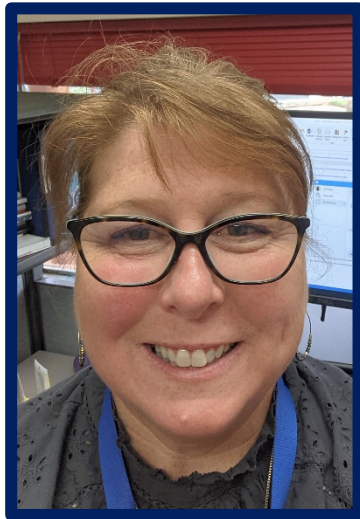


## Meet the Program Director of Senior & Disability Services and Community Services Program

By C. Clark

**Randi Moore** is one of the hardest working people at OCWCOG. She is up for the challenge and always has her nose to the metaphorical grindstone. Her primary vision is helping aging adults. She got her degree in Human Development and knew she wanted to focus on gerontology.



When Randi first began working at the COG in 2004 as a limited duration Case Manager, she made quite an impression. She worked for a year before being laid off due to budget cuts. During that year, she earned a reputation as a hard worker, and when finances turned around a year later, the Program Manager called Randi and let her know they were hiring again and asked her to apply. Since then, she has touched the lives of so many and we have all benefited from that decision. Randi truly enjoys working with her team and is proud of all of the hard work they do.

*"We just finished development of our four year Strategic Plan. It is a requirement because we are an Area Agency on Aging. I'm excited to get started on the good work we hope to accomplish over the next four years."*

July has become an adjustment month as the teams return to the office and go back out in the field to visit consumers. She has learned how adaptable and focused the staff in our organization has been to continue providing services as needed, and is looking forward to continuing all of the previous services as they were pre-pandemic.

*"I appreciate the flexibility and resiliency that the staff have shown during this time. I feel that the people and communities we serve have missed us, especially the thousands of older adults and people with disabilities who depend on us every day to help them navigate complicated processes, provide a safety net, and support their independence. I am happy that we will be back doing the work we love and making lives better across the region."*

Outside of supporting her team at the COG, Randi loves to work with her hands. She loves to create crafts for the OCWCOG crafting competitions. She also enjoys cooking fantastic recipes. While she also loves camping and reading, the main hobby that fills her time is fixing up and decorating her old house.

*"Anyone who knows me knows I love, love, love, my old house, which we are working hard to fix up and make beautiful again."*

When she isn't working with her hands, you can find Randi spending time with her husband, kids, and cat. She's a huge dog lover though, and is excited to bring a new one into the family after a bit of a dog break. She lost her Great Dane, Phoebe, a few months ago.

Thank you Randi, for all of your hard work and continued support of the community. The services SDS and CSP provides are invaluable and your drive to help is what makes OCWCOG welcoming to everyone!

*"The favorite part of my job is supporting the supervisors of the Senior and Disability Services (SDS) and Community Service Programs (CSP). They are really the best! I am in awe about how supportive, helpful, smart, and knowledgeable they are about the programs we offer. They work very hard. I feel my most important role is to help and appreciate them so they can support the line staff, allowing the line staff to help, serve and support our consumers to the best of their abilities. A win-win all the way down the ranks."*

# Safety Section

## Wildfire Safety

With the excessive heat waves and droughts, wildfires have become a regular event to Oregonians. Adapting to these changes requires vigilance and preparation. In addition to preparing a Go-Bag, a [Disaster Kit](#) is also important to have in your home. You should know the [ways to reduce the risk wildfires](#) in your area and how to prepare for wildfires, as well as what to do in the event of a wildfire in your area. The [Red Cross](#), [Ready.gov](#), and the [National Fire Protection Association](#) all have resources you can learn more on how to prevent and prepare for wildfires.

## Heat Waves & Excessive Heat Warnings

As July comes to a close, the heat of summer continues to bare down on us. Heat waves can cause power outages as well. It is important to prepare for power outages when there is a heat wave warning as they can occur due to the power infrastructure being overloaded or not designed to handle the extreme heat. The Red Cross offers resources on how to prepare for both [heat waves](#) and [power outages](#). Remember to keep your [Go-Bag](#) and Disaster Preparedness Kits stocked and up to date with fresh water, food, and medications.



# Program Updates

## Board of Directors Meeting

The Board of Directors met on July 15<sup>th</sup>; you can find the meeting packet [HERE](#). Overall program updates can be found within the packet. Below are highlights from the Board of Directors meeting, but if you are interested in a specific program updates, you can find SDS and CSP updates on page 104, and CED on page 105.

