

My name is Daniel Alrick, I use Brokerage case management services, and I am pleased to speak with you this evening on the ways in which resources from my brokerage, Creative Supports, Inc. helps me to participate in my community.

A primary way in which CS is extremely beneficial is the assignment of a personal support worker. The PSW is a valuable asset in daily living activities, both in help with transportation and assistance and completion of tasks, and a built in advocate to check in with as a useful focusing agent for ones personal goals and day to to day activities. Having a PSW is a good way of staying in touch with aspects of ones community in ways that you may not be aware. Having mobility challenges is not only a matter of physical logistics, but separation in communication to the grapevine, and knowing what is going on in your community. Without that access, it is hard to picture your place in it. A PSW helps to make sure there is a connection that keeps you from being isolated or having to muddle through alone.

Another important assistance is public transportation supports. My brokerage provides funding for bus passes and shuttle transfers to parts of the Rogue Valley that is not conveniently located on the bus line. Public transport is essential for making medical appointments for which the PSW cannot facilitate transportation, and for serendipitous travel and appointments in your community. In a general sense public transportation is a good avenue of possibility when envisioning your daily living and activities as well as picturing your community and residence as an expanded home to figure in your lifestyle.

During COVID-19 restrictions maintaining contact with the values of ones lifestyle and a connective tissue to the community is essential. It helps to alleviate and avoid isolation and depression that can come of limited mobility and contact. And it helps one to envision a claim on your personal empowerment and space in your residence, your home.

These services from CS and other service brokerages around the state help make life in these challenging times a little easier, and help people like me stay engaged for a better future.

Thank you.