



# **Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC)**

**June 26th, 2025**

Aging, Disability, and Veterans  
Services Division

Department of County Human Services

Main features of using Zoom on a computer.

Zoom application features in the works, as requested.

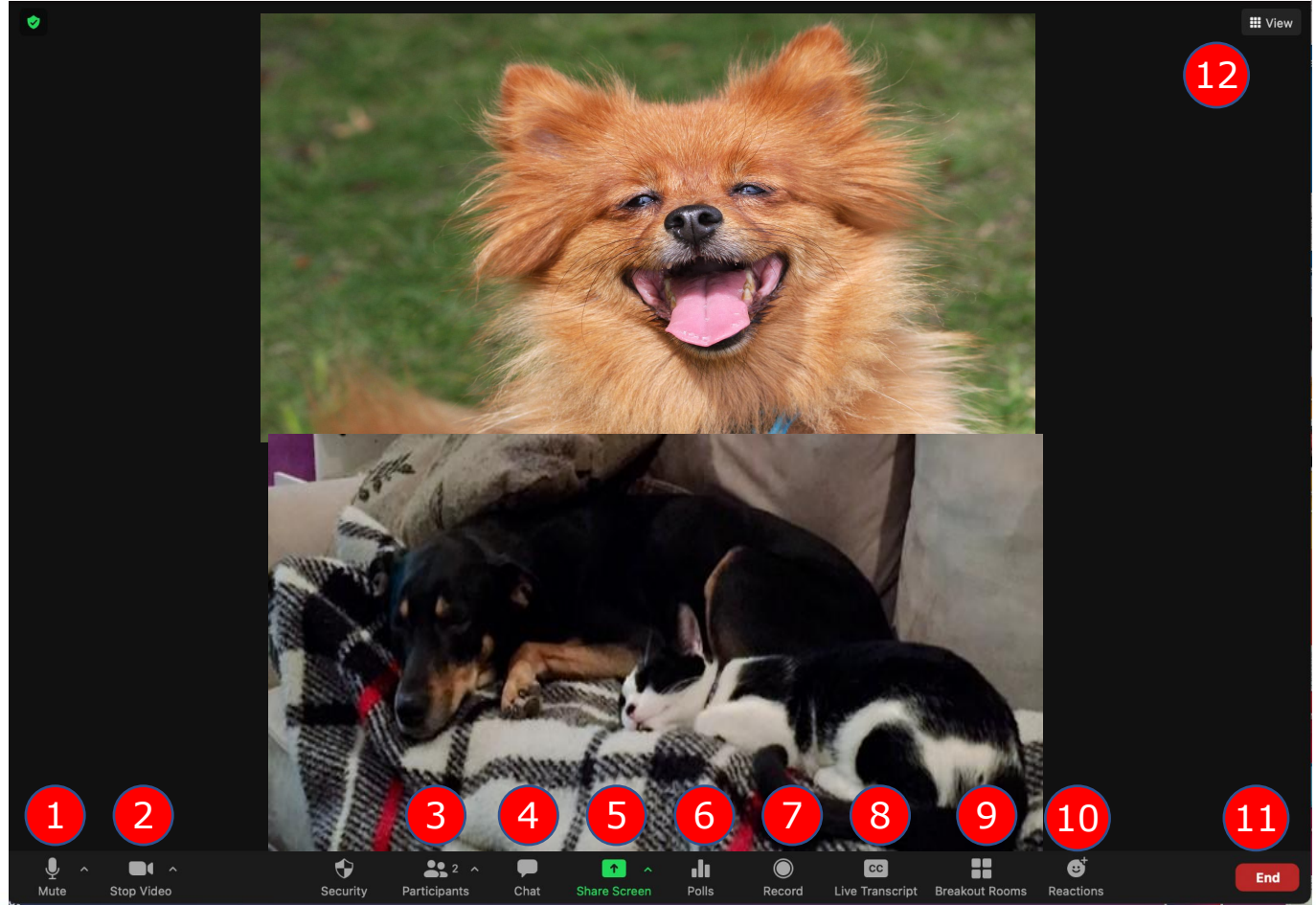


Image of a Zoom platform screen with two dogs in the participant boxes and red circles with white numbers above each of the Zoom button icons.

