

OREGON CASCADES WEST COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

REGION 360 NEWS

October 2022

OCWCOG PARTICIPATES IN ALBANY AREA CHAMBER BUSINESS EXTRAVAGANZA

Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG) joined the business community for the Albany Area Chamber of Commerce Business Extravaganza on Wednesday, September 20th at the Linn County Fair and Expo Center. The Extravaganza was a great opportunity to educate the community on our vast variety of services and share career opportunities that are currently available.

Do you have a passion for serving your community? We are hiring! If you are looking for a fulfilling job that offers competitive wages, amazing benefits, and a great culture, we want to hear from you! Curious what being part of the OCWCOG team is really like? Keep an eye out for our "What is Your Why" series where you will hear from staff just why they love their career with us!

OPEN CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Case Managers
In Home Assistant
Meal Site Manager
Office Support Receptionist
Transportation Brokerage Specialist

[LEARN MORE HERE](#)



OREGON CASCADES WEST
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Happy Autumn? Or is it still summer? I'm not entirely sure what the weather wants to do, but I'm deeply enjoying the bridge between the two seasons. It's great to have the leaves changing color while still having warm afternoons. Speaking of changes, we have a lot of great changes happening at the COG:

For the last 6 months, we have been working on our first ever detailed strategic plan. This 3 year plan will come with a new "Mission Statement, Vision Statement, and fresh Values" for the agency. I am excited to be able to share those with you in the upcoming months. The COG is pointed in the right direction for the next few years, and I am certainly excited to be involved in the success.

This last week we held our first in-person all staff meetings in over 4 years. We took some time to celebrate what's right in the world, discussed our personal and organizational values, learned about our strategic priorities, and spent time hearing about the great things going on in each major program area. My sincere thanks to our board members (Commissioner Claire Hall, Commissioner Pat Malone, Mayor Chas Jones, Councilor Jeanni Cuthbertson, and Councilor Joyce King) who were able to come and spend time with our incredible staff over lunch.

Keep smiling!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Vogt'.

Ryan Vogt, OCWCOG Executive Director

CARES GRANTS FINALIZED ACROSS THE REGION

The Cascades West Economic Development District (CWEDD) received Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) funding to assist partners with responding to the specific recovery needs in the unique communities across the district. Throughout the year we have brought you stories of grant projects from city and county governments in Linn, Benton, Lincoln, and Lane Counties.

Now at the conclusion of the grant period, we are thrilled to report that **23 grants** were provided for a total of **\$171,616**. The grants renewed relationships between OCWCOG and member agencies as we worked together for the good of each community. The impacts felt through Linn, Benton, Lane, and Counties were numerous. Click the link below to learn more about each completed grant project!

LEARN MORE



CASCADES WEST BUSINESS LENDING FOSTERS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Cascades West Business Lending (CWBL) assisted in the financing of The Pines Dine food truck village in Lincoln City with a \$240,000 EDA Cares Loan. The Pines Dine brings a unique style and wide variety of dining options to the Oregon Coast with their vast variety of food trucks and special events.

The main dining hall has a wine and beer bar, gift shop, and expansive seating. Outside boasts 12 food trucks, currently offering everything from a fully vegan food truck to classic BBQ! The fun and lively atmosphere is enhanced by live music and comedy nights by local favorites, Family Karaoke Night, and Trivia Night!

Not only does The Pines Dine bring dining variety, local jobs, and a sense of community to Lincoln County, they also have event space available for rent. They offer the main dining hall for special event reservations year round and are currently booking holiday parties for the upcoming season! In addition to the main dining hall, they are in the process of completing an upstairs loft space for more event space.

The CWBL lending team is always thrilled when they can fund a loan for a business that is such an asset to the community, from creating jobs to offering meeting places for people to connect. The goal of our CWBL program is to foster economic development by providing access to capital for small business owners, either for start up or expansion needs. Click the link below to see all available business loan programs!

CWBL PROGRAMS



THE PINES DINE IS A MUST SEE IN LINCOLN CITY! STOP BY AND VISIT THEM AT 5040 SE HWY 101 AND CHECK OUT THEPINESDINE.COM TO SEE THE VARIETY OF FOOD CARTS THEY CURRENTLY HOST!

OLDER AMERICAN ACT CASE MANAGERS ATTEND TRIBAL MEET AND GREET EVENT

Older American Act Case Managers Angie Siegenthaler, Angie MacMullen and Jackie Saling and Program Supervisor Kayla Armstrong attended the Title VI Coordinators Statewide Meet & Greet hosted by the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians at the end of September.

Staff had the opportunity to sit in on a cultural presentation from the Cow Creek Bank of Umpqua Tribe of Indians where they learned how food was traditionally harvested and hunted, the history of the tribe, and some traditional beadwork and basket weaving. Tribal Navigators, Tribal Members, Representatives from the Department of Human Services (DHS), Aging People with Disabilities (APD), various Area Agency on Aging (AAA) representatives, and many others were present at this event.

