About directionCOG

The Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG) administers, staffs, and participates in over 354 grants, projects, and contracts, divided amongst the organization’s three main program areas - Senior and Disability Services, Community and Economic Development Services (including Lending and Transportation Services), and General Administration (including Human Resources, Finance and Accounting, and Technology Services). directionCOG, OCWCOG’s program guide, is designed to give you a brief overview of these programs and to show you where you can find additional information about them.

ICONS: The icons you see throughout directionCOG correspond to sections on OCWCOG’s website: www.OCWCOG.org.

- **Community Development** - These programs assist local governments and partners in planning for strong and resilient communities.
  www.OCWCOG.org/CommunityDevelopment

- **Community Services** - These programs focus on food, art, community public health, and other related areas.
  www.OCWCOG.org/CommunityServices

- **Donate** - OCWCOG accepts donations for several of its programs, including Meals on Wheels, Oregon Project Independence, and the Retired Senior and Volunteer Program.
  www.OCWCOG.org/Donate

- **Economic Development** - This program provides the Region's economic development strategy and promotes coordinated economic development efforts.
  www.OCWCOG.org/EconomicDevelopment

- **Lending** - The Cascades West Business Lending Program provides a wide-range of loan options to businesses to meet their financing needs.
  www.OCWCOG.org/BusinessLoans

- **Transportation** - These programs staff the two metropolitan planning organizations and the Area Commission on Transportation; administer the non-emergent medical transportation program; run the carpool/vanpool programs; and several other transportation programs for the Region.
  www.OCWCOG.org/Transportation.

- **Senior and Disability** - These programs serve the Region’s aging population and people with disabilities - our communities most vulnerable citizens.
  www.OCWCOG.org/Seniors-Disability

- **Veterans Services** - These programs serve the Veterans in Benton County.
  www.OCWCOG.org/Veterans

- **Volunteer** - OCWCOG has many volunteer opportunities available to its members and the community.
  www.OCWCOG.org/Volunteer

If multiple icons are displayed, that program can be found in locations across OCWCOG’s website and provides you multiple opportunities to participate or interact with OCWCOG staff and community.

We look forward to the continued positive impact that OCWCOG programs have on the Region.

Fred Abousleman
Executive Director
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OCWCOG PROFILE

The Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG) manages local, State, and Federal programs to serve residents, local governments, and businesses in our tri-County Region. OCWCOG is recognized by the State of Oregon as an Area Commission on Transportation (ACT) and a Type B Medicaid Transfer Agency. Additionally, the agency is recognized by the Federal Government as an Area Agency on Aging (AAA), an Economic Development District (EDD), a U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Revolving Loan Fund Coordinator, an U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Revolving Loan Agency, and staffs the two Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in the Region. These designations enhance OCWCOG’s ability to serve our communities’ needs.

As an Oregon intergovernmental entity, in addition to the programs and services that OCWCOG is required by State or Federal contract to provide, OCWCOG:

• helps businesses find appropriate capital;
• facilitates seniors and persons with disabilities plan for independent living;
• coordinates local road improvement priorities; and
• assists with administration and technical support for its member governments.

Each program works towards OCWCOG’s mission of helping the Region’s communities collaborate to solve problems and connect member governments, businesses, and individuals with a wide array of resources.

www.OCWCOG.org

LEADERSHIP

OCWCOG is led by a Board of Directors, composed of local elected officials, who serve on the Commissions and Councils, within, and including, the Counties of Linn, Benton, and Lincoln. The Board sets the policy for the agency, and approves OCWCOG’s annual Work Program and Budget.

www.OCWCOG.org/BoardofDirectors
MEMBERSHIP

The OCWCOG’s membership is:
COUNTIES: Benton, Lincoln, and Linn
CITIES: Adair Village, Albany, Brownsville, Corvallis, Depoe Bay, Halsey, Harrisburg, Lebanon, Lincoln City, Lyons, Millersburg, Monroe, Newport, Philomath, Scio, Siletz, Sweet Home, Tangent, Toledo, Waldport, and Yachats
SOVEREIGN NATION: Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
PORT: Port of Newport

www.OCWCOG.org/Members

OCWCOG FAMILY AND AFFILIATES

Benton County Veterans Services – Cascades West Area Commission on Transportation – Cascades West Economic Development District
ORIGINAL RESEARCH

