



Aging, Disability, and Veterans Services Division
Aging Services Advisory Council (ASAC)
 Tuesday, March, 17 2026, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
 Five Oak Building, 209 SW 4th Ave, Portland, OR 97204
Pine Room, 1st floor

Zoom link: <https://multco-us.zoom.us/j/94294725561?pwd=8ZEEiVfu9sCg74q4yUeayQEF5HVkI2.1>
 Meeting ID: 942 9472 5561 – Passcode: Sac.2025

Time	Agenda Item	Lead
Attendees:	John Halfmoon, Dave Daley, Brandy Penner, Kathleen Sullivan, Anne Lindsay, Scott Moore	
Members	Cheri Becerra, Lars Fujisato, Sarah Feldman, Deric Anderson, Jeremy Nguyen, Marina Khalina, Margretta Hansen, Sheila Balbin, Lisa Dessen-Ocana, Nicole Galport, Jason Normand, Michael Graham, Pavel Yuzko	
ADVSD	Marina Monery-Meta	
Guests		
10:00 am	Meeting open for sign on	
(10 min)	Agenda review – <i>call for public comment</i> Zoom review and accessibility Land acknowledgment Introductions – Please share your name and pronouns <i>Prompt:</i> <i>What is one thing you're looking forward to doing this Spring?</i>	Sarah
10:10 am (30 min)	Veterans Directed Care (VDC) Presentation and questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sheila shared that ADVSD has two different veteran programs: the Veteran Directed Care program (VDC) and the Veteran Services Office. VDC is a program that prioritizes aging in place and helps consumers navigate services and community based care. Eligible veterans are given an allowance to manage their care and independence. We use a hub and spoke model and help with person centered counseling. We are the hub and are one of the spokes throughout the state. Other counties that have VDC include: Douglas, Jackson, Josephine, Washington, and Clackamas. VDC partners include: VA Health Administration, Lewin Group Consultants, VA Medical Centers (Portland and Roseburg), spokes, and financial management services. Eligibility includes: Being enrolled in the VA for health care, community care eligibility criteria (distance, accessibility, travel), and 	Sheila and Margretta

services must be ordered by a VA or VA-paid provider. Clinic care eligibility includes needing facility level care and needing help with ADLs. VDC consists of eligibility determination, referral and assessment, budget and spending plan, self-direction and hiring, and ongoing support. Benefits include: help with ADLs, self direction of care, and the program will help with ongoing support and make sure the directed care plan meets their needs. VDC helps expand services for rural areas, increases control and choice, and helps veterans maintain independence.

- Dave asked who sets the caps.
- Sheila said the VA partners and spokes set the cap. It depends on staffing and ability. There are 94 participants with a 105 cap, and 27 people on the waitlist. It depends on the budget for staffing. Staff that work for partners work on various programs and it influences the cap.
- Dave said that case managers must feel that veterans can't always make their choices.
- Sheila said that they do annual assessments to determine their care level and they must meet VDC criteria.
- Lisa said if veterans are in decline they can have someone serve as their representative. They can name someone they trust so they don't lose the program.
- Dave asked if they must be enrolled in the VA and does that mean they can be on Medicare?
- Sheila responded yes.
- Dave asked about cost saving.
- Sheila said that it's the reduction of hospital and facility costs.
- Kathleen asked if the spokes go to Douglas County and how did Multnomah County become involved in overseeing the spokes in other counties.
- Sheila said that the VA medical centers must want to be a hub, and because we have been a hub since 2014, the service group connects veterans to us. Care providers can be sole proprietors, but many want to be in the group.
- Kathleen said that the program might need to be expanded to serve more people.
- John asked if a spot opens can one of the 27 waitlist people be moved into the program, and do they meet criteria.
- Sheila said yes, they are eligible and they are on other

	<p>programs for services, such as VA home health programs. VDC has flexibility with hours and care, so this is why people want to be on the program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lisa said each CM/provider has a caseload of 25 people. - Marina said this is a program that requires veterans to be aware of their budget, and if they have cognitive limitations, there is a gap in eligibility. The criteria is also a reason why there is a limitation to the number of people they can serve. 	
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Next Steps and Action Items