## Researching a Community Response to Bias

The OCWCOG Board of Directors approved the OCWCOG contracting with the City of Corvallis to assist with a project to research and recommend possible pathways for a community response to bias concerns.

In light of the recent national and local attention to racism and inequality, communities are looking to their elected leaders to acknowledge and act on the historic and systemic racial discrimination which prevents equity throughout our communities. Various city and county entities throughout the tri-county region have been engaging local voice in working towards a solution.

However, there is some recognition that a regional approach may yield better returns by: not overtaxing our underrepresented communities with multiple requests to be part of solutions teams, not creating different methods of response/engagement throughout the community, leveraging existing structures in place and minimizing duplication. City managers have been discussing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for several months as a group. They have asked the OCWCOG to consider leading an effort to research existing systems in place, pull together community engagement sessions, catalogue and distribute information about existing and emerging trainings, and provide recommendations for a Regional response to Bias, Diversity, Equity and Racial Justice Concerns.

## WE WELCOME

ALL RACES AND ETHNICITIES  
ALL RELIGIONS  
ALL COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN  
ALL GENDER IDENTITIES  
ALL SEXUAL ORIENTATIONS  
ALL ABILITIES AND DISABILITIES  
ALL SPOKEN LANGUAGES  
ALL AGES  
EVERYONE.

WE STAND HERE WITH YOU  
YOU ARE SAFE HERE

\* Content adapted from the original "We Welcome" sign created by IPRC members Lisa Mangum and Jason Levian

## Seeing Consumers Face to Face

On July 6th, Case Managers, Adult Protective Service (APS) workers, Adult Foster Home (AFH) Licensors, and other field staff which have been conducting the majority of their business telephonically began returning to work in the community. Face to face visits have been largely halted since March of 2020.



Deploying more than 75 people back to field work to complete face to face visits can be a bit of a challenge; our dedicated staff are excited to once again get eyes on the consumers they serve and reengage, check in, and rebuild relationships. The disconnect workers have had from the people they serve has been hard on many staff during the last 12 months, and we are happy to be reestablishing the safety nets that normally are in place for the at risk individuals we serve.

Despite the relaxing of COVID restrictions that many Oregonians are experiencing, Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) is using caution as it develops policy and guidance during this return to field visits. These protocols include requiring all staff to wear face masks and gloves when visiting consumers in their home and community based facilities.

OCWCOG staff have been provided with a "go bag" with masks, gloves, individual hand sanitizers, and antibacterial wipes to wipe off equipment like laptops that might need to be brought from one home visit to the next. Information has also been provided on proper donning and doffing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

Staff who work in the office are also experiencing some level of returning to normal and have returned onsite, ready to see people who come into the office for appointments regarding eligibility determination and opening benefits.

The next step? Returning to normal operations in the congregate dining rooms operated by our Meals on Wheels Program. Your OCWCOG teams are so happy to be back out serving the communities in the region. I look forward to updating you as time moves forward and we see how this transition goes!

## CED CARES Act Community Funding Awards

We are pleased to announce that 18 projects were approved for the economic recovery grant program with CARES Act funds through the Economic Development Administration. The goal of the grant program is to respond to the specific recovery needs in the unique communities across the Cascades West Economic Development District. Information on each project will be provided over the next several of months. You can find out more on page 102 of the Board of Directors [Meeting Packet](#). For this month, we would like to highlight two specific projects: **Florence Childcare Provider Equipment & Supplies**, and **Harrisburg Taste of Tri-County & Business Expo Event**.



1) Florence received \$10,000 for childcare provider equipment and supplies. Childcare providers in Florence may apply for funds up to \$2,500 for necessary equipment or supplies such as new outdoor equipment, additional furniture, or technology equipment. Safe and affordable care for children is paramount to a successful workforce and local business growth.

2) Harrisburg received \$5,000 for the Taste of Tri-County and Business Expo event that rotates between 3 different cities and 3 different counties on an annual basis. This event improves collaboration between participating businesses as well as cities and is supportive of business development. These funds will allow the purchase of items that enhance the event and lower expenses for the event in the future.

Photo provided by the Boys & Girls Club in Florence

# Volunteer News

## Wanda Miller-Mills, our Hero from Lebanon:

A big shout-out goes to Wanda, a volunteer for Meals on Wheels in Lebanon, where **she saved a client's life** this month! While Wanda was volunteering for the MOW team in Lebanon, a client was having a stroke! Wanda took action and called the sheriff to do a welfare check on the client, and saved him. Way to go Wanda, You're a hero!

