sure if that is happening someplace different now.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 4:35

NEXT MEETING: November 2, 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.