

Summary/Abstract.

Oregon has one of the most robustly rebalanced long term care systems in the nation. Oregon's Money Follows the Person project – **“On the Move in Oregon”** – continues the state's historic rebalancing efforts using a sophisticated network of home and community-based services. “On the Move in Oregon” (OTM) is operated by the Seniors and People with Disabilities (SPD) Division of the Oregon Department of Human Services. Oregon DHS is the single state Medicaid agency. SPD is the unit within DHS that provides leadership, regulates services, provides protective services, manages resources, and administers the Medicaid long-term care program for seniors, adults with physical disabilities, and adults and children with developmental disabilities. SPD is the single State Unit on Aging, and serves as the state's long-term care regulatory agency and Minimum Data Set (MDS) repository.

Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) in the largest metropolitan areas of the state are on track to develop fully functioning Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) by the end of this calendar year. The State Unit on Aging will develop the ADRC for the balance of the state. With funding from this grant, SPD and Oregon's AAAs envision infrastructure development – specifically, the comprehensive, statewide resource database and contact module that provides Oregonians of all ages and income levels with easy access to information about long-term care and services and enables transition, case management and ADRC staff to offer decision support. The ADRCs, in conjunction with OTM, will play a pivotal role to help ensure that people are able to make informed choices which meet their individual needs and preferences.

Current Status of ADRC and MFP-ADRC Partnership:

The Lane County Council of Governments (LCOG) is the Area Agency on Aging in Lane County, and its ADRC became operational as of April 1, 2010. Four other AAAs – Northwest Senior & Disability Services (NWSDS), Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG), Multnomah County Aging and Disability Services, and Washington County Department of Disability, Aging and Veterans Services – are on target to meet the requirements of a fully functioning ADRC by the end of the year. Oregon ADRCs serve people 18 and over, regardless of payer source.

Oregon's OTM project became operational on April 8, 2008. Twenty-five locally-based transition coordinators work with long-term nursing facility residents, eligible for Medicaid, to help them transition out of facilities and back into their homes and communities. As of June 30, 2010, Oregon's On the Move project has assisted 265 people return to the community. Transition coordinators are in and out of nursing facilities frequently. They're often asked by residents who may not be eligible for OTM, and by their family members, what resources are available to assist them in transitioning back home.

Organizational placement of both the MFP and ADRC project directors within the SPD structure has helped to ensure complementary efforts as programs developed. With the advent of the MDS Section Q expansion, SPD envisions that coordination efforts will become more formalized. ADRCs seem ideally positioned to be designated as local contact agencies. In conjunction with OTM staff, ADRC staff can provide transition support to non-Medicaid eligible nursing home residents. In conjunction with ADRC staff, OTM transition coordinators will be trained as options counselors.

Key to these coordination efforts, and to the provision of timely and accurate services, is the development of additional tools that provide information and assistance on a comprehensive, statewide basis.

Goals, Objectives, and Outcomes:

Oregon's Nursing Home Transition and Diversion Project will create access to information and data on long term service and support resources, providers, and information for consumers and their families. We believe that this project will assist with decision support and enhance Oregonians' ability to make the most appropriate choices for their long-term service needs.

Specifically, the project will:

1. Develop an interface from the ADRC contact module into the Medicaid case management system to integrate the two systems and support a single point of entry into long-term service and supports for *all* Oregonians. As a result, OTM, ADRC and Medicaid case management staff will be aware of an individual's interaction with long-term service and supports from the first identification of need.
2. Procure and implement an enhancement to the ADRC resource database that will provide real-time provider/resource information on space/bed availability. This information will be available to the general public, as well as to ADRC, OTM and case management staff. The development will include a real-time interface through which community-based long term service providers can update their profile with availability and rate information. Implementation of the enhancement will require development of:
 - Inclusion and exclusion policy for facilities;
 - Memorandums of Understanding for licensed facilities that participate in the availability and capacity implementation.
 - Protocols for update access into the system and for frequency of information update.

Oregon's MFP efforts, focused as they must be on people who are both Medicaid eligible and who have been institutionalized for long periods of time, represent an approach to rebalancing efforts that can fairly be characterized as "getting people out the back door". The resources to be developed in this project will assist Oregonians in better understanding long-term services early in the process, when a lower level of intervention might be all that's needed. The resources will also assist state policy makers and analysts in a better understanding of the path that a person follows who ends up in a long term, Medicaid funded, institutionalized stay. The project can be characterized as development of a resource to "keep people from coming in the front door" of the institution.

Proposed Project:

These funds will be used to develop and deploy a resource database which will connect the ADRCs and SPD statewide. This will provide a single, transparent vehicle for any consumer – whether or not the person is Medicaid-eligible – to seek information about long term care options. This database will function as a tool for use by transition staff in any part of the state, thus enabling seamless support for clients and consumers. Finally, this tool will serve as the infrastructure to enable Oregon to support and assist residents identified by MDS 3.0, Section Q.

Project Management.

Project oversight will be provided by Sandy Hata, Interim Project Director, *On the Move in Oregon* (A Money Follows the Person Demonstration) and by Elaine Young, Manager, SPD State Unit on Aging and Project Director of Oregon's Aging and Disability Resource Center project. Daily project management will be provided by Linda Lenox, ADRC Operational Analyst. Ms. Lenox will serve as the technical expert on system design and interface. We estimate that 15% of her time will be devoted to the needs of this project over its 24 month life. SPD anticipates that resource database work will be accomplished by consultant staff; specifically an

information technology developer to design and implement the interface from the ADRC system to the Medicaid case management system, and an ADRC software vendor to implement the enhancement to the resource database and to real-time availability display. SPD additionally anticipates hiring a limited duration operations analyst between months 6 and 12 of the project to remain with the project through its end. The role of the analyst will involve development of the policies and MOUs needed to implement the real time availability enhancement, and work with industry organizations. These include the **Oregon Health Care Association (OHCA)**, a private not-for-profit trade association representing the long term care industry in Oregon. OHCA's membership includes over 620 nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, residential care facilities, senior housing, in-home care agencies, and others. **The Oregon Alliance of Senior and Health Services (OASHS)** is an association of not-for-profit, mission-directed organizations dedicated to providing quality housing, health, community and related services to the elderly and disabled. Current members include government subsidized senior housing, market rate senior housing, assisted living facilities, residential care facilities, community based services such as home care or adult day care, continuing care retirement communities, and nursing facilities. Adult foster homes are an important component of Oregon's long-term service system. While no trade association exists similar to OHCA or the Alliance, Service Employees' International Union Local 503 represents approximately 3500 commercial and relative adult foster home providers who provide Medicaid services in their homes to low-income seniors and people with physical, mental, and developmental disabilities.

Oregon believes that the challenges to this project are primarily technical, such as ensuring security and access for staff in the licensed facility environments and ensuring the accuracy of "real time" vacancy and rate data from providers.