## Thank you from Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels donations are at an all-time low for the past two years. However, there are 21 donors who are continuing to donate to this much needed program. Thank you to: Meekah Moehring, Sarah Erthal, Gibson-Straube, Vera Harding, City of Millersburg, Trudy Jones, Carl Frank, Treva Willard, Ellis Lampman, Julie Oughton, Jeanene Loudon, Terry Leininger, Irene Warren, Nancy Avery, Daniel Remily, Mary Murphy, Joseph Weir, Nichols Cutting, Alesia Duncombe, Dean Malecik, and Joyce Robak! Your donations make a direct and impactful improvement for those in need within your community.

Your donations have made a difference! **Each \$25 donation offers 5 meals for those in need.** Thank you for your continued support. If you wish to make a donation to Meal on Wheels, please click [HERE](#) for more information.

## Meals on Wheels Needs Volunteers

Meals on Wheels NEEDS YOU to help make a difference in the lives of some of our most vulnerable residents. Volunteer today to support our community by delivering hot nutritious meals to people in need. Just a few hours a day, once or twice a week, can make a world of difference in someone's life!

Have questions? Contact Scott Harper at 541-924-8455, [Sharper@ocwcog.org](mailto:Sharper@ocwcog.org) or fill out application online at <https://www.ocwcog.org/connect/volunteer/>



# Other Announcements

## OCWCOG is Hiring!

The agency is hiring the following positions:

- **Confidential Executive Assistant – Full Time, Albany**  
This position provides critical support to the Executive Director, OCWCOG Board and Committees, and key General Administrative staff on a broad range of confidential, technical and administrative items. Conveys important information regarding agency functions and procedures; coordinates assigned projects and ensures the efficient operations of support functions for General Administration, and identifies solutions to challenges in support of executive leadership. If you are interested in applying, click [HERE](#).
- **Finance Director – Full Time, Albany**  
The Finance Director serves as the Fiscal Officer of Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG). Oversees agency accounting operations and assures compliance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards (GAGAS) Oregon Budget Law, State of Oregon Procurement and Purchasing rule, and rules regarding contracts and grants received and/or administered by the agency. Consults with Senior Leadership and prepares the agency Annual Work Program and Budget and Supplemental Budgets in accordance with Oregon Budget Law. Provides data to assist in agency related purchases and provides management assistance, information and analysis to agency management and staff. Reviews and evaluates all financial operations, procedures in order to make timely recommendations for improvements to the Executive Director. Provides regular budget status summaries to the Finance Committee and Full Board. Conducts assigned research and administrative studies and prepares reports and recommendations. Manages and supervises a team of professional accounting, finance and Contract staff. Serves on the Senior Leadership team and is a member of the agency management bargaining team. If you are interested in applying, click [HERE](#).

- **Communication Specialist – Full Time, Albany**

The Communication Specialist plans and executes internal and external public information activities of the Council of Governments, including production of staff messages, newsletters, program brochures, audio-visual presentations, and news releases. The ideal candidate we are looking for will be energetic, a quick study with the skill to share the Council of Governments story. This candidate will have the ability to engage with communities served by OCWCOG, the OCWCOG Board, and various committees with OCWCOG participation. The ideal candidate will have inspiring and inviting communication skills and will be responsible for written material for diverse audiences. This position requires someone who has the ability to create reports, track and communicate about annual events, create newsletters and event flyers. This position has the additional responsibility of moderating and curating OCWCOG’s social media and online presence. This responsibility is primarily focused on content and not back-end processes. This position is open until filled. If you are interested in applying, click [HERE](#).

- **Case Manager – Full Time, Albany/Toledo**

The Case Manager position provides ongoing case management to persons needing personal care assistance to promote quality of life, independence and care in the least restrictive setting. Works with Consumer Assessment and Planning Systems (CAPS) and related forms and terminal screens. If you are interested in applying, click [HERE](#).

- **Money Management Coordinator – Full Time, Albany**

This position is responsible for the day-to-day coordination of the Money Management Program, including acting as the primary contact for all program volunteers. Recruits and trains volunteers to provide one-on-one money management services to seniors and people with disabilities. Coordinates Representative Payee clients’ accounts. Coordinates the program according to State of Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) standards and guidelines and plays a key role in its successful implementation. This recruitment closes 8/3/2021. If you are interested in applying, click [HERE](#).

## Contact Information



Senior & Disability Services  
(541) 967-8630

RideLine  
(541) 924-8738

Economic Development  
(541) 924-8465

General Administration  
(541) 967-8720

ADRC  
(800) 638-0510

