

Assistant director letter

SPD's contributions to the DHS mission

Seniors and People with Disabilities Division (SPD) provides services to some of Oregon's most vulnerable populations: seniors, adults with physical disabilities, and children and adults with developmental disabilities. SPD collaborates with partners and stakeholders to develop and deliver programs for these populations. SPD is responsible for these key areas:

- Eligibility for Medicaid and other state and federal benefits determined throughout the state by DHS local offices and Area Agencies on Aging offices;
- Case management services for seniors and people with physical disabilities delivered through DHS local offices and Area Agencies on Aging offices;
- Older American Act programs delivered through Area Agencies on Aging offices;
- In-home services delivered in the client employer's home by Home Care Workers and in-home agencies;
- Nursing and community-based care services delivered in nursing, assisted living, residential and foster care settings;
- Eligibility for developmental disabilities services determined by Community Developmental Disabilities Programs;
- Case management for children and adults with developmental disabilities provided by Community Developmental Disabilities Programs;
- Family Support for children with developmental disabilities delivered through the Community Developmental Disabilities Programs;
- Support Services for Adults with developmental disabilities are delivered by Support Service Brokerages;

- Community-based care services for children and adults with developmental disabilities provided by private agencies, foster care and state operated community programs; and
- Disability Determination Services (SSA Title II & XVI) delivered in a statewide office.

The need for services for seniors and people with physical disabilities

The number of people in the United States over age 65 is projected to nearly double from 40.2 million in 2010 to more than 71.4 million people by 2030. Oregon will closely follow this national pattern. In 2010, approximately 13 percent of Oregon's population will be 65 years or older. By 2030, the percentage is expected to increase to nearly 20 percent. In Oregon, people 85 years or older make up a small but rapidly growing group within the total older population. In 2010, approximately 76,000 Oregonians will have reached age 85. By 2030, the number is expected to reach nearly 120,000, an increase of almost 57 percent.

Most seniors can live independently with little or no assistance. However, about 25 percent need help with activities of daily living, either from family members or paid caregivers. Among seniors, this 25 percent breaks down to 20 percent needing help with one to three activities of daily living and 5 percent needing help with four or more. The need for long-term services and supports can impose significant financial hardship on seniors and people with physical disabilities and even lead to financial ruin.

Most seniors and people with physical disabilities lack the financial resources to afford long-term services for a significant period of time. When they "spend down" their assets, they often have to count on Medicaid to cover their long-term services and supports.

The need for services for adults and children with developmental disabilities

There are over 16,659 children and adults with developmental disabilities enrolled in case management services. In 1998, there were 2,700 people with developmental disabilities in a Home and Community-Based waived services. With the implementation of the Staley agreement settlement requiring the elimination of the wait list for support services for adults with developmental disabilities, there are now nearly 10,000 people in these services. Nationally and in Oregon, the number of people with developmental disability-related needs, such as autism and alcohol and drug related causes are growing. The Centers for Disease Controls estimates one out of every 100 children is diagnosed with Autism. In Oregon, there has been an increase of people into the developmental disabilities services programs of 4% in just the last year.

Current and anticipated level of need

Here is a snapshot of the current and anticipated level of need in Oregon for services to seniors, people with physical disabilities, and for adults and children with developmental disabilities:

- 18,000 Oregonians aged 65 and older (3.9 percent) currently access long-term services under Medicaid;
- 34,000 seniors will need Medicaid-funded long-term services by 2030;
- 27,000 individuals (including people with physical disabilities) currently access long-term services under Medicaid;
- 44,000 seniors and people with physical disabilities will have Medicaid-funded long-term services and supports by 2030;
- 16,659 children and adults with developmental disabilities are receiving case management services;
- 5,577 children and adults with developmental disabilities are receiving comprehensive care through foster care, proctor care, group home or supported living;

- 4,818 adults with developmental disabilities are currently receiving support services as defined through the Staley Settlement Agreement;
- 1,371 children with developmental disabilities are receiving Family Support services.

The current needs and anticipated population changes will have a profound impact on the social and economic fabric of communities across Oregon. The huge influx of new clients will severely challenge the capacity of Oregon’s health care and long-term service systems to ensure access to quality care for individuals with Medicaid and those not Medicaid-eligible. This includes the capacity to license, regulate and pay for these needed services, as well as the ability to recruit and train the necessary workforce.

