



Budget Priorities
Joint Subcommittee on Human Services
February 18, 2015

1. **Annual cost-of-living adjustment** to the Medicaid reimbursement rate for home and community based care providers (assisted living and residential care facilities, in-home care agencies). COLAs allow providers to serve the needs of the Medicaid population in these lower cost settings than nursing facilities and helps keep pace with rising costs, including employee compensation and benefits.

Annual 2.5% COLA; effective July 1, 2015 and July 1, 2016.

Estimated cost: \$6,576,361 million GF (DHS - Budget)

2. **Caregiver Training.** Renew the Legislature's investment in valuable training for **professional and family caregivers**. *Oregon Care Partners* recently launched a statewide program of free trainings, in-person and online, on (1) medication management, (2) Alzheimer's and related dementias, (3) challenging behaviors in aging Oregonians w/out dementia, and (4) specialized training for public safety workers.

Estimated cost: \$3.3 million GF (DHS - Senior/Disabilities SPA)

3. **DHS Innovations Fund.** Renew grant funding for *Our House's* Neighborhood Housing and Care Program, which is creating a model for serving people living with HIV/AIDS in their homes. The average age and acuity levels of these individuals is growing along with the baby boomer generation.

Estimated cost: \$350,000 (DHS - Budget & Budget Note)

(4) Rebasement of the nursing facility Medicaid rate as prescribed by statute.
(Assume this will be included in the DHS Budget)