# Land acknowledgement

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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.

## Land acknowledgement, continued

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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.



# Accessibility statement

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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.



## Accessibility statement, continued

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- ✓ Ask ahead of time if anyone needs accommodations.
- ✓ Use a virtual platform with auto-generated closed captioning.
- ✓ Include alternate text or image descriptions.



## Accessibility statement, continued

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- ✓ Accommodations were requested and met.
- ✓ In use—voice amplification.
- ✓ Not in use—ASL interpretation, CART services.



# Meeting goals

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- Welcome and accessibility
- Land and labor acknowledgements
- Introductions
- ADVSD Structure and Programs (Charmaine K.)
- Presentation: OPI-M (Marcie Liesegang)
- Future meetings
- Council updates and public testimony





# Quick introductions

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Please share:

- Your name
- Pronouns
- Prompt – What is your favorite movie?



# ADVSD Structure and Programs

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- **Mission:** Promote independence, dignity, and choice in the lives of older adults, people with disabilities and veterans.
- **Vision:** All older adults, people with disabilities and veterans thrive in diverse and supportive communities.
- To do this ADVSD has several programs designed to provide a wide range of programs for elders, people with disabilities, and veterans.
- **Website:** <https://multco.us/departments/aging-disability-veterans-services>



# ADVSD Programs & Leadership

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- Division Director: Irma Jimenez
- Quality and Business Services: Jacob Mestman
- Project Management: Alex Garcia Lugo
- Adult Care Home Program: Steven Esser
- Adult Protective Services: Brian Hughes
- Community Services: Marina Khalina
- Long term Services and Supports: Tatyana Gannotskiy
- Public Guardian Office: Kristin Riley



# Quality & Business Services

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- **Quality Team:** 10 members (Jacob Mestman)
- **Business Services:** 7 members (Alex Garcia Lugo)
- Support the business functions of the five programs in ADVSD including the budget, reporting and data.
- Conduct quality assurance initiatives to ensure we are delivering to the best of our ability in line with our program offers, mission, vision and values and the workforce equity plan
- Provide Project Management to the Division



# Adult Care Home (ACHP)

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- Adult Care Homes are licensed, single family residences that offer assistance and services to up to five adults who are not related to the Operator by blood, adoption or marriage, in a **homelike** setting, for compensation.
- In 1981, Oregon became the first state granted a Federal waiver to use Medicaid funds for long term care services in the community. Prior to the waiver, only long term care in nursing facilities was covered by Medicaid funds.
- Multnomah County began regulating Adult Care Homes in 1983.



# Adult Care Home (ACHP) - Facts

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- There are **615 ACHs** in Multnomah County
- Homes serve: APD, IDD, BH, and Room and Board
- Homes are licensed and inspected annually
- Provided ongoing monitoring of the homes



# Adult Protective Services (APS)

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## Scope of Adult Protective Services

- The intent of the APS Program is to provide protection and intervention for older adults and adults with physical disabilities who are unable to protect themselves from harm and neglect.

## Advocating for Self-Determination

- The overarching ethical value in adult protective services is the obligation to balance the duty to protect older adults and adults with physical disabilities with the duty to protect their rights to self-determination.



# What are the Types of Abuse and Neglect?

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- Physical abuse
- Neglect
- Abandonment
- Verbal or Emotional abuse
- Financial Exploitation
- Sexual Abuse
- Involuntary Seclusion
- Wrongful use of a Physical or Chemical Restraint of an Adult





# Preliminary Populations

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- Older Adults (65 and Older, 60 for Multnomah County)
- Adults age 18-65 (60 for Multnomah County) with a permanent physical disability
- All residents of RCFs, ALFs, ACHs

## How do I report Abuse or Neglect?

If the person is in immediate danger/risk of harm, call 911 immediately!