OCWCOG manages its State of the Region report, which highlights trends, connections, and indicators related to the people and the economy of our Region, including migration, agriculture, business patents, philanthropic investments, and more. Findings are developed and illustrated through a rigorous data collection process undertaken by a project team at OCWCOG. Our goals for the State of the Region are:

1. To capture data related to our Region, present it, and make it available in easy-to-use, scalable, and interactive formats.
2. To build internal and external capacity in data collection, maintenance, and visualization.
3. To provide decision-makers with data to help set the stage for policy and program decisions concerning our collective priorities, investments, and vision.

OCWCOG updates the demographic and economic State of the Region data as it becomes available. This information is available on the State of the Region website.

www.StateoftheRegion.org
OCWCOG’s Senior and Disability Services Department provides Federal, State, and local programs to support the long-term care of seniors and persons with disabilities. The majority of the Department’s programmatic work serves clients in OCWCOG’s tri-County Region.

Contacting Senior and Disability Services
www.OCWCOG.org/Seniors-Disability

**Albany:**
- 800.638.0510
- 541.967.8630

**Toledo:**
- 800.282.6194
- 541.336.2289

**Corvallis:**
- 800.508.1698
- 541.758.1595

**Aging and Disability Resources Connection (ADRC):**
- Linn or Benton Counties:
  - 800.638.0510
  - 541.967.8630
- Lincoln County:
  - 800.282.6194
  - 541.336.2289
- Statewide:
  - 855.673.2372
  - 541.967.8630
  - ADRCmail@ocwcog.org
The Family Caregiver Support program assists families who provide 24-hour care to a family member. The program develops a plan to foster a supportive, caring environment, along with a healthy, quality of life for the caregiver and care-receiver. Twenty-three community organizations across the Region partner with OCWCOG.

Oregon Project Independence (OPI) helps older adults age 60 and over, and younger people with disabilities age 19-59, to stay in their homes through the assistance of home-care workers. OPI is an alternative to Medicaid and offers a small number of weekly hours of in-home assistance, including bathing, dressing, personal care, meal preparation, housekeeping, transportation, and medication reminders. OCWCOG’s Senior and Disability Services staff provides case management support, connecting people with community resources, and setting up a plan to meet their needs.

Caregiver Resources

The Senior and Disability Services Department offers the following resources for those who take it upon themselves to care for elderly or disabled family members. These resources are free of charge.

239 residents from our Region participated in Oregon Project Independence in 2017.

218 residents participated in the Family Caregiver Support program in 2017.
Medicaid Programs

The Senior and Disability Services (SDS) Department delivers a variety of services for Medicaid consumers that live within our Region. Those services are delivered through local Coordinated Care Organizations and InterCommunity Health Network Coordinated Care Organizations (CCO/INH-CCO). CCO/IHN-CCOs provide health, medical, and prescription benefits. These organizations are networks of all types of healthcare providers who have agreed to work together to provide healthcare to Medicaid consumers.

Long-Term Supports and Services

Long-Term Care Supports and Services are designed to ensure consumer access to and coordination of health care resources with an emphasis on consumer choice, independence, and cost-effectiveness. These services provide medical assistance with daily activities, to qualified participants in-home, in a community-based facility, or in a nursing facility.

Medical / Prescription Benefits

OCWCOG assists consumers in applying for medical assistance through the Oregon Health Plan and Medicaid. These consumers may also be receiving SNAP and/or Long-Term Support and Services benefits.

More than 3,219 seniors and people with physical disabilities were assisted with their long-term care coordination in 2017.

8,000 SDS consumers from our Region participated in the Oregon Health Plan in 2017.
Investigated over 1,034 cases of abuse, neglect, or exploitation in region in 2017.

Adult Protective Services
OCWCOG’s Senior and Disability Services Department investigates alleged abuse and/or neglect of seniors and adults with disabilities. Mistreatment or neglect of a senior or adult with a disability may include: physical violence; financial exploitation; neglect of care or abandonment; emotional or verbal abuse; sexual abuse or unwanted sexual contact; harassment; or self-neglect that leads to harm.