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<p>10:40 am (20 min)</p>	<p>Medicare Modernization Act (MMA) Program, Michael Graham presenting, joined by Beth Rutledge and Pavel Yuzko.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Michael said that MMA stands for the Medicare Modernization Act, and helps with Medicare part D. There are three MMAs in Multnomah County, and they serve clients that are dual eligible - there are 21,000 dual eligible consumers in Multnomah County. MMAs help with insurance coordination, prescription access, and Medicare navigation. Multnomah County has prioritized this program and they coordinate with the state and federal government. MMAs also help staff understand Medicare for clients. Multnomah County is expected to reduce the MMA positions for the 2027 FY. - Dave asked if the navigators are going away. - Anne said she heard that is in the context of the ACA. - Dave asked if MMAs are funded through general funds. - Michael said the program is a combination of general and state funds. - Dave asked of the 21,000 dual eligible people, how many are in the program and how many are in the community. - Marina said we can provide this data. - Anne said she talks to an MMA weekly for SHIBA and they are very helpful. She hopes people can advocate for their positions. 	<p>Michael Graham</p>
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Next Steps and Action Items

- Need to know the funding breakdown for MMAs.
- Need the breakdown of the 21,000 dual eligible consumers.

11:00	BREAK	
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11:15 (20 min)	<p>Review and discuss draft Council Elections Procedure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sarah provided an update that the Bylaws were approved by legal without edits. She also asked how ASAC wants to conduct voting on procedures. In terms of voting for Chair and Co-Chair, she proposed that we open nominations for a week and any council members can submit a name (including themselves), a week later the nominations would close and she would confirm the list before voting begins. Voting would happen at the next meeting. We would use a hybrid method - in person would vote on paper and voting would only take place during that meeting. We would count the votes and email the results. - Anne asked if we would do absentee voting. - Sarah said we could leave voting open for a certain period of time. - Anne asked how many people could end up in a tie. - Sarah said Marina Monery-Meta might join ASAC. - Scott said if we did an email poll it can be left open for a period of time and would be a hybrid method like the meeting. - Dave said we should do one email vote for a week for one position, and do the other the next week (e.g. Chair one week and Co-Chair the next week). This will avoid voting/counting confusion. - Scott said we can include this process in the Bylaws. 	Sarah
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Next Steps and Action Items		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Concern for tie. 		

11:35 (15 min)	<p>Review Stipend Policy Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sarah shared that the stipend policy has been updated, and any form of payment will require a W-9. If you receive \$600 or more a year we need to issue a tax form. We need to track this amount ourselves, but forms are mailed directly to county accounting to protect information. - Scott asked if this is for 2026 or if it is retroactive. 	Marina and Sarah
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cheri said it starts now. She will only give them a form if it is over \$600, but needs a W-9 regardless. - Anne said that the county issues a contractors 1099 form and it is not the best form to use. She suggested we should use 1099-MISC. forms. - Marina said that we need to meet with accounts payable to discuss the form types. - Sarah said members are eligible for a one time \$600 stipend for technology, although members need to submit receipts for reimbursement. After a member's term, the member can turn in the device and get a new stipend. - Cheri said this will automatically meet the \$600 for the 1099. - Sarah said members can receive \$65 a month and that is more than \$600 for the year, which makes a 1099 form. The county will take 30-40 days for payments. Gift cards require in-person pick up and a signature for it. We can send it certified mail, which requires a signature to receive it. - Cheri said direct deposit is the easiest way to receive payments because you have to sign for gift cards. 	
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Next Steps and Action Items

- Cheri sent the tax form question to fiscal.

<p>11:45 (10 min)</p>	<p>Public comment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dave said we lost a volunteer driver for Meals on Wheels. She did a lot of great advocacy work for transportation and she died last month. Claudia Robertson 	
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Next Steps and Action Items

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<p>11:55 (5 min)</p>	<p>Announcements and Reminders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sarah said to please let Deric know about your intended attendance for each meeting. - 31st annual Pi Nee Waus Powwow is on April 4th. - O4AD in person meeting and virtual meeting is on April 14-15th in Salem (optional). 	<p>Sarah</p>
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Next Steps and Action Items		
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12:00 pm	Adjourn!
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Upcoming Meetings:

- Combined ASAC/DSAC: Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Common acronyms used in ASAC Meetings – While we strive to avoid acronyms and jargon here are some you may hear in ASAC meetings

