

A lives with her father in rural Eastern Oregon, 45 miles away from the nearest populated area of Joseph, Oregon. A is wheelchair stricken and requires full assistance to complete all activities of daily living, mobility, and transportation. Her father provides outstanding care for her, but is a single father who works out of the county for long periods and relies on PSWs to provide this care when he is away. Finding PSW who can travel the 45 miles each way and has a vehicle that can handle off-road conditions is very difficult and the cost of gas and wear and tear to their vehicles drives the hourly rate down, along with the 3 hour total unpaid drive-time to and from the residence. Wallowa County CDDP and A's father have worked together and been creative to find PSWs to provide care for A, but continuously struggle to staff PSWs to effectively manager her care. Currently, A has one PSW, outside of her father, who is living at the house and providing care for A, but burnout and compassion fatigue become a major issue, as well as the lack of backup care options. Due to the proximity of A's home, she does not have equal access to PSW care as others who live in more populated areas.