Aging and Disability Resource Connections - Information and Referral
The Senior and Disability Services Department staffs the Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC), a free service that offers the public a single source of information and referral on issues affecting older adults and people with disabilities, regardless of their income, on behalf of the State of Oregon.

Options Counseling
Options Counseling is a free service that offers information about a wide variety of services and long-term care options for Seniors and people with disabilities, family members, and caregivers, regardless of their income. Working with an Options Counselor, a consumer will be able to make informed, cost effective decisions, and develop a person-centered plan that promotes independence.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) program, otherwise known as the Food Stamp program, is administered for the Region on behalf of the State of Oregon to eligible, low-income individuals and families. SNAP assists those who are eligible to receive Oregon Trail cards for SNAP benefits, as well as discounted phone service and school lunches for their children. SNAP consumers also receive resources and referrals to other social service agencies.
OCWCOG’s Community Services Department is focused on serving our Region’s older adult population, adults with long-term physical disabilities, and Veterans, through: Meals On Wheels (MOW); Senior Corps Programs, including Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) and Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP); and Money Management Program. Under contract to Benton County, OCWCOG staffs the Benton County Veterans Service Office in service to Benton County residents. The Department also facilitates community initiatives in food security, art, community public health, and other related areas.

Contacting Community Services Program
www.OCWCOG.org/Community-Services
541.924.4539
info@ocwcog.org
Food Security

The Community Services Department assists vulnerable populations in our Region with food assistance programs. Low-income, elderly, or disabled individuals can work with OCWCOG qualified staff to ensure they will receive the benefits for which they are entitled.

Meals on Wheels
Linn, Benton, Lincoln

*Meals on Wheels* (MOW) serves hot, nutritionally balanced midday meals and companionship to those who are at least 60 years of age and their spouses, to Native Americans who are at least 55 years of age, and those who are disabled. *MOW* serves some of our community’s most vulnerable in two ways: 1) through a dining room atmosphere at the meal site for those able to travel, and 2) through volunteers delivering hot meals directly to the client’s front door. Meal sites are located in community centers in Albany, Brownsville, Corvallis, Lebanon, Lincoln City, Mill City, Newport, Siletz, Sweet Home, Toledo, and Waldport. The program provides nutrition education and socialization at each meal site.

*Meals on Wheels* is designed for aging adults and people with disabilities who are homebound and/or are unable to prepare their own meals. *MOW* is also a friendly check-in to homebound recipients. In addition, clients in all three Counties can participate in the pet food delivery program, which provides donated pet food for animal companions to those receiving home delivered meals.

2,000 individuals received 192,851 meals through the Meals on Wheels program at a cost of $1,839,799 in 2017. 83% of meals delivered in 2017, were delivered to clients who were homebound.

83% of meals delivered in 2017, were delivered to clients who were homebound.
Community Services Programs

**Foster Grandparent Program**

In partnership with the Corporation for National and Community Service, OCWCOG recruits and matches volunteers to children aged five to 18 in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties through the *Foster Grandparent Program* (FGP). The FGP’s inter-generational, providing volunteers age 55 and over the opportunity to mentor, nurture, and support children with special or exceptional needs, or who are at an academic, social, or financial disadvantage. OCWCOG leverages the skills of local foster grandparents to improve school readiness, and promote early literacy, especially among English Language Learners, in meeting critical Grade 3 reading benchmarks, and help children gain academic confidence to excel in school.

**Senior Health Insurance Benefit Assistance Program**

The *Senior Health Insurance Benefit Assistance* (SHIBA) program, is administered by OCWCOG on behalf of the State of Oregon to educate and advocate for the residents in our Region about Medicare. By providing in-kind counseling space, technology, and meeting space, 15 community partners make it possible to provide the free classes for the public.
Benton County Veteran Services

OCWCOG staffs the Benton County Veterans Service Office (VSO). The Service Officer, accredited by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, assists Veterans, surviving spouses, and eligible dependents in applying for Veterans Affairs claims and benefits. Services can include identifying potential claims and entitlements; assisting in completing necessary applications; providing guidance to veterans to obtain supporting documents or materials; and providing presentations and trainings, as requested for groups and other agencies. Additionally, the VSO can assist with guidance in applying for health care; education and training; employment; burial and survivor benefits; housing programs; transportation; and procurement of military records. All services provided by the Benton County Veterans Services Office are free.

