



## About the OHPC

The Commission identifies and analyzes significant health care issues affecting the state and makes policy recommendations to the Governor, the Oregon State Legislature and the state Office for Oregon Health Policy and Research (OHPR). Additionally, the Commission partners with health care experts and stakeholders around the state to develop projects focused on improving Oregonians' health status and access to effective and efficient health care services.

## OHPC Mission

The OHPC seeks to develop and promote public policy to improve the health of all Oregonians by:

- ensuring access to essential health care and support services,
- improving health care quality and outcomes,
- controlling costs,
- encouraging healthy lifestyles.

*For more information, please contact Gretchen Morley or Jessica van Diepen at (503) 378-2422 or visit us online at [www.ohpr.state.or.us](http://www.ohpr.state.or.us)*

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## Coming Together

### *Gaining Momentum for Reform in 2006*

In partnership with the Northwest Health Foundation, the Oregon Health Policy Commission continues to convene representatives of Oregon's private health care reform initiatives to help coordinate their efforts and resources toward improved access to health care in the state. In addition to this and other collaborative projects, the OHPC is working intensively on a 5-year plan to move Oregon toward a health care system which provides access to affordable care for all Oregonians. Some components under initial consideration include an individual health insurance mandate, an employer contribution requirement, an expansion of public coverage, and a health insurance exchange to help connect consumers and businesses with insurance products that fit their needs. Join us **Thursday, August 17, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 120 of the State Office Building, 800 NE Oregon Street, Portland**, as we continue to build the Commission's reform plan.

## What's New

### *Upcoming Release of Childhood Obesity Study for Public Comment*

A multi-disciplinary team of local and national experts has spent the last 6 months assembling a comprehensive plan for combating childhood obesity in Oregon. The report will include recommendations for action at all levels. The initial draft will be available online in August for public comment.

The Oregon childhood obesity study is an undertaking championed by State Senator and OHPC Commissioner Richard Devlin. The project has been chaired by Dr. Mel Kohn, State Epidemiologist with the Oregon Department of Human Services in partnership with the Oregon Health Policy Commission. The study report will be presented to the Governor and the Legislature as a resource for decision making in the 2007 legislative session.

### *How Secure Are Your Personal Health Records?*

While electronic health records will make it easier for you to track who is accessing your records and when, they will also make your personal health information easier to package and share. The Oregon Health Information Security and Privacy Collaborative (HISPC) will spend the next 9 months, on a federal subcontract, convening experts from across the state to examine state laws and best practices regarding electronic health data and look at variations in the way that health data is currently handled across health care settings. HISPC will also craft a plan for increasing the privacy and security literacy of both health care professionals and

## Meetings Calendar:

**August 14**  
Quality & Transparency  
Workgroup

**August 15**  
Delivery System Models  
Workgroup

**August 17**  
OHPC Meeting