Responding to these needs

During the current biennium, SPD either directly or through partners, provides the following services to Oregonians:

- Approximately 72,500 seniors and people with disabilities receive medical coverage and/or food stamps. *(2007 year-end total)*;
- Approximately 26,700 seniors and people with physical disabilities receive services that assist the individual in meeting their activities of daily living needs. *(2007 year-end total)*;
- Approximately 12,000 adults with developmental disabilities receive services. *(as of April 2008)*;
- Approximately 4,600 children with developmental disabilities receive services. *(as of April 2008)*;
- Licensing 1,735 commercial Adult Foster Homes, consisting of 7,421 beds, of which approximately 33.3% were occupied by Medicaid residents. *(as of January 2008)*;
- Licensing 204 Assisted Living Facilities, consisting of 13,806 beds, of which approximately 26.5% were occupied by Medicaid residents. *(as of January 2008)*;
- Licensing 230 Residential Care Facilities, consisting of 8,623 beds, of which approximately 23.5% were occupied by Medicaid residents. *(as of January 2008)*; and

- Licensing 142 Nursing Facilities, consisting of 12,506 beds, of which approximately 42% were occupied by Medicaid residents. (*as of January 2008*).

In response to growing concerns from legislators, partners and stakeholders about Oregon's changing demographics, DHS has developed a comprehensive plan and supporting budget request that encompasses long-term services, social and community resources, provider and workforce infrastructure development, and a commitment to help seniors and people with disabilities remain independent, safe, and healthy in their homes and communities.

The plan strengthens existing publicly-supported services, such as Medicaid-funded long-term services, but also partners with local and national organizations to build a service delivery system for people who are not Medicaid-eligible. The comprehensive plan is the foundation of SPD's 2009-2011 budget request.

Key requests contained within this budget support the following goals:

- **Community Demographic Readiness:** Developing strategies and strengthening services to non-Medicaid Oregonians to prevent or delay entry into the Medicaid system;
- **Realignment of Medicaid:** Stabilizing Oregon's publicly financed long-term service system and preparing for the increase in new clients;
- **Community-Based Rates and Capacity for seniors and people with physical disabilities:** Rethinking rate methodologies and creating flexible, specialized and adequate community services;
- **Community-Based Rates and Capacity for people with developmental disabilities:** Using an assessment tool that connects the needs of the individuals to the rates paid to providers;

- **Service Delivery for adults with developmental disabilities:** Stabilizing the Community Developmental Disabilities Programs to provide eligibility services, adequate case management and protective services;
- **Supporting Families of children with developmental disabilities:** Utilizing Family Resource Centers to network, train, and support families with special needs children;
- **Protection of Vulnerable Adults:** Improving licensing and regulation of long-term service facilities and adult protective services, and developing technical assistance and prevention for nursing and community-based facilities; and
- **Collaborative Programs for Individuals diagnosed with Autism:** Partnering with Oregon Department of Education and Higher Education to support people with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

These and other initiatives are designed to assist seniors and people with disabilities of all ages to achieve well-being through opportunities for community living, employment, family support and services that promote independence, choice and dignity.

Sincerely,

James Toews
Assistant Director

Key Programs Areas

SPD has three primary program areas: Services to Seniors and People with Physical Disabilities, Services to People with Developmental Disabilities, and Program Support.

Services to seniors and people with physical disabilities

Services to seniors and people with physical disabilities focus on supporting peoples' needs to meet fundamental activities of daily living (ADL) such as bathing, dressing, mobility, cognition, eating and personal hygiene. Long-term services ensure that the person is living in a safe and healthy environment that promotes choice, independence and dignity. Services can be provided in nursing facilities, in community settings such as residential care facilities and foster homes, or in the person's own home. During 2007, approximately 27,000 individuals received these services.

This program area includes:

- Oregon Project Independence
- In-home services
- Independent choices
- Adult day services
- Home-delivered meals
- Personal care
- Community-based care settings
 - Adult foster homes
 - Residential care
 - Enhanced care
 - Specialized living
 - Assisted living

- Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)
- Nursing facilities

Services to People with Developmental Disabilities

SPD provides supports to nearly 17,000 qualified adults and children with developmental disabilities through a combination of case management and services. Developmental disabilities include mental retardation, cerebral palsy, Down's syndrome, autism and other impairments of the brain that occur during childhood. Some people with developmental disabilities also have significant medical or mental health needs. Adults with developmental disabilities may be eligible for services ranging from supports to help individuals live in their own homes to 24-hour comprehensive services. Twenty-four-hour services are provided in a variety of settings including group homes and foster homes. Children with developmental disabilities may be eligible for services ranging from family support to out-of-home placements. Placements can be to proctor care, foster homes or residential settings. During 2007, approximately 16,600 individuals received these services.