- AAA - Area Agency on Aging
- ADRC - Aging, Disability Resource Connection (Center)
- ADVSD - Aging, Disability and Veterans Services Division, DCHS
- APD - Aging and People with Disabilities, Oregon Department of Human Services
- APS - Adult Protective Services
- ASAC - Aging Services Advisory Council
- BIPOC - Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color
- DCHS - Department of County Human Services (Multnomah)
- DSAC - Disability Services Advisory Council
- HST - Housing Stability Team
- LTSS - Long Term Services and Supports
- NEMT - Non-Emergency Medical Transportation
- O4AD - Oregon Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Disabilities
- OAA - Older Americans Act
- ODHS - Oregon Department of Human Services (also called DHS)
- OPI and OPI-M - Oregon Project Independence (- Medicaid)
- YFS - Youth and Family Services



Aging Services Advisory Council (ASAC)

March 17, 2026

Aging, Disability, and Veterans
Services Division

Department of County Human Services

Meeting goals

- Welcome and accessibility
- Land acknowledgement
- Introductions
- Veterans Directed Care (VDC) program
- Medicare Modernization Act (MMA) program
- Break
- Council Elections discussion
- Stipend policy updates
- Public Testimony (public comment)
- Announcements and Reminders



Main features of using Zoom on a computer.

Zoom application features in the works, as requested.

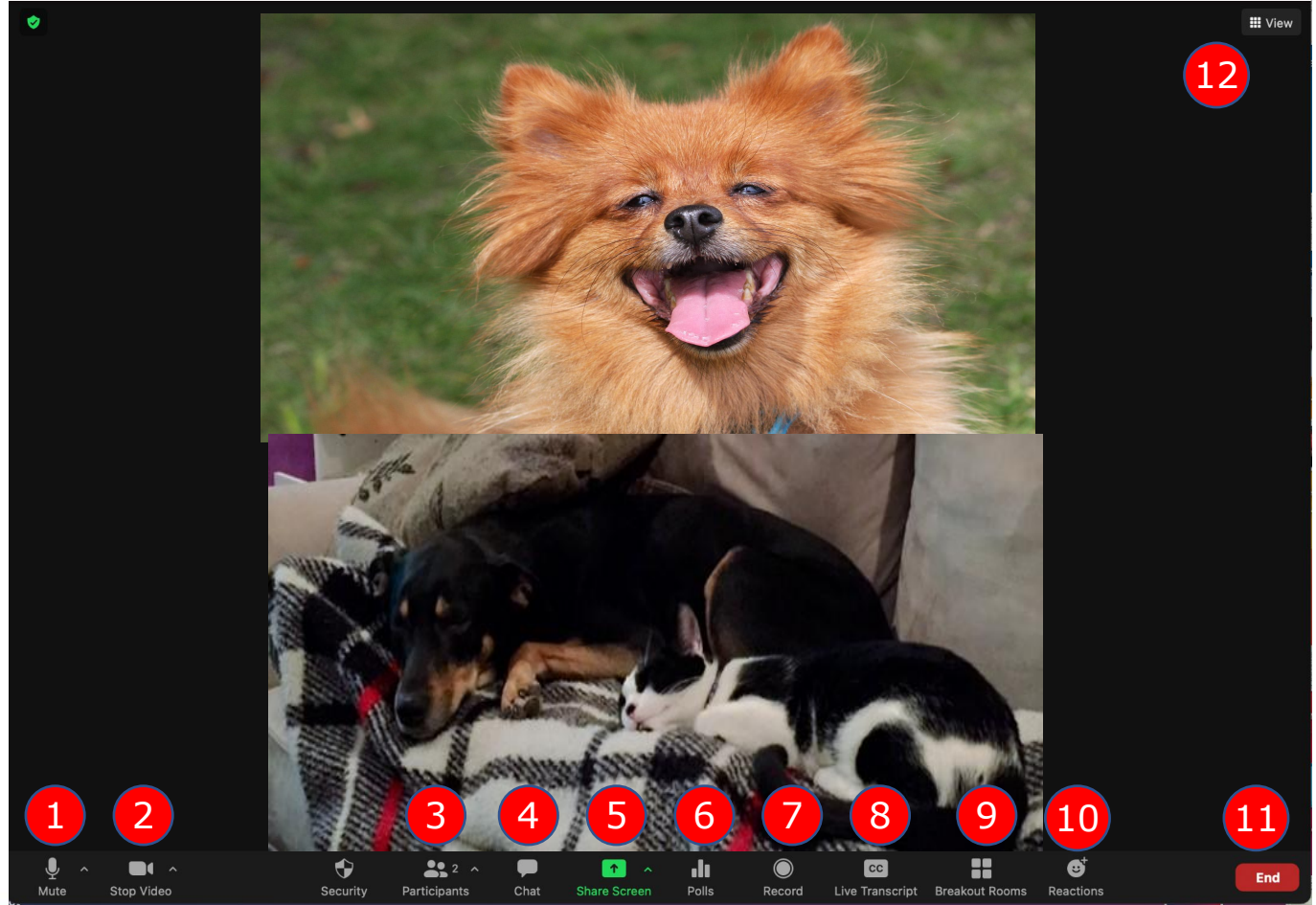
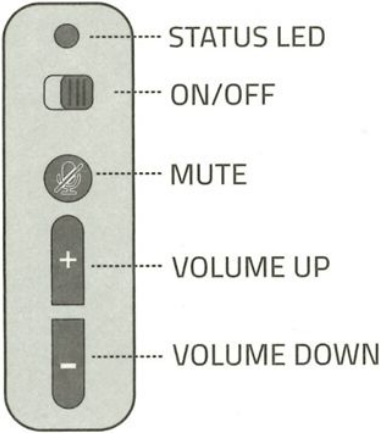
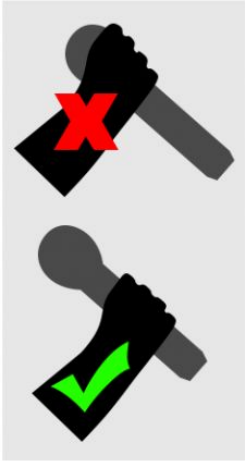