For Multnomah County Residents ADVSD APS reporting:

- Call (503) 988-4450

Oregon's Statewide 24 hour abuse reporting Hotline: Call 1(855) 503-SAFE (7233)



# Community Services (CS)

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- Approximately 48 staff
- Provide Older American Act services & Veterans services
- ADVSD administers the funds largely through contracts with local service providers that offer these services at the community level. Management of a total of 18 contracts with district centers and culturally specific agencies that provide OAA services including OPI, OPIM, nutrition services, transportation, options counseling.
- The Older Americans Act (OAA) services are guided by the Area Plan.



# Community Services (CS): ADRC

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- Concerned about an older loved one? Looking for long-term care? Interested in senior centers?
- Call the **Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC)** at **503-988-3646** or email [adrc@multco.us](mailto:adrc@multco.us)
- For 24-hour information and assistance to seniors (older people), people with disabilities, and caregivers.
- Get needs assessed, identify services and connect with providers of those services.



# Community Services (CS): Veterans Service Unit

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- 8 staff 1 Supervisor 5 Veterans Service Officers and 2 Case Manager Assistants
- Multnomah County Veterans' Service Office have federally accredited and state-certified veteran service officers.
- Our County Veterans Service Officers provide benefit counseling, represent and advocate for veterans, their dependents and survivors in obtaining benefits to which they are entitled to.



# Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS)

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- The largest program in the division with 300+ staff
- 6 branch offices at 5 locations throughout the county
- Serving about 60K+ Oregonians with medical, snap and long term care service



# Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS)

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- **Eligibility Team**-determine eligibility for all our programs for the community members
- **Case managers**- provide case management to LTSS Service consumers, the majority of those are living in their own homes. They provide care planning, placement and assist with hiring HCW's for those in their own homes.
- **Admin Support & Management**- includes leadership and quality assurance and improvement
- **Transition and Diversion:** assisting high risk individuals in the hospital and nursing homes to get the supports they need in home or in a residential setting
- **Homeless Outreach Intervention Team:** provides intensive case management to stabilize homeless individuals.



# Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS)

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- If an individual is eligible for Medicaid LTSS, they are eligible to be served in various settings (as appropriate based on assessed care need and their preference).
- Nursing Facility
- In Home Facilities
- Adult Foster Home
- Residential Care Facility
- Specialized Contracted
- Assisted Living Facility



# Public Guardian & Conservator Office (PGC)

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The Public Guardian/Conservator Office obtains and implements court-appointed guardianship and/or conservatorship for adults who are:

- profoundly mentally incapacitated,
- unable to care for themselves, and
- currently at high risk for harm due to abuse, exploitation or extreme self-neglect.

Aging and Disability Services Division values person-centered service based on choice, when clients have the ability to make informed decisions according to their own values. When a client becomes unable to make choices due to mental and functional incapacity, court-appointed guardianship and/or conservatorship may be the only way to resolve or minimize risk of abuse or exploitation, or assure basic care, while retaining a service setting that respects the client's expressed values and current needs.





# Public Guardian & Conservator Office (PGC)

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## Requirements for Guardianship:

- The person meets Oregon Revised Statutes, Probate Court, and program standards for incapacity
- A guardian is necessary to oversee the care and supervision of the person; and
- The guardian is qualified, suitable and willing to serve.
- 18 years of age
- Multnomah County resident
- No family or private sector willing and able to serve
- There is a high risk of abuse, exploitation, harm to self or risk of loss of life
- Lesser restrictive interventions are not available, or have been unsuccessful
- A viable plan for how the guardian office will intervene in a way that effectively impacts the person's situation



# What is Conservatorship and what do Conservators Do?

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Guardianship is a legal relationship, designed to protect people who lack capacity to maintain their health and safety. Having a guardian can mean the difference between life and death for a crucial number of people who are incapacitated. By making informed decisions that the person is unable to make, a guardian can prevent abuse and other physical harm, obtain needed care services, help the person stay in the most independent care setting possible, etc.