The Meet & Greet intention is to increase collaboration, network, and provide information to those directly and indirectly involved in serving both Tribal Elders and those with physical disabilities. OCWCOG staff had the opportunity to meet Chris Martin, the Tribal Navigator for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, and Barbara Black, the Tribal Navigator for the Confederate Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians (CTCLUSI). Staff also attended break-out sessions where they were presented with real life scenarios to sharpen their problem solving and gain greater skills on how best to meet the tribal elder's various needs through cross-program collaboration.

Thank you to the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians for hosting such an impactful event!



ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES BUILDS PARTNERSHIPS WITH LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

Adult Protective Services (APS) is building partnerships with local law enforcement agencies and developing strong working relationships to best protect our most vulnerable populations. APS has recently provided educational presentations to three of the eleven agencies in our tri-county region and is actively creating connections with multiple agencies across the region.

The work that APS has done with these agencies and the increase in communication has led to improved processes and efficiencies in service delivery in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties. We are currently in the beginning stages of partnering with the Albany Police Department to create a training for law enforcement on Adult Abuse Investigations. Law enforcement leadership will coordinate with APS leadership to discuss how Oregon Revised Statutes for criminal investigations intersect with the social intervention model of APS and how to improve outcomes all around for these investigations.

WHAT IS YOUR *Why?*



TINA BARTON

Senior and Disability Services In-Home Assistant

WHAT KEEPS YOU AT OCWCOG?

The benefits are great, my coworkers are amazing, and I always have flexibility that supports my life outside of work as well. I never despise coming to work, I never feel overwhelmed, and every day I get to walk into a great atmosphere.

WHY DO YOU DO THIS WORK?

I can pay my bills and support my family while staying connected to my community and making an impact.

" THROUGH THIS WORK YOU CAN LITERALLY CHANGE THE COURSE OF SOMEONE'S DAY, EVEN THEIR LIFE. "

MEDICARE ANNUAL ENROLLMENT BEGINS OCTOBER 15th!

Medicare Annual Enrollment is right around the corner! If you are unsure how to navigate Medicare benefits, we have counselors available to help you understand your options. SHIBA is a statewide network of trained counselors who volunteer their time to educate and advocate for people of all ages who have Medicare. This resource is a free public service thanks to our volunteers that work diligently to serve the community. We sat down with Paulette, one of our SHIBA volunteers, to hear more about the program and what drew her into being a volunteer. Here's what she had to say!

What do you do as a SHIBA counselor? We present the Medicare options available to clients and ask them questions about their lifestyle and budget. We make sure they have a clear understanding of the options available to them so they can make informed decisions.

Is there a time of year that is busier than others? Annual enrollment is crunch time. October 15 – December 7 is the time period for people to do their annual review, look at their plans, and see if they want to stay on their current benefits or make a change.

What is the most satisfying thing about being a SHIBA counselor? I like the feeling I get when I can help someone sort out the confusion of Medicare. It can start out very confusing, almost like a mess of spaghetti for some and it's great to see them come out with a clear understanding of what they want.

What type of appointments are available? It depends on the SHIBA counselor. Many appointments are still being done over the phone or Zoom, so being able to come in person to meet face to face is a unique option at OCWCOG.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH A SHIBA COUNSELOR,
CONTACT US AT 541-812-0849 OR 541-574-2684!**



FRAUD PREVENTION
Shred Event

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15
10 AM – 12 PM

Sponsored by Senior Medicare Patrol and Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance (SHIBA), this free event is open to all members of the community. Reduce fraud and prevent scams by properly disposing of sensitive documents!



Join us in the parking lot for our special shred day at
OREGON CASCADES WEST COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
1400 Queen Avenue SE in Albany

UPCOMING EVENTS

- October 15 | Fraud Prevention Shred Event at OCWCOG
- October 19 | OSU Career Fair *Come Visit Us!*
- October 19 | C3 Volunteer Fair *Come Visit Us*
- October 25 | Housing Symposium hosted by OCWCOG

SEE DETAILS & FULL
CALENDAR HERE



VOLUNTEER WITH US!

We are looking for Meals on Wheels delivery drivers in the Lebanon area! If you are interested in volunteering, please click [HERE!](#)

LEARN MORE



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MEMBER GOVERNMENTS | COUNTIES Linn, Benton, and Lincoln **CITIES** Adair Village, Albany, Brownsville, Corvallis, Depoe Bay, Halsey, Harrisburg, Lebanon, Lincoln City, Millersburg, Monroe, Newport, Philomath, Siletz, Sodaville, Sweet Home, Tangent, Toledo, Waldport, and Yachats **SOVEREIGN NATION** Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians **PORT** Port of Newport