



About the Oregon Health Fund Board

Created by SB 329 (the Healthy Oregon Act), the Oregon Health Fund Board is a 7 member board appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Oregon Senate. The Board is developing a comprehensive plan to ensure access to health care for all Oregonians, contain health care costs, and address issues of quality in health care. The members of the Board have experience, knowledge and expertise in the areas of consumer advocacy, management, finance, labor and health care, and represent the geographic and ethnic diversity of the state. Barney Speight, Executive Director, and the staff of the Office for Oregon Health Policy and Research assist the Board.

OHFB Board Members

- **Bill Thorndike, Chair**
CEO, Medford Fabrication
- **Jonathan Ater, Vice-Chair**
Chair and Senior Partner, Ater Wynne LLP
- **Eileen Brady, Vice-Chair**
Co-Owner, New Seasons Market
- **Tom Chamberlain**
President, Oregon AFL-CIO
- **Charles Hofmann, MD**
Physician
- **Ray Miao**
State President
AARP Oregon
- **Marcus Mundy**
President, Urban League of Portland

Your Oregon, Your Health Community Meetings Planned

By *Barney Speight, Executive Director*

Beginning on May 1, members of the Oregon Health Fund Board will participate in a series of 13 community meetings across the state to hear the public's input on broad health reform concepts.

Sponsored by the **Northwest Health Foundation** and organized by the **Oregon Health Forum, Oregon Health Decisions** and the 25 member organizations of the **Oregon Health Reform Collaborative**, the *Your Oregon, Your Health* meetings will include both small and large group discussions to find common values among Oregonians on health care quality, access, cost and delivery. The input received from the meetings will be summarized in a written report to the Board.

Thursday, May 1, Gresham

Wednesday, May 7, Newport

Thursday, May 8, Astoria

Wednesday, May 14, Klamath Falls

Thursday, May 15, Medford

**Tuesday, May 20, Beaverton/
Hillsboro area**

Wednesday, May 28, LaGrande

Thursday, May 29, Ontario

Tuesday, June 3, Coos Bay

Wednesday, June 4, Eugene

Thursday, June 5, Bend

Tuesday, June 10, Portland

Wednesday, June 11, Portland

The meetings will be held in the early evening, usually from 7 – 9 pm. Meeting locations, addresses and maps are available at www.healthforum.org/events/meetings.html. Additional information is available at 503-226-7870 or toll free 800-501-4220, or by email at staff@healthforum.org.

The Board is deeply grateful to the **Northwest Health Foundation** and the organizations helping to coordinate these important meetings. Information about the sponsor and organizers is available at:

Northwest Health Foundation

Oregon Health Forum

Oregon Health Decisions

Oregon Health Reform Collaborative

www.nwhf.org

www.healthforum.org

www.oregonhealthdecisions.org

www.oregonhealthreform.org/index.htm

[Board Meeting Calendar:](#)

Note: Time Change

Thursday, April 24

11 am to 5 pm
Holiday Inn, Portland
Airport
Salon A & B
8439 NE Columbia Blvd.
Portland, OR

Wednesday, May 21

9:30 am to 5 pm
Location: TBD

[Committee Meeting Calendar:](#)

[Benefits](#)

Tuesday, April 15

9:30 am - 1:30 pm
Wilsonville Training Center
Room 111
29353 Town Center Loop E
Wilsonville, OR

[Federal Laws](#)

Tuesday, April 8

1 to 5 pm
Wilsonville Training Center
Room 111-112
29353 Town Center Loop E
Wilsonville, OR

Tuesday, April 22

1 to 5 pm
Wilsonville Training Center
Room 111-112
29353 Town Center Loop E
Wilsonville, OR

Tuesday, May 13

1 to 5 pm
Wilsonville Training Center
Room 112
29353 Town Center Loop E
Wilsonville, OR

Note: As meetings locations or time may change during the month, please check our website. Thank you!

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Committee and Work Group Updates

Benefits Committee

The Benefits Committee met on March 13, at which the group attempted to use a tool for defining essential health services. The committee decided to populate the matrix with levels of cost-sharing based on the extent to which a service is considered essential. This tactic was considered a good way to achieve the Committee's goal of incentivizing care in the most appropriate and timely setting while providing a product that can be actuarially priced. Staff review panels were established to explore this and other possible alternative methodologies for defining essential services, as well as to develop documents for discussion on diagnostic, ancillary and enabling services. The Committee will next meet on April 15 to continue this work.

Delivery System Committee

The Delivery Systems Committee held two meetings in March to continue to develop recommendations focused on strategies to contain costs, while improving quality, efficiency and accountability. At the first meeting, the Committee looked at strategies to adjust the supply and demand for care. Senator Kurt Schrader joined the Committee to share his thoughts on cost containment. The Committee also discussed opportunities to increase transparency and accountability by aggregating performance data using Accountable Care Districts (ACDs) and opportunities to use ACDs to pilot new reimbursement and health resource planning models. At its second March meeting, the Committee reviewed draft cost containment recommendations and began to discuss options for payment reform.

Delivery Systems Committee - Quality Institute Work Group

The Quality Institute Work Group met twice in March and nearly finalized recommendations to the Delivery Systems Committee on the creation of an Oregon Quality Institute. At the first meeting, the group reviewed a draft logic model for the Oregon Quality Institute and finalized recommendations for the roles and governance structure of the Institute. At its second meeting, the Committee reviewed and tentatively accepted a set of recommendations that are currently being revised based on Work Group amendments. The Work Group will reconvene for a final publicly-accessible conference call on April 10 to vote on the final recommendations. These recommendations will be presented to the Delivery Systems Committee on April 17.