This program area includes:

- Comprehensive services
- Adult residential group homes
- Children's residential
- Children's intensive in-home services
- Supported living services
- Non-relative foster care
- Vocational services
- Diversion and crisis services
- Nursing facility specialized services
- Transportation services
- State-operated community program
- Support services

- Adult support services
- Family support services

Program Support

Program Support provides the infrastructure to allow SPD to effectively serve Oregon's seniors, people with physical disabilities, and children and adults with developmental disabilities. Most positions that work within Program Support provide direct services to these populations served by SPD.

SPD Central Administration provides overall policy direction to programs serving seniors and people with disabilities in both community and institutional settings.

Central Administration is responsible for program planning, resource development, standards setting, consultation, technical assistance, monitoring and evaluation of programs serving seniors and people with disabilities. The SPD Central Administration also works directly with federal agencies that set policy and fund Oregon's programs including the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services, the Administration on Aging, and the Social Security Administration.

Central Administration also is responsible for supporting a variety of councils, boards and commissions including the Governor's Commission on Senior Services, the Oregon Disabilities Commission, the Oregon Developmental Disabilities Council, and the Home Care Commission.

SPD Environmental Scan

In order to ensure that seniors and people with disabilities live safely and independently in their communities, SPD has worked closely with the Oregon Legislature, partners and stakeholders to identify the challenges facing the division, opportunities for addressing those challenges, and proposed actions.

Challenges

- The changing state demographics, for which the state is not yet prepared.
- The lack of provider capacity to meet the anticipated demand.
- The decrease in Medicaid capacity in community settings.
- The need for a realignment of Medicaid to allow more individuals with significant needs to remain in the community rather than enter institutions.
- The continued need to provide protection for vulnerable adults.
- The recruitment and retention of a long-term care workforce.

Opportunities

- Restructure community-based care rates to reflect market realities and costs of care.
- Allow DHS clients with significant needs to access support services in the community.
- Improve the quality of long term care through fine and fee increases and program enhancements.
- Provide all Oregonians with services option information, referral and assistance.
- Improve the trustee process for troubled facilities.
- Develop a statewide reporting and tracking system for Adult Protective Services.
- Develop a comprehensive training program to improve quality in adult foster homes.
- Ensure financial equity for Type B Transfer Area Agencies on Aging who provide 60 percent of SPD's field services to seniors and adults with physical disabilities.

- Implement the increase in nursing facility staffing levels.
- Stabilize Oregon Project Independence services to individuals 60 and older and extend services to eligible adults with physical disabilities.
- Implement workload staffing models.

Response to critical challenges addressed by this budget

The initiatives outlined below, which are represented in the 2009-2011 Agency Recommended Budget, demonstrate Oregon's commitment to addressing the challenges the state will face in the next 20 to 30 years. SPD will continue to work with stakeholders and community members to develop a comprehensive delivery system for programs and services to seniors, people with physical disabilities, and children and adults with developmental disabilities. The Policy Option Packages identified by the agency include the following:

- Community-based care rate restructure: Restructures the community-based care rate for seniors and people with physical disabilities by establishing a market related base-rate with add-ons for higher needs, and develops a standardized assessment and rate tool for adults with developmental disabilities that will demonstrate the connection between client need and cost of care.
- Medicaid capacity in community-based care settings: Addresses Medicaid capacity in community-based care settings by realigning Medicaid to allow DHS clients with significant physical, behavioral or mental health needs to access support services in the community rather than in more costly institutions.
- Improve quality of long-term care: Improves the quality of long term care by increasing fines and fees and directing those increases to program enhancements.
- Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC): Provides information, referral and assistance services to individuals before they require publicly-paid long-term services through a central information center for statewide access, a network of 17 local assistance centers operated by the Area Agencies on Aging, and an expanded set of direct services and resources to help seniors and adults with physical disabilities remain independent, healthy, safe and active in their home and community.
- Trustee process for troubled facilities: Improves the process for establishing a trustee for troubled facilities.

- Adult Protective Services reporting and tracking system: Replaces the current decentralized system used by local SPD or Area Agencies on Aging offices to collect APS information with a comprehensive, statewide system.
- Adult Foster Home Training: Provides dedicated resources to implement training for APD/DD Adult Foster Home providers.
- 95% Equity for Type B Transfer AAA: Sets an “equity” level reimbursement comparable to the cost to run a state office for Type B Transfer Area Agencies on Aging that are currently funded at 90 percent.
- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Staff: Implements Phase III of the roll-up for the Governor’s appointed Nursing Facility Staffing Commission recommendation to increase the CNA to resident staff level ratio.
- Workload Staffing Model: Implements workload staffing models to provide better program outcomes and greater efficiency in staffing.