

Senior and Disability Services Update September 2015

IHN CCO Gatherings

Celebrations were held in Linn & Lincoln Counties to recognize the good work that has come with being part of the IHN CCO network of care. Linn County's celebration was held July 29 at the Albany Public Library. There were several speakers who talked about the progress IHN has made along with stories and highlights from the metrics report. Lincoln County held theirs in conjunction with the Lincoln County Fair, August 14, 15 & 16, by having a table with information. Both celebrations handed out the metrics report which showed improvement in multiple areas. A document with some metrics information is attached.

Money Management

The Money Management program, which expanded to the Lincoln County area this past year, has several volunteers that are now assisting consumers in that County. This program has been operating in Linn and Benton Counties for several years and it has proved to be much needed and very successful. The program uses carefully screened and trained volunteers to help with monthly budgeting, bill paying and checkbook balancing. It is a free service for low income seniors and people with disabilities.

General

PEARLS is continuing to grow in all three counties. Oregon Project Independence (OPI) for people with disabilities who are younger than age 60 is also increasing in number of people served. Lincoln County still has a wait list for OPI for seniors, and Linn/Benton is in a "slow-down" for that program. This means that an OPI case manager is assigned, then performs an assessment and triages needs.

Congressman Defazio Visit

Congressman Peter Defazio is expected to visit the Council of Governments soon to hold a press conference announcing the award of COG's *Foster Grandparents*, which is a Senior Corps Program, and to award Senior Corps Pledges of National Service.