Older Adult Behavioral Health Initiative

In partnership with Linn County Mental Health, Lincoln County Mental Health, and the Oregon Health Authority, OCWCOG staffs two Older Adult Behavioral Health Coordinators. These Coordinators help develop and coordinate cohesive behavioral health systems that address the serious gaps in mental health services for our older adults and younger adults with disabilities. They promote access to information and knowledge relating to older adults and people with disabilities in our communities, as well as identify gaps in service available to our consumers. The Older Adult Behavioral Health Coordinators coordinates between various systems in order to promote healthy living, and provide information to families, primary care providers, and local communities regarding local and statewide services that are available.
Volunteer and Advocacy Opportunities

The Senior and Disability Services department and the Community Services Program offer a variety of volunteer and advocacy opportunities for residents of OCWCOG’s Region. These opportunities include assisting peer citizens with time and expertise, and participating on Councils or Committees to build and develop OCWCOG programs.

Disability and Senior Services Advisory Councils

The Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC) and Senior Services Advisory Council (SSAC) are established by OCWCOG to advise the Senior and Disability Services staff and the OCWCOG Board of Directors on matters relating to the development and operation of a comprehensive service delivery system for older adults, and those with a disability, in the OCWCOG’s tri-County Region of Benton, Lincoln, and Linn Counties. The group advocates both locally and at the State level on issues related to aging and disabilities. The Advisory Councils have a number of subcommittees devoted to specific issues, such as long-term services, transportation, and nutrition.

Money Management Program

OCWCOG's Money Management Program provides assistance with personal money management tasks through specially trained volunteers. Service is personalized, confidential, and safe. Program services are offered free of charge to eligible individuals.

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is America’s largest volunteer network for people age 55 and over. The local OCWCOG program gives our Region’s residents a chance to participate in National Service projects in their own communities. Our local RSVP has a focus on helping other seniors age in place, offering Medicare and tax counseling at no charge, assisting in local food pantries, providing non-medical transportation, friendly visiting, and more. RSVP staff and volunteers also assist with several community events throughout the Region including: Project Homeless Connect and the Veteran Stand Down in Lincoln County; the Oregon State University Gerontology Conference in Benton County; and health fairs at Mennonite Village and the Lebanon Senior Center in Linn County.

| 29 volunteers gave 4,800 hours of service to 60 participants in 2017. |
| 446 volunteers gave 66,624 hours across 45 agencies assisting more than 2,000 seniors in 2017. The volunteers time is worth $1.5 million. |
Volunteer and Advocacy Opportunities

Meals on Wheels Advisory Committee

The Meals on Wheels Advisory Committee members serve as Advisors to the Senior Services Advisory Council and the Meals on Wheels program management team. They also serve as liaisons between the meal sites and the Meals on Wheels program staff. Members must be able to be present at their meal sites on a quarterly basis, as well as participate in the bi-monthly Meals on Wheels Advisory Committee meetings.

Meals on Wheels Volunteers

While providing nutritious meals is the program’s top priority, we know Meals on Wheels is more than a meal: it’s health, safety, and socialization for many of our communities’ most vulnerable. A volunteer base of approximately 375 serve in meal site kitchens and as delivery drivers. These volunteers provide a daily well-check for homebound clients, intervene in potentially critical medical events, and provide socialization at meals sites to keep isolation at bay. Volunteers are integral to the success of the program, helping to keep some of our community’s most vulnerable in the home of their own choosing.

Interested in Volunteering?

Volunteers must complete an application form and pass a criminal background check to work with consumers. Individuals interested in joining the Disability or Senior Services Advisory Council seats must complete an application form, though no background check is required.

Additional information about volunteer activity identified throughout directionCOG, can be found on OCWCOG's Volunteer webpage:

www.OCWCOG.org/Volunteer
The Community and Economic Development Services Department provides Region-wide services in the areas of community facility development, business lending, economic development planning, and inter-jurisdictional collaboration.