Image of a Zoom platform screen with two dogs in the participant boxes and red circles with white numbers above each of the Zoom button icons.

Using the microphone



Hold the mic about 5cm/2" from your mouth...



and don't cup it!
(unless you're rapping)



Accessibility statement

We will (imperfectly!) model accessible presentation techniques such as:

- Using a minimum of 20 point font on slides.
- Limiting reliance on words and images.
- Orally describe visual presentation elements.
- Taking time on slides.
- Ask ahead of time if anyone needs accommodations.



Accessibility statement, continued

- Use a virtual platform with auto-generated closed captioning.
- Include alternate text or image descriptions.
- Accommodations were requested and met.
- In use—voice amplification.
- Not in use—ASL interpretation, CART services.



Land acknowledgement

We are located in Portland, Oregon, Multnomah county.

Today, we honor the Indigenous people whose traditional and ancestral homelands we stand on—the Multnomah, Kathlamet, Clackamas, Tumwater, Watlala bands of the Chinook, the Tualatin Kalapuya and many other Indigenous nations of the Columbia River.

It is important we acknowledge the ancestors of this place and to recognize that we are here because of the sacrifices forced upon them.

In remembering these communities, we honor their legacy, their lives, and their descendants.



Quick introductions

Please share:

- Your name
- Pronouns
- Prompt — *What is one thing you're looking forward to doing this Spring?*





Aging, Disability and Veterans Services Division

VETERAN DIRECTED CARE PROGRAM

Presented by Sheila Balbin, Veterans Services and Veteran Directed Care Program Supervisor



WHAT IS VETERAN DIRECTED CARE?

- The Veteran Directed Care program provides personalized care for Veterans while allowing them to maintain independence.
- It is designed for US Veterans needing assistance with daily living activities.
- The program enables care in homes or communities instead of nursing homes or institutions.
- Eligibility requires Veteran to be enrolled in the Department of Veterans Affairs health care system.

