



Oregon's Voice for Long Term Care & Senior Housing

11740 SW 68th Parkway Ste. 250
Portland, OR 97223
Office: (503) 726-5260
Fax: (503) 726-5259
www.ohca.com

March 26th, 2017

To: Co-Chairs Beyer and Nosse, Members of the SubCommittee on Human Services

From: Chris Madden, Oregon Health Care Association

Re: OHA Public Health Modernization Support

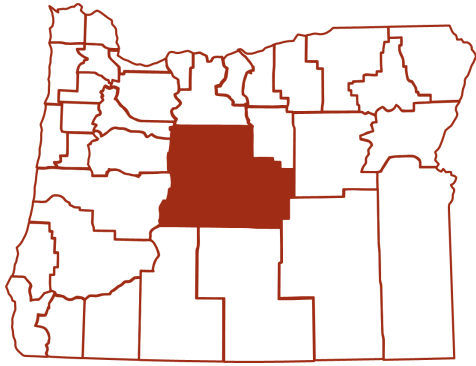
OHCA would like to offer its support of OHA's public health modernization efforts. Specifically, we would like to bring your attention to expanding opportunities for public health authorities and long-term care facilities, which OHCA represents, to work together on preventing the spread of communicable disease among residents of long-term care communities.

Following the state's initial investment in public health modernization in 2017-19, most funds were directed to local public health authorities to develop regional systems to address a communicable disease threat in their area of the state. Some local public health authorities are using this funding to build and strengthen relationships with long-term care facilities, focused on infection prevention and on rapid responses within these communities to stop the spread of disease once cases occur.

We wanted to flag the work of three counties in Central Oregon for the committee. Public health staff in Deschutes, Crook, and Jefferson counties are taking an active role working with infection prevention staff in long term care communities to implement the Infection Control and Response Program. These data driven efforts have proven effective at improving the response and reducing the impact of infectious diseases in Central Oregon broadly. The counties infectious disease staff mine through data and keep the community apprised of any ongoing or percolating risks in communicable diseases. In addition to this data centric approach, the infection prevention specialist is collaborating with long term care communities across the three counties to improve their community-specific practices and responses. Please see OHA's handout which we've included with our testimony.

In the next biennium, the public health system will use funding for public health modernization to expand from regional approaches to statewide interventions for communicable disease control, which we believe should include expanded partnerships between public health and long term care communities. The success of the work occurring in Central Oregon speaks to the improvements we can make to protect our residents from communicable disease through partnerships with public health and long term care communities.

The Oregon Health Care Association is the largest long term care trade association in Oregon and represents more than 900 organizations statewide including licensed in-home care agencies, nursing facilities, assisted living and residential care communities, senior housing organizations, and business partners.



Budget
\$500,000
Population
214,452
People of Color
15%
Over age 65 years
19%

Central Oregon Public Health Partnership

Deschutes, Crook & Jefferson Counties

Successes

- Directed funds to **interventions for older adults** in institutional settings and **young children** in childcare centers with high vaccine exemption rates.
- Formed Central Oregon **Outbreak Prevention, Surveillance, and Response Team**.
- **Responded to five outbreaks** in long term care facilities, including after-action outbreak meetings.
- Provided **infection prevention trainings** and/or training materials to 24 long-term care facilities and 36 childcare facilities.
- Hosted meeting with long term care, tri-county hospital, emergency medical services, and public health partners to **discuss best practices for infection prevention** and inter-facility transfers.
- Infection Prevention Nurse provides additional **capacity for routine communicable disease case investigation** to under-resourced counties, including 72 days of regular coverage and 31 days of vacation/leave coverage in Jefferson, Crook Counties.
- Regional Epidemiologist conducts **creates quarterly communicable disease reports** and weekly influenza reports for providers to inform clinical decision making; reports are also **translated into Spanish** using regional translation services.
- **Coordinated training** for communicable disease surveillance and case investigation to regional staff and Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.
- Completed **regional health equity assessment** to inform plan to address health disparities; **surveyed 108 collaborating partners** on their health equity priorities for the region as part of the assessment.

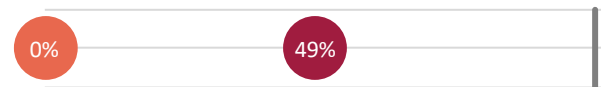
Measuring success

The graph below illustrates select progress measures for communicable disease modernization implementation, including baseline (●), interim (●) (as of December 2018), and target (|) (for June 2019) measures.

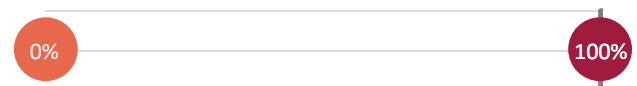
% of long term care facilities that received infection prevention training



% of child care facilities that received infection prevention training/materials



% of reported outbreaks with complete after-action analysis report



Other measures of success

15 tri-county epidemiology reports created and disseminated for healthcare provider education

670 Central Oregon flu surveillance website page hits from Oct. 1, 2018-Dec. 31, 2018