Contacting Community and Economic Development Services

www.OCWCOG.org/Community-Development

541.967.8551
info@ocwcog.org
Cascades West Business Lending

The Cascades West Business Lending (CWBL) program with the Community and Economic Development Services Department aims to foster economic development by providing access to capital for small business owners, for either start-up or expansion needs. This gives businesses the opportunity and capacity to play an important role in determining their futures. Ultimately it means the creation or retention of jobs in our communities.

Business Investment Fund Loans

Available in Benton, Lane, Lincoln, and Linn Counties, Business Investment Fund Loans assist for-profit and not-for-profit businesses to acquire or improve land, buildings, machinery and equipment, furniture and fixtures; or those in need of working capital. Refinancing is available under some conditions.

Lincoln City Urban Renewal Business Expansion Loan Program

Available in Lincoln City only, as the City has made funds available for businesses. OCWCOG is providing assistance with approval, closing, and servicing of this loan program. The goal of this program is to provide existing businesses and not-for-profit organizations with funding for business expansion within the Urban Renewal District including building renovation, additions to existing buildings, equipment purchase, business diversification, and relocation assistance.

Lincoln County Rural Development Fund Loans

Available in Lincoln County only, the Lincoln County Rural Development Fund Loans assist for-profit or not-for-profit businesses that are ineligible for other public or private financing and in need of short-term operating capital. Refinancing requests may be eligible, certain conditions may apply. There are no job creation or retention requirements for this loan.
Cascades West Business Lending

**Rural Development Fund Loans**
Available in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties rural locations (outside of Albany and Corvallis), the Rural Development Fund Loans assist for-profit or not-for-profit businesses acquiring, remodeling, or refurbishing land, building, machinery and equipment, furniture and fixtures; or those in need of working capital. Refinancing is available under certain conditions. Funding for those loans comes from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**Small Business Administration 504 Loans**
Available across the State, the Small Business Administration (SBA) 504 Loans allow for-profit businesses to finance land and building acquisition, construction, or remodeling; or purchase machinery and equipment. This funding cannot be used for working capital or short-term assets. Refinancing transactions will be considered on an exception basis.

**Revolving Loan Funds**
Available in Lincoln and Linn Counties, Revolving Loan Funds allow for-profit and not-for-profit businesses to acquire or improve land, buildings, machinery and equipment, furniture and fixtures; or assist those in need of working capital. Funding for these loans come from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration.

**Rural Microenterprise Assistance Program**
Available in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties rural locations (outside of Corvallis and Albany). Loan funds allowed for-profit businesses for financing machinery and equipment; furniture and fixtures; and working capital. Refinancing is available under limited conditions. Funding for these loans come from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

In partnering with banks and credit unions, CWBL require borrowers to bring less funds to the table and make it easier for them to get loans.
Community Development

The Community Development program of the Community and Economic Development Services Department programs assist local governments and partners in planning for strong and resilient communities.

Community Facilities Development

The Community Development Department assists local governments to develop facilities plans, obtain financing, and construct facilities in OCWCOG's tri-County Region. Additionally, staff will provide planning and technical assistance to meet these facilities project needs.

Geographic Information Systems

OCWCOG provides Geographic Information Systems (GIS) services and maintains a library of GIS data with sources ranging from local cities and counties, to State and Federal agencies. These diverse sources, are used to generate maps illustrating base layers; aerial imagery and shaded relief imagery; highway conditions and hazards; soils and potential wetland areas; and environmental constraints and hazards. These existing layers can also be paired with data collected locally, information from county assessors, or data from the Oregon Department of Transportation, and other State or Federal agencies, to produce specific GIS analysis. GIS projects are typically completed as a part of larger planning efforts. Individual and/or specialized requests may also be accommodated.

Planning Services

OCWCOG's Community Development Department assists communities with land use, transportation, facilities, and services planning. Services include facilitation, visioning and goal setting, research, scenario development, alternatives analysis, and public involvement. Projects include brownfields, wetlands, collaborative jobs-housing balance, criminal justice, and emergency planning efforts.
Economic Development

The Community and Economic Development Services Department provides the Region’s economic development strategy, works on priority efforts under a regional action plan, and promotes coordinated economic development efforts. OCWCOG supports local economic development initiatives through research, grant writing, project development and management, and technical assistance.