HUB & SPOKE MODEL

SERVICE AREAS

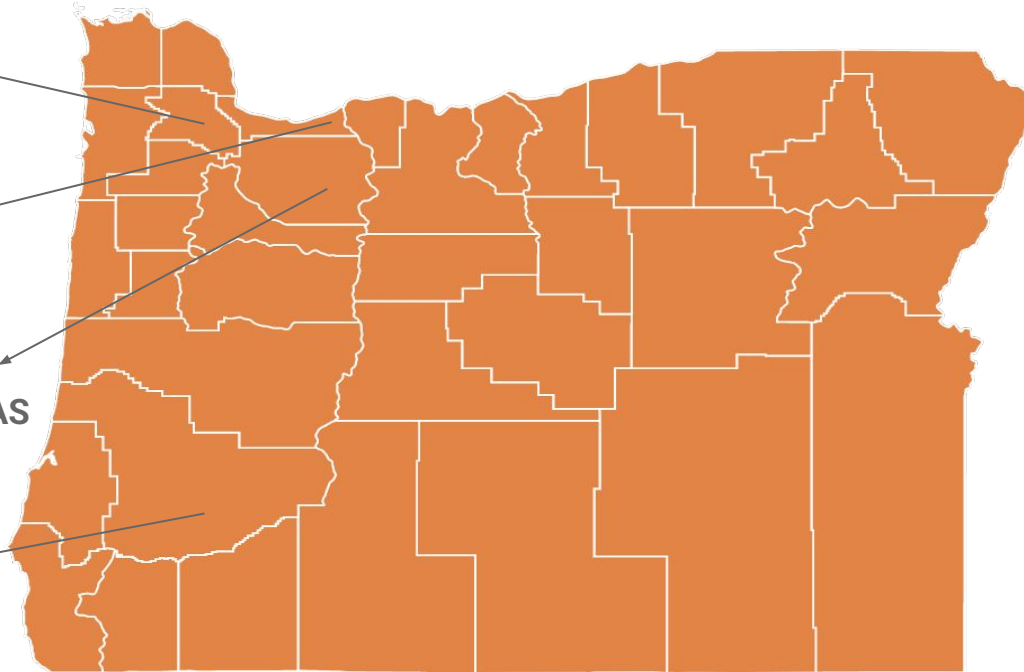
OREGON

WASHINGTON

MULTNOMAH

CLACKAMAS

DOUGLAS



**OTHER SERVICE
AREAS IN OREGON:**

**SOUTH COAST
BUSINESS
EMPLOYMENT
CORPORATION
(COOS/CURRY)**

**ROGUE VALLEY
COUNCIL OF
GOVERNMENT
(JACKSON/
JOSEPHINE)**

**KLAMATH & LAKE
COUNTIES
COUNCIL ON AGING**

PARTNERS

- VA Health Administration
- Lewin Group Consultants
- VA Medical Centers (VAMCs)
 - Portland VAMC
 - Roseburg VAMC
- Spokes
 - Clackamas County Social Services Division
 - Douglas County Senior Services
 - Multnomah County Aging, Disability, & Veteran Services
 - Washington County Disability, Aging, & Veteran Services
- Financial Management Services (FMS)
 - Resilient SD

ELIGIBILITY

1. Administrative eligibility, all the following must be met:
 - a. Veterans must be enrolled in VA for their health care.
 - b. Veterans must meet community care eligibility criteria.
 - c. VDC services must be ordered by a VA or VA-paid provider.

ELIGIBILITY (cont.)

2. Clinical eligibility, one of the following must be met:
 - a. Veteran, through an interdisciplinary assessment, has been determined to meet nursing home level of care as demonstrated by:
 - i. Three or more activity of daily living (ADL) dependencies, or
 - ii. Significant cognitive impairment as evidence by a deficit in execution decision making or memory, or
 - iii. Need for VDC services as adjunct care to community hospice services, or
 - iv. Two ADL dependencies, and two or more of the following conditions:
 1. Has dependency in three or more instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs).
 2. Has been discharged recently from a nursing facility or has an upcoming nursing home discharge plan contingent on receipt of home and community-based services.
 3. Is seventy-five years old, or older.
 4. Has had high use of medical services defined as three or more hospitalizations in the past year or has utilized outpatient clinics or emergency evaluation units twelve or more times in the past year.
 5. Has been diagnosed with clinical depression.
 6. Lives alone in the community.

ELIGIBILITY (cont.)