Types of authority include:

- Placement or living arrangements
- Medical/healthcare decisions
- Management of income, personal property and minor assets
- Decisions about who the person can safely have contact with.

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# What is Conservatorship and what do Conservators Do?

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A conservator is appointed by a judge to manage the financial affairs of a person who has been deemed financially incapable, is qualified and willing to serve, and has assets of \$10K. The person must have money or property that requires management or protection, and the conservator may perform some acts only with prior court approval.

Types of authority include:

- arranges for payment for the person's shelter costs, medical and insurance needs, and taxes
- addressing property ownership issues
- addressing problems with financial management



## Resources PGC

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- Multnomah County Public Guardian and Conservator: 503-988-4567  
<http://multco-publicguardian.org>
- Local Circuit Court Probate Department: Report concerns about guardian/conservator
- Guardian Partners: [www.guardian-partners.org](http://www.guardian-partners.org)
- Guardian and Conservator Association of Oregon: 503-241-6009  
[www.gcaoregon.org](http://www.gcaoregon.org)
- National Guardianship Association: 520-881-6561  
[www.guardianship.org](http://www.guardianship.org)



# Advisory Councils

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- Two public advisory groups support the ADVSD
- The **Disability Service Advisory Council** and **The Aging Services Advisory Council**
- Recently revamped the committees to bring more diversity to those committees, they bring expertise, lived experience, and consumer voice into the work of ADVSD by making recommendations and advocating on important issues affecting seniors and people with disabilities.
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**I'M TAKING  
A BREAK**

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15-minute break

# OPI-M: What & Why

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- **What is OPI-M?** A federally funded program for adults age 18+ that provides in-home services to people who need help to continue living independently in their own homes. OPI-M prevents or delays services through Medicaid long-term services and supports. OPI-M is under the 1115 waiver and is approved for The State of Oregon by CMS for a 5 year demonstration.



# OPI-M: What & Why

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- **Why is there a new option?** Limited funding for Oregon Project Independence (OPI) led to waitlists. This has affected our goal to help as many people in Oregon as possible. It has also limited help for those who have OPI. **So, the federal government (CMS) is letting Oregon use Medicaid to expand services to more people and offer more benefits.**





# Timeline

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## June 2024 (Phase 1 & 2)

- Waitlisted consumers
- Current OPI consumers
- Current OPI-E consumers

## December 2024 (Phase 3)

- LTSS consumers losing LTSS benefits

## March 2025 -Public Launch

- Public apply through the ADRC



# Criteria

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## To qualify for OPI-M, a person must:

- Be age 18 or older
- Have income at or below 400% of the Federal Poverty Level
- Have limited resources that do not exceed the cost of six months in a nursing facility
- Need help from another person with personal care tasks (SPL 1-18)



# Oregon Project Independence Medicaid (OPI-M)

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- Case Management provided
- Services may include: up to 80 hrs/month of in home care/HCW
- Other services provided may include: Adult Day Services, Home Delivered Meals, Emergency Response System, Durable Medical Equipment, Transportation, Shopping, Assistive Technology, Home Modifications, FCAP, LTCCN



# Accomplishments

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- Completed OPI-M Eligibility for all consumers on the OPI/OPI-E waitlist
- 215 Multnomah County consumers have been approved for OPI-M

## Apply

- **ADRC**  
**503-988-3646 or [adrc@mutco.us](mailto:adrc@mutco.us)**



## RESOURCES

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- Local Circuit Court Probate Department: Report concerns about guardian/conservator
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# Reminders

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- Please do let Deric know as soon as you are able if you are attending in person, or virtually, and if you need a cab scheduled. We need a minimum of 8 working days advance notice for food and cabs.



# Public testimony

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- Please feel free to provide comments.



# Wrap-up

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- Thanks for attending!
- Next Meeting— July , 2025
  - 10am-noon
- Reminder: No meeting in August.