Cascades West Economic Development District

The Cascades West Economic Development District (CWEDD), is designated by the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) to work on economic development efforts in Benton, Lane, Lincoln, and Linn Counties. The CWEDD advocates for, supports, and coordinates regionally significant economic development activities in the Region. It is staffed jointly by OCWCOG’s Economic Development Department and Lane Council of Governments.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

Every five years, the Community and Economic Development Services Department updates the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), as required by EDA. Regional information, issues, opportunities, and activities to improve the economy are reported in this document. The current CEDS document expires on December 31, 2020.

Economic Development Projects

OCWCOG’s Community and Economic Development Services Department works closely with its members to complete economic development projects across the Region.
Transportation Programs

Transportation Programs, a division of the Community and Economic Development Department, provides Region-wide services in the areas of non-emergent medical transportation; transportation options to improve mobility and reduce single-occupant trips; and transportation planning and programming services. Additionally, this Department also staffs the two Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) for the Region – Albany and Corvallis – and the Cascades West Area Commission on Transportation.

Contacting Transportation Programs

www.OCWCOG.org/Transportation

541-967-8551
info@ocwcog.org
Metropolitan Planning Organizations

A Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is a Federally mandated and Federally funded transportation policy-making organization in the United States, whose governing Board is made up of representatives from local governments. In our Region, there are two MPOs – the Albany Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (AAMPO) and the Corvallis Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO).

Albany Area MPO

The Albany Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (AAMPO) was established in 2013 as the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Greater Albany Urbanized Area, which includes the Cities of Albany, Jefferson, Millersburg, and Tangent, as well as Benton and Linn Counties. AAMPO develops the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), which provides a regional vision and policies to guide development and management of the regional system over the next 20 years. AAMPO also develops the Region’s four-year Transportation Improvement Program, which programs millions of Federal transportation program dollars for local projects. As part of the RTP, which is expected to be adopted in early 2018, AAMPO is developing a Transit Development Plan for the Albany area.

57,000 individuals are served by AAMPO within its 34 square mile district, which includes 135 bridges and 5 State or Federal highways.

Corvallis Area MPO

The Corvallis Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) was established in 2002 as the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Corvallis Urbanized Area, which includes the Cities of Corvallis, Philomath, and Adair Village, and the adjacent portions of Benton County. The Policy Board of CAMPO is composed of representatives of the above mentioned jurisdictions and the Oregon Department of Transportation. CAMPO develops the Regional Transportation Plan, which provides a regional vision and policies to guide development and management of the regional transportation system over the next 20 years. CAMPO also develops the Region’s four-year Transportation Improvement Program, which programs millions of Federal transportation program funds for local projects. In addition to transportation planning and programming, CAMPO has been actively involved in planning for reducing greenhouse gases.

64,000 individuals are served by CAMPO within its 49 square mile district.
Non-Emergent Medical Transportation

OCWCOG provides non-emergent medical transportation for eligible Oregon Health Plan (OHP) and Medicaid clients traveling to and from covered non-emergency medical services. Transportation is provided to those OHP-eligible clients living in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties who have no other way to get to their medical services.

197,967 rides taken by 7,004 clients in 2017. There are 54,530 individuals in our Region eligible for Ride Line service.

Cascades West Ride Line

Cascades West Ride Line provides non-emergent medical transportation (NEMT) for Medicaid-eligible clients enrolled either through the InterCommunity Health Network Coordinated Care Organization (IHN-CCO) or the Oregon Health Authority (OHP). In accordance with Oregon Administrative Rules, transportation to and from covered medical services is available for Medicaid recipients. Ride Line, working with private transport providers, coordinates the most appropriate and cost-effective rides using a variety of modes, including transit, sedan, wheelchair, stretcher, and secured. Mileage reimbursement is available when a client provides their own transportation or another person drives them. Evening, weekend, and holiday service is available, as well as after-hours transport for urgent but non-emergent needs.
Transportation Options

OCWCOG works with partners throughout the Region to collaborate to improve the roads and vital transportation services in our Region. Additionally, staff assist residents with reducing fuel costs, saving on parking costs, reducing air emissions, reducing the wear and tear on their vehicles, and matching with carpool or vanpool rides near where they work or live.

