



GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

BRIDGE ASSISTANCE FOR LOW-INCOME
OREGONIANS WITH DISABILITIES UNABLE TO WORK

Presenters:

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Jessica Larson, NW Pilot Project

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Clients, TBA

House Human Services & Housing Committee

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SSI/SSDI ELIGIBILITY:

- Severe disabilities
- Not receiving early Social Security retirement benefits
- Unable to work for one year or more
- Meets Social Security Administration's disability criteria

Current Estimate of Eligible Individuals (Presumptive Medicaid): 2993

Federal approval can take between 2 to 4 years.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:

- Temporary case management and cash assistance to low-income Oregonians with disabilities unable to work to meet basic needs while awaiting approval of federal disability benefits(SSI/SSDI).**
- Federal government reimburses state after approval of disability benefits for the individual.**
- General Assistance has not been funded since 2005 due to budget cuts.**

2013 LEGISLATION

❑ HB 2712 directs DHS to establish broad-based advisory committee with the following charge:

1. Determine the number of people needing assistance.
2. Assess human and fiscal impacts of not providing General Assistance.
3. Assess the cost of the helping them to obtain federal disabilities benefits.
4. Recommend a plan to implement including the option of recommending a pilot project.