Eligibility and Enrollment Committee

The Eligibility and Enrollment Committee has been finalizing eligibility recommendations as they relate to low-income individuals that have access to employer sponsored insurance, residency requirements, guaranteed issue, and presumptive eligibility determination. The Committee will be discussing enrollment recommendations that include outreach, application and grievance/appeals processes during its April meetings.

Federal Laws Committee

The Federal Laws Committee met March 13 and 25 to discuss federal requirements under Medicare, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), and income tax codes that may hinder Oregon's reform efforts. The March 13 agenda included presentations by Medicare Advantage HMO, PPO, and Special Needs Plans; and Scott Kipper, Oregon Insurance Administrator. The March 25 meeting began with a presentation by former Governor John Kitzhaber who discussed a framework for transformational change. The Committee discussed ERISA with health reform and ERISA expert Patricia Butler, JD, DrPH. Lastly, Chris Allanach from the Oregon Legislative Revenue Office presented on federal and state tax law relating to income tax benefits for health related expenses. The next meeting, April 8, will focus on the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA) and the Health Information Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). The April 22 meeting will focus on federal Provider Workforce/ Graduate Medical Education policies and Indian Health Service Tribal and Urban Programs.

Committee Meeting Calendar (continued):

Eligibility & Enrollment

Tuesday, April 8

9 am to Noon
Wilsonville Training Center
Room 111 & 112
29353 Town Center Loop E
Wilsonville, OR

Tuesday, April 23

2 to 5 pm
General Services Building
Mt. Mazama Conf. Room
1225 Ferry Street SE
Salem, OR

Health Equities

Tuesday, April 8

1 to 4 pm
Northwest Health Foundation
Bamboo Room
221 NW 2nd Ave., Suite 300
Portland OR

Tuesday, April 22

1 to 4 pm
Northwest Health Foundation
Bamboo Room
221 NW 2nd Ave., Suite 300
Portland OR

Delivery Systems

Thursday, April 17

1 to 5 pm
Wilsonville Training Center
Room 111-112
29353 Town Center Loop E
Wilsonville, OR

Monday, April 28

1 to 5 pm
Portland State Office Building
Room 1D
800 NE Oregon St., 1st Floor
Portland, OR

Finance

Thursday, April 3

1 to 5 pm
Wilsonville Training Center
Room 111 & 112
29353 Town Center Loop E
Wilsonville, OR

Note: As meetings locations or time may change during the month, please check our website. Thank you!

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Committee & Work Group Updates (continued)

Health Equities Committee

The Health Equities Committee met twice in March. They finalized recommendations focused on expanding access to healthcare interpretation services to improve communication between providers and patients in healthcare settings. The Health Equities Committee has also focused on mechanisms to support disease prevention and health promotion activities in vulnerable communities. The group heard valuable testimony on Community Health Workers from local experts Teresa Rios and Noelle Wiggins, Dr. Mark Redding on the Community Health Access Project, and from state public health officer, Dr. Grant Higginson, on public health integration with health reform. The Health Equities Committee will finalize these recommendations at its next meeting. In April, the Committee will make recommendations concerning benefit packages that promote equity, and data collection strategies that can be used to ensure quality health care across all communities in Oregon.

Finance Committee

At its March 12 meeting, the Finance Committee made final changes to the model that is being produced for the OHFB by the Institute for Health Policy Solutions (IHPS) and Jonathan Gruber at Massachusetts Institute for Technology. The Committee will likely see initial results from the modeling process at its April 16 meeting. Based on the results of the first iteration of the model, the Finance Committee and others may make changes to some of the inputs, as necessary. At this meeting, the Committee also began discussing the relative merits of four potential tax scenarios. On March 19, the Committee discussed the value of requiring employers to provide their workers with Section 125 premium-only plans, and the members were briefed by the Chair of the Exchange Work Group on that body's recommendations for market reform and use of the exchange by various populations.

Finance Committee - Exchange Work Group

The Exchange Work Group met twice in March. The Work Group made decisions about the populations that would use an exchange and the functions an exchange can play for them. They also discussed the options for the governance of an exchange, and how such an organization could be financed. Chair Denise Honzel presented the Work Group's market reform recommendations to the Finance Committee on March 19. In April, the Work Group will have additional discussion about the populations and functions of the exchange, will present recommendations on those issues to the Finance committee, and will discuss the results of modeling on the impact of joining the OMIP, portability, existing individual market and new individual market enrollees in one pool.

Contact Information

Executive Director Barney Speight and the staff of the Oregon Health Fund Board can be reached at:

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Salem, OR 97301
Phone: 503-373-1538

Fax: 503-378-5511
Web: <http://healthfundboard.oregon.gov>
Email: OHFB.INFO@state.or.us

Committee Meeting Calendar (continued):

Finance (continued)

Wednesday, April 16
1 to 5 pm
Wilsonville Training Center
Room 111 & 112
29353 Town Center Loop E
Wilsonville, OR

Thursday, May 1
1 to 5 pm
Wilsonville Training Center
Room 111 & 112
29353 Town Center Loop E
Wilsonville, OR

Thursday, May 29
1 to 5 pm
Portland State Office Building
Room 1B
800 NE Oregon St., 1st Floor
Portland, OR

Quality Institute Work Group (Delivery Systems)

Thursday, April 10
9 to 10 am
General Services Bldg.
Neahkanie Room, 1st Floor
1225 Ferry Street SE
Salem, OR

Exchange Workgroup (Finance)

Monday, April 7
1 to 5 pm
Wilsonville Training Center
Room 111 & 112
29353 Town Center Loop E
Wilsonville, OR

Note: Date/Time Change

Wednesday, April 30
1 to 5 pm
Portland State Office Building
Room 1B
800 NE Oregon St., 1st Floor
Portland, OR

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