



Senior and Disability Services

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Area Agency on Aging

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 20, 2018
TO: OCWCOG Board of Directors
FROM: Randi Moore, Senior and Disability Services (SDS) Director
RE: **SDS Program Updates**

Adult Protective Services (APS) Pilot of Statewide Tracking Tool on October 8th

The Centralized Abuse Management (CAM) system is a comprehensive web-based system for the documentation of abuse reports and investigations. The goal of CAM is to improve and standardize abuse reports across multiple populations and replace outdated systems to provide better protection to vulnerable Oregonians.

OCWCOG, as a contractor for providing APS for Aging and People with Disabilities (APD), will be part of the initial implementation of CAM. Future phases of the system plan to incorporate investigations conducted by Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Services, the Addictions and Mental Health Services program, and a small portion of Child Welfare investigations. Reporting and tracking different components of abuse incidents are difficult, especially when attempts are made to compare information across programs. The data systems are antiquated and data elements collected have not been standardized across systems. This lack of standardization makes interfaces between systems next to impossible. The goal is to increase awareness of patterns of abuse in licensed settings and in the community.

The Oregon Department of Human Services released these CAM fast facts.

- Individuals served will be better protected.
- The use of CAM will increase productivity and efficiency through automation:
- Reports of abuse, screening decisions and investigations will be documented centrally and in near-real-time so local staff, local management, Central Office, and others with a need to know have immediate access to information.
- CAM will enable users to identify and track information on abuse investigations across programs.
- It will be possible to identify and track abuse and abuse history at DHS-licensed facilities across programs.
- It will be easier for staff to produce information for auditing and analysis.
- CAM will be a standardized, easy-to-use, web-based system.
- The entire abuse management process, from initial screening all the way through to the appeals stage is handled within the same system (except for court proceedings).
- A new system will improve users of the system's ability to identify reported perpetrators and help prevent further abuse.

Northwest Senior and Disability Services, OCWCOG's neighbor to the north, was the first Area Agency on Aging in the State to implement CAM. They have been working in the system for about a month. Though there are mixed reviews of the rollout from NWSDS Staff, OCWCOG is hopeful that the implementation will go smoothly and accomplish many of the goals highlighted by APD.

National Trends in Aging Highlighted at National Conferences

Oregon was well represented this year at two prominent national aging services conferences, the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) Conference in Chicago, and the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Conference in Baltimore. In addition to OCWCOG Staff, staff from Lane Council of Governments; Multnomah County Aging, Disability, and Veteran Services, Washington County Disability, Aging, and Veteran Services; and Northwest Senior and Disability Services were in attendance.

The n4a conference held in Chicago the first week in July highlighted many great projects and programs across the nation. Of specific interest were ones that focused on combatting the "epidemic of loneliness" and its effect on the social and physical health on our communities. Recently, it's been concluded that prolonged isolation carries the same health risks as smoking 15 cigarettes per day. There are many exciting pilot programs designed to decrease loneliness in older adults, who are more at risk of isolation than their younger counterparts.

In Baltimore, Area Agency on Aging (AAA) staff from around the State were joined by Department of Human Services - Aging and People with Disabilities (DHS APD) staff and attended sessions about Transportation, Age Friendly and Livable Communities Projects, Disaster Preparedness, and Decreasing Senior Malnutrition.

OCWCOG SDS will be researching some of the innovative programs and examining ways that they can implement locally. In addition, workgroups are being convened for all Oregon attendees to discuss information gleaned from national leaders and potential implementation and collaboration on future projects.