2. Clinical eligibility, one of the following must be met:
 - a. Veteran, through an interdisciplinary assessment, has been determined to meet nursing home level of care as demonstrated by:
(i.- iv. from previous slide)
 - b. Veteran does not strictly meet the criteria outlined above (2a) but is determined by the clinical care team to need VDC services and the clinical justification is documented in the electronic medical record.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

1. Eligibility Determination
2. Referral and Assessment
3. Budget and Spending Plan
4. Self-Direction and Hiring
5. Ongoing Support

BENEFIT OF THE VETERAN DIRECTED CARE PROGRAM:

Veterans

- Increased Control and Choice
- Personalized Care
- Maintain Independence
- Flexibility
- Family Involvement

VA Medical Centers and VA Health Administration

- Increased Access for Veterans with Complex Needs.
- Community Partnerships
- Cost Savings
- Reduced Emergency Department Visits
- Reduced Nursing Home Utilization

ADNAs

- Support Veterans in Community Living
- Person-Centered Counseling
- Receive Reimbursement for Provision of Care
- Serving Veterans in VDC

-----THANK YOU-----

ANY QUESTIONS ??

MMA?

What does it mean?

Medicare Modernization Act

2003 Act of Congress that established

Medicare Part D

Implemented in 2006

There are 3 MMAs in Multnomah County

Name	Phone	email
Michael Graham	503-988-6535	<u>michael.graham@multco.us</u>
Beth Rutledge	503-988-6494	<u>dawn.e.rutledge@multco.us</u>
Pavel Yuzko	503-988-6538	<u>pavel.yuzko@multco.us</u>

**50 years of combined experience with
Aging, Disability, and Veterans Services**

What does an MMA do?

- coordination of insurance
- resolving prescription access issues
- helping our Medicaid clients transition to **Medicare**
- helping our **Medicare** clients transition onto Medicaid
 - and much more!

Coordination of Insurance

Each Medic**aid** plan has a network of doctors and hospitals they work with.

Each Medi**care** plan also has a network they work with.

Which combination will allow the client to keep their current and preferred doctors?



Resolving Prescription Access Issues

- Medicare/Medicaid plan enrollments and changes create confusion for our vulnerable populations
- MMA staff intervene and provide necessary billing information to a clients pharmacy
- MMAs determine if and when urgent coverage interventions are needed i.e., LINET (transitional Part D coverage) and Medicaid overrides when appropriate
- We also help our clients navigate access issues including plan formularies, prior authorizations, quantity limits, etc to eliminate barriers to care

