ACHIEVE Coalition Meeting Notes

Wednesday, October 7, 2026

Location: Miracles Club, 1306 NE 2nd Ave., Portland, OR 97232
Notetaker: Hermela Demise
Attendees: Heidi Franklin, Hermela Demise, Amina Sheikh-Wali, Jennie Cuddeback, Bobbie Dickey, Nimo Noor Ali, Madi Carlson, Anthony Bradley, Charlene McGee, Annie Kirschner, Mikayla Hill, Ruthie Culver, Carrie Robersone, Rhonda Combs, Jay Higgins, Lale Santelices, Elizabeth Braatz, Susan Van't Hof, Makda Berhane, Windsor Meyer, Shamekia Davis, Ernest Davis Mary Jo Andersen, Htoo Ray, Vainalepa Laaupese, Loyalty Hustler

Agenda Items & Notes

Icebreaker: What is your favorite fall beverage

Year 4 Kickoff for REACH Grant

Presenter: Amina Sheikh-Wali & Heidi Franklin

- The Year 4 REACH grant officially began on October 1, 2026, and will run through September 30, 2027.
- Year 4 Priority Areas Preview:
- Nutrition: Focus on Food Service Guidelines and fruit & vegetable voucher/produce programs.
    - Healthy Food Procurement Catering and Venue Awards
    - Meal Kits in Collaboration with OSU College of Business
- Physical Activity: Implement state and local-level policies to connect pedestrian, bicycle or transit transportation networks by providing activity-friendly routes to everyday destinations.
    - Safe Routes to School Analysis
    - Updated Gresham Bike Map
    - Youth-Led Transportation Safety Workshop
    - Multilingual Pedestrian Safety Videos in Support of #MultcoMoveYourWay
    - Transit Mobility Passport
- Breastfeeding Initiatives: Implement local level policies and activities that achieve continuity of care for breastfeeding families
    - Expanding dedicated lactation spaces across Multnomah County.
    - Establishing breastfeeding-friendly designations for local barbershops and salons.
    - Breastfeeding Awareness Month
        - Breastfeeding Town Hall: 5th Annual Breastfeeding Town Hall (August 6, 2026). Conducted interactive polling on breastfeeding policies and laws, collecting feedback from respondents to inform community policy and systems change.
        - Normalizing breast feeding in the community

PBOT Vision Zero / Safe Systems Approach

Presenter: Lale Santelices

- Transportation Agencies
    - Portland Bureau of Transportation
    - Trimet
    - Oregon Department of Transportation

    - Multnomah County
    - Metro
    - U.S Department of Transportation
- City Vision Zero Program and the Safe Systems Approach
    - Safe Systems Approach: Prioritizes roadway safety while maintaining efficient traffic flow.
    - Vision Zero: Committed to eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries by designing safer streets.
- Safe Systems approach
    - Safe Speeds - number one factor of serious injuries are speed
    - Safe Streets - Designed streets to help people
    - Save People - Foster a culture where everyone shares responsible to each others safety
    - Safe Vehicles -
    - Post- Crash Response -
- Discussion & Data Review: What are your top three traffic safety concerns when traveling in Portland?
- 2027-2031 Action Plan
    - Draft document in spring 2027; adoption expected summer 2027
    - Action for near team (1-2 years) and multistep or multiyear work (3-5 years)
- Action Plan Engagement Overview
    - Summer/Fall 2026
        - Attending existing events
        - Community advocate sounding board
        - Standing committee presentations Oct 2026 to Oct 2027
        - Community based organization survey
        - Summary and input and issues over multiple years of Vision Zero
    - Winter/Spring
        - District open houses in conjunction with TUF community outreach
- What are you interested in learning or connecting with the City of Portland Vision Zero Program? - Group Discussion
    - What policies can we support locally or nationally

    - What statistics can we see with this project? What are the outcomes of Vision Zero?
    - Knowing the future of Trimet
- Engage with PBOT
    - portland.gov/pbot-projects
- Contact: Lale Santellices: Lale.Santelices@PortlandOregon.Gov

