

Request for Comments and
Notice of Public Hearing on
Proposed 2009-2013 State Plan on Aging

HEARING DATE: September 18, 2009 at 2 p.m.

HEARING LOCATION: Human Services Building, 500 Summer Street NE, Rm. 137AB, Salem, Oregon 97301

COMMENTS DUE: September 21, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

PROPOSAL: The Oregon Department of Human Services' Seniors and People with Disabilities (SPD) Division develops a State Plan on Aging every four years, as required under the Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended. The Plan is a contract with the Administration on Aging (AoA) and allows Oregon to receive funds under Title III and Title VII of the Act. The Plan also provides a vision of and direction for Oregon's aging network for the next four years.

HIGHLIGHTS: SPD is accountable for the implementation of programs for older Oregonians and Oregonians with disabilities. The State Unit on Aging (SUA), a part of SPD, is charged with the purpose and responsibility of implementing Older Americans Act (OAA) programs. The SUA works closely with Oregon's 17 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) to create a comprehensive package of services. AAAs provide direct information and services to seniors and people with disabilities across Oregon, while the SUA coordinates distribution of Federal Funds, provides training and technical assistance, and ensures statewide oversight and coordination for OAA programs.

The goals of the proposed State Plan are united around a consistent vision: to ensure that older Oregonians can remain independent, safe, and active in their own homes and communities. The goals are Healthy Aging, Ensuring Alignment of the Aging Network Service Delivery System and the State Policy on Aging (ORS 410), Civic Engagement, Choice and Consumer-Direction, Elder Rights, and Protection for Older Oregonians. Specific objectives, strategies, and outcomes are articulated for each of these goals. By implementing the State Plan's goals and objectives, SPD and the aging network will improve the capacity to provide services, information, outreach, education, and advocacy for older Oregonians. More importantly, it is a key component of SPD's mission: to keep older Oregonians independent, healthy, and safe.

HOW TO COMMENT: The proposed State Plan on Aging may be viewed at SPD's website at www.oregon.gov/DHS/spwpd/oa/index.shtml, or by contacting the State Unit on Aging manager, Elaine Young, at 503-373-1726 or at Elaine.Young@state.or.us. Comments on the proposed State Plan on Aging may be sent to Seniors and People with Disabilities, attn: Christina Hartman, 500 Summer Street NE, E-10, Salem, Oregon 97301-1074. Fax or email comments are acceptable. The Fax number is 503-947-4245 and the email address is Christina.Hartman@state.or.us. Deadline for comments is September 21, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

THE NEXT STEPS: Upon completion of the comment period, the comments will be addressed. Once the comments have been adequately addressed, the State Plan on Aging will be finalized with an effective date of October 1, 2009.

ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION: SPD is committed to accommodating people with disabilities. Please notify SPD of any accommodations or if you need information

in an alternate format. To make these arrangements, please call Christina Hartman at 503-945-6398 or TTY 503-945-9782.