Bikeshare and Transportation Options

*Cascades West Rideshare* provides transportation options outreach and is the Regional administrator for the *Drive Less Connect* program, a ridesharing database active across Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. OCWCOG also operates the *Pedal Corvallis* bikeshare program, which is open to anyone age 18 and over, and is free to Medicaid members (for rides up to two hours). The program improves community connectivity and mobility.

Safe Routes to School Program

OCWCOG is currently partnering with the Oregon Department of Transportation’s *Safe Routes to School* program to bring bicycle and pedestrian safety outreach to four communities in Linn County and one in Marion County. Activities include developing *Action Plans* addressing goals for promoting walking and biking to schools, as well as organizing *Walk and Bike to School Days*.

Regional Park and Ride Plan

OCWCOG is developing a *Regional Park and Ride Plan* to support and advance Transportation Demand Management (TDM) in the Region and foster a multi-modal transportation system. There are eight existing Regional park-and-ride locations. The *Plan* will identify suggested amenities for new and existing sites, and suggested priority sites for future development to serve commuters, students, and visitors.

Drive Less Connect members have tracked 539,419 miles by transportation other than a car, which means 407,851 pounds of CO₂ has not been released into the atmosphere, and $158,004 has been saved by commuters in 2017.

Pedal Corvallis bikeshare has 41 bikes, 2 trikes, and 8 stations. The program has 745 overall members, who have taken 4,617 trips, 38 of whom who have received free helmets in 2017.
The Cascades West Area Commission on Transportation (CWACT) serves the Linn, Benton, and Lincoln County Region and is one of 12 Area Commissions on Transportation (ACTs) throughout the State of Oregon. ACTs convene on policy topics of Regional significance and are advisory bodies to the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) and Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). ACTs also have a role in prioritizing State and Federal funding applications for surface, air, marine, transit, and rail projects.

The Cascades West Area Commission on Transportation (CWACT) works with local transportation organizations, such as the Albany Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, Corvallis Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, and local Cities and Counties.

CWACT’s membership includes representatives of Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties, and the Cities within the three Counties, as well as representatives of the private sector, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, and Ports. The ACT is Chaired by a County Commissioner from Linn, Benton, or Lincoln Counties. Chief among the responsibilities of the CWACT is to recommend the funding of transportation projects in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).
Administration, Support, and Business Services

Administration, Support, and Business Services provides organization-wide Human Resources; Accounting and Finance; and Technology Services. These services are provided to member governments and partners for a nominal fee.

Contacting General Administration
www.OCWCOG.org/Administration

541-967-8720
info@ocwcog.org
OCWCOG's Human Resources Department provides a wide range of services to the organization in the areas of recruitment and selection; classification and compensation; employee benefits; employee relations; organizational consulting and development; employee and team training; and employee recognition and wellness.

**Human Resources**

Finance processes payroll, accounts receivable, and accounts payable for all of OCWCOG's facilities. Finance and Accounting is responsible for the annual audit, as well as budget preparation, and publishing of the annual *Work Program and Budget*.

**Finance and Accounting**

The Technology Services' Department provides comprehensive, agency-wide Information Technology (IT) management. Services include network implementation; software and website maintenance; computer and phone maintenance; consulting; and project management for OCWCOG departments, and by contract to other agencies.

**Technology Services**

OCWCOG's Business Services include Human Resources; Finance and Accounting; IT and Website; and Communications and Event consulting services. These services are available to its members, partners, and local businesses at a nominal cost.

**Business Services**

OCWCOG administers more than 354 Local, State, and Federal contracts.

**OCWCOG** administers and manages 5 internal websites, as well as 4 additional websites for its members.

**OCWCOG** administers and manages a staff of 154 employees, and provides training, performance, communication, and other services.

15 of OCWCOG members are also our customers.

OCWCOG administers and manages more than 354 Local, State, and Federal contracts.
## Acronym List

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<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>AAA</td>
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<tr>
<td>AAMPO</td>
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