Federal Changes to SNAP and OHP

Presenter: Annie Kirschner, SUN Schools

- Background -
    - HR1 imposed stricter immigrant eligibility rules and significantly expanded SNAP work rules - rules went into effect in Fall 2025.
    - People started actively losing SNAP benefits due to work rules in January
    - HR1 also significantly impacts Medicaid - those changes are set to take effect in Oct 2026 (immigrant eligibility) and Jan. 2027 (work reqs, 6 month redetermination)
    - The County Department of County Human Services has created some communication materials and more are coming soon from ODHS to support you in sharing information with and supporting community members
- What can SNAP recipients do?
    - If you are age 18-64 and do not have a child under 14
    - Check if you are meeting the work requirements
    - Check if you are exempt
        - Check work rules
            - Visit: Oregon.gov/snapworkrules
            - Call ODHS: 833-947-1694
            - Email ODHS: snap.abawdteam@odhs.oregon.gov
    - Immigration Status Eligibility
        - Households with mixed status members can still apply for those in the household who are eligible.

        - Oregon uses the person's most recent immigration status. For instance, if someone entered with refugee status but is now a Lawful Permanent Resident, they might be eligible for SNAP.
- Pubic Charge
    - Many immigrants are not subject to Public Charge. If you are applying now or in the near future for a green card consult an immigration attorney or seek legal advice about Public Charge.
    - Call the free Oregon Public Benefits Hotline at 800-520-5292 to discuss your situation. Or find information online at oregonlawcenter.org/public-charge-rule
    - Community Outreach Resources: for updates and a toolkit with fact Sheets, flyers and slides, visit Pifcoalition.org/publiccharge
    - Discussion / Questions
        - Q: Is there breakdown data? Do we have demographic information?
        - A: Detailed demographic data is currently unavailable, though some age breakdown data exists.
- Tools for Outreach
    - Oregon.gov/HR1partners
    - Website: Oregon.gov/snapworkrules
    - DCHS Flyer
    - DCHS Mini-flyer
    - OLC Public Charge Fact Sheet

Elections

Presenter: Elizabeth Braatz, Oregon Food Bank

- Important Election Dates
    - October 13, 2026 - Last day to register to vote: Voter registration cards postmarked by this date, or online registration submitted by 11:59pm
    - October 14, 2026 First day ballots are mailed to voters
    - November 3, 2026 - Election Day: County elections offices are open from 7am to 8pm. This is the last day to vote

REACH Partner Spotlight

Presenters: REACH Strategy Leads

- Physical Activity (Jennie): On the weekend of September 19, the Soul District Business Association-led by John Washington, Fawn Aberson, and Hailei Aberson-Holford-hosted the 15th annual MLK Dream Run at PCC Cascade Campus. This was the event's most successful year to date, hosting 1,215 runners across the 2-day event. The main weekend was preceded by 5 months of training runs hosted in partnership with local small businesses, building community momentum. Saturday featured a vendor and movement market where REACH hosted an interactive table promoting chronic disease prevention. On Sunday, Team REACH participated in full force, with Jennie and Heidi running the 5k alongside community members Jeanell and Leroy.
- Nutrition (Hermela) – People's Farmers Market: Ran from June 21 to September 27 in Rockwood in partnership with PGL, focusing on expanding fresh produce access and vendor diversity. Programming featured community health resources, Teen Markets with youth vendors, and cultural celebrations (African Heritage, Burmese & Pacific Islander, and Latine/Indigenous events). Special thanks to all supporting farmers, vendors, and community partners.
- Breastfeeding (Carrie): Highlighted Breastfeeding Awareness Month initiatives and a community town hall focused on normalizing breastfeeding across the local community.

Additional Discussion

- Halloween Reminder: Walking and Pedestrian Safety
    - Contact Lale Santelices (Lale.Santelices@PortlandOregon.Gov) for visibility lights

ACHIEVE Coalition Membership Survey

- Survey: HERE