Medicaid starting Medicare



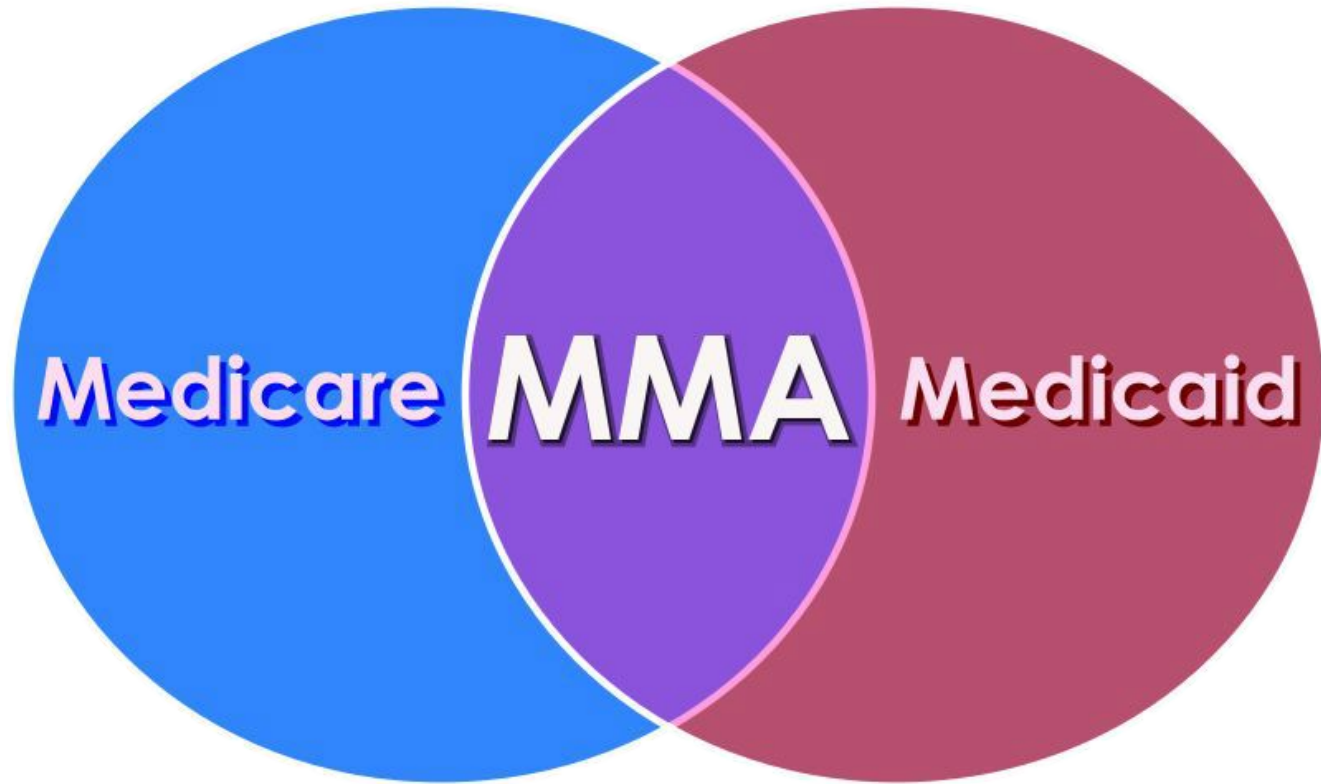
Medicare starting Medicaid

Two insurances can add complication to the already difficult world of healthcare

The transition to becoming dual requires education,
guidance, and advocacy that MMAs provide
Our clients often have significant healthcare needs MMAs

are a trusted resource

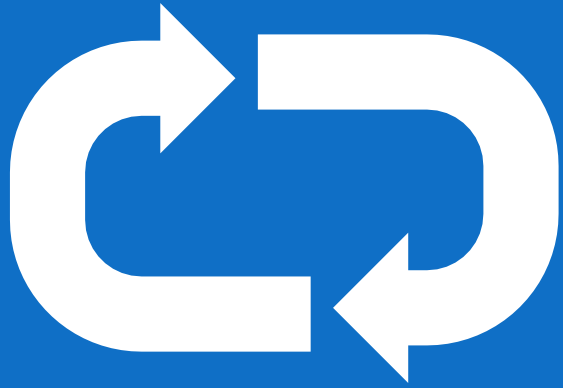
We want the right insurance plan for their care!



Medicare

MMA

Medicaid



**We want to
reduce the
runaround for
clients**

And improve outcomes

Multnomah County MMAs are unique!

Elsewhere in Oregon eligibility workers are responsible for Medicare choice counseling and Medicare plan enrollments. That is in addition to determining eligibility for a number of other programs. It's hard for them to do it all well.

The state of Oregon has 3 MMAs in Salem that only help with:

- urgent and challenging pharmacy issues
- coordinating intervention from state & federal sources to ensure prescription access in extreme situations

Multnomah County MMAs do these things and much more

Multnomah County MMAs do these things and much more

MMAAs are a Resource

Resources for clients

Resources for Multnomah County staff



MMAAs provide case managers & eligibility workers

- **trainings**
- **training materials**
- **quick resource guides**
- **one on one consultation**

Improving outcomes for all clients in Multnomah County

What clients we serve often say

“Finally! Someone who understands!”

“Thank you! I can finally get my prescription filled again.”

“How do you know all of this?”

“You answered all of my questions and more.”

“I’ve talked to at least 10 people before this, and you’re the first person who seems to know Medicare.”

“Things finally make sense.”

“I wish I had talked to you months ago”

“The puzzle is coming together now”

“I’ve been so worried that I couldn’t sleep, I can finally relax now”

The MMA positions is currently planned to be removed from the 2027 budget, which would mean eliminating the role effective July 1 of 2026.

While we recognize the number of workers impacted is large, and the budget issues we are facing significant, as far as bang for the buck -

MMA's are a worthwhile investment

15-minute break

**I'M TAKING
A BREAK**

ASAC Elections Procedures draft

Update on bylaws:

- Bylaws were approved by legal.
- No edits were required.
- The final step for implementation is signatures.
- Next is to determine ASAC procedure for elections.



ASAC Elections Procedures draft

I. Nominations (7-Day Period)

1. **Call for Nominations:** The process begins at 9:00 AM on the 1st business day of (the month) with an email call for nominations.
2. **Submitting a Nomination:** Any Advisory Council member may nominate one or more candidates, including themselves. Nominations should be sent via email in response to the call for nominations.
3. **Nominations Close:** The open call period closes seven calendar days later at 5:00 PM.



ASAC Elections Procedures draft

II. Finalizing the Slate of Candidates

1. **Candidate Confirmation:** The ASAC/DSAC Coordinator verifies that all nominees are currently seated members and confirms their intent to run for office.
2. **Candidate Announcement:** The final list of confirmed candidates is sent via email to all current Advisory Council members before voting opens.



ASAC Elections Procedures draft

III. Voting

1. **Voter Eligibility:** Only currently seated Advisory Council members are eligible to vote for the Advisory Council Chair and Vice Chair.
2. **When and Where:** Voting is held during the next available regular ASAC/DSAC council meeting, starting at 10:00 AM.
3. **Voting Method:** Voting is performed using a hybrid approach:
 - In-person council members submit their vote on paper.
 - Virtually attending members submit their vote electronically via a Zoom poll.
4. **Voting Period:** The period for voting is strictly limited to the duration of this meeting; no additional votes outside of this period will be included.



ASAC Elections Procedures draft

IV. Vote Counting and Announcement of Results

1. **Vote Tally:** The Senior Manager and ASAC/DSAC Coordinator review the vote tally.
2. **Results Announcement:** The Senior Manager announces the election results by the close of the meeting and sends the results via email to [<asac@multco.us>](mailto:asac@multco.us) or [<dsac@multco.us>](mailto:dsac@multco.us) by 5:00 PM the same day voting closes.



ASAC Elections Procedures draft

V. Leadership Continuity

The outgoing Chair and Vice Chair maintain their respective duties until a new Chair and Vice Chair are elected.



ASAC/DSAC Stipend Policy Update

Payment Options & Tax Rules: Compliance with new accounting rules from the Department of County Assets.

- **Payment Methods:** Choose between **Check, Direct Deposit, or Fred Meyer Gift Card.**
- **Required Paperwork:**
 - **W-9 Form:** Required for *all* members receiving any form of payment.
 - **ACH Form:** Required only for those choosing direct deposit.
- **Tax Implications:** A **1099 federal tax form** will be issued if total annual payments reach **\$600 or more.**
- **Privacy:** Your forms are mailed directly to County Accounting to protect sensitive information.



ASAC/DSAC Stipend Policy Update

Technology Reimbursement

- **Benefit:** One-time reimbursement of up to **\$600** for devices (laptop, tablet, smartphone) or accessories (headsets, hotspots).
- **Eligibility:** Must be an appointed member and attend **3 consecutive monthly meetings** before qualifying.
- **Process:**
 - Member purchases equipment first and submits receipts.
 - Processing by County financial team takes **30–60 days** via check or direct deposit.
- **Ownership:** Members retain equipment after completing their full term (2–3 years).



ASAC/DSAC Stipend Policy Update

Monthly Participation Stipends

- **Total Monthly Eligibility:** Up to **\$65 per month** when a required council meeting is attended.
- **Breakdown:**
 - **\$30 Participation Stipend:** Covers meeting time and related work (advocacy, work groups, etc.).
 - **\$35 Digital Access Stipend:** Offsets ongoing costs like internet or phone services.
- **Note:** Stipends are not paid for additional council related activities in the same month or if a meeting is canceled by leadership.



ASAC/DSAC Stipend Policy Update

Getting Your Stipend: Timelines and physical receipt requirements.

- **Timelines:** County Finance takes 30-40 days to process payments.
 - Example: Direct Deposit or check payment for a February meeting arrives late March.
- **Gift Card Pick-up:**
 - Cards for the previous month are available for pick-up at the **next** meeting.
 - **Must sign and date** a receipt log in person.
- **Certified Mail:** If you cannot attend in person, gift cards are sent via **certified mail** and must be signed for at your home or post office.



Public testimony

- Open for public testimony or comment.



Announcements & Reminders

- Please remember to respond to Deric whether you are attending. Transportation and food for in-person meetings must be completed several days in advance. It also helps us with staffing, printing, for the meetings.
- 31st Annual Pi Nee Waus Elders Powwow - April 4, at Kliever Armory on NE 33rd Drive. Grand Entries at 1pm and 6pm.
- Spring O4AD in-person and virtual meeting April 14-15 in Salem (optional)
- Next ASAC Meeting: Joint ASAC/DSAC on Tuesday, April 21
 - 10am-noon

