

Aging and People with Disabilities (APD) Overview

LGBTQIA2S+ Subcommittee
August 6, 2024

Why we do our work

Everyone in Oregon deserves to be treated fairly and with dignity and respect.

But **older people and people with disabilities are not always treated fairly or seen as equals** in our society.

They often are marginalized, which minimizes their contributions to our communities and creates barriers to accessing the opportunities everyone deserves.

The Office of Aging and People with Disabilities (APD) works to remove those barriers so that older adults and people with disabilities from all backgrounds can access the supports they need to **live their best lives – in the communities they choose and at every stage of life.**



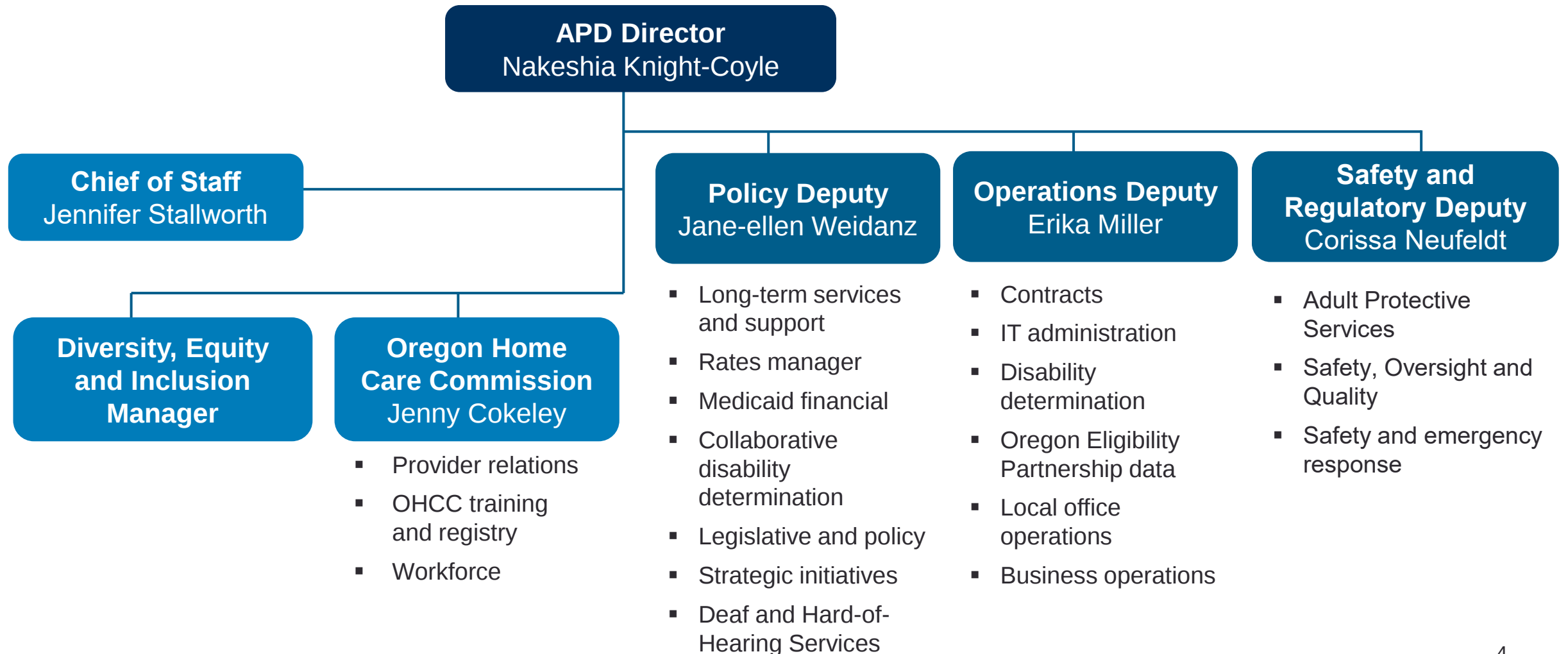
APD mission and vision

Mission: To help Oregonians in their own communities achieve well-being and independence through opportunities that protect, empower, respect choice and preserve dignity.

Vision: Oregon's older adults, people with disabilities and their families experience person-centered services, supports and early interventions that are innovative and help maintain independence, promote safety, well-being, honor choice, respect cultural preferences and uphold dignity.



How we're organized



How APD serves: programs and services



Who APD serves: by the numbers

Across programs

 **Two-thirds** are age 65+

 **One-third** are ages 18-64 with a disability

Aging and Disability Resource Connection: **45,543** people seeking resources and referrals.

Adult Protective Services: **18,995** abuse investigations



Medicaid Long-Term Services and Supports: **35,000 – 37,000** supported in any given month.



Oregon Project Independence: Enabled **1,849** people to stay in their own homes.

Older Americans Act: Helped **72,205** people with meals, employment and more.



Financial Eligibility Determination: **180,000** people accessed Medicaid, Medicare premium, general assistance and nutrition benefits.

Disability Determination: Helped **40,500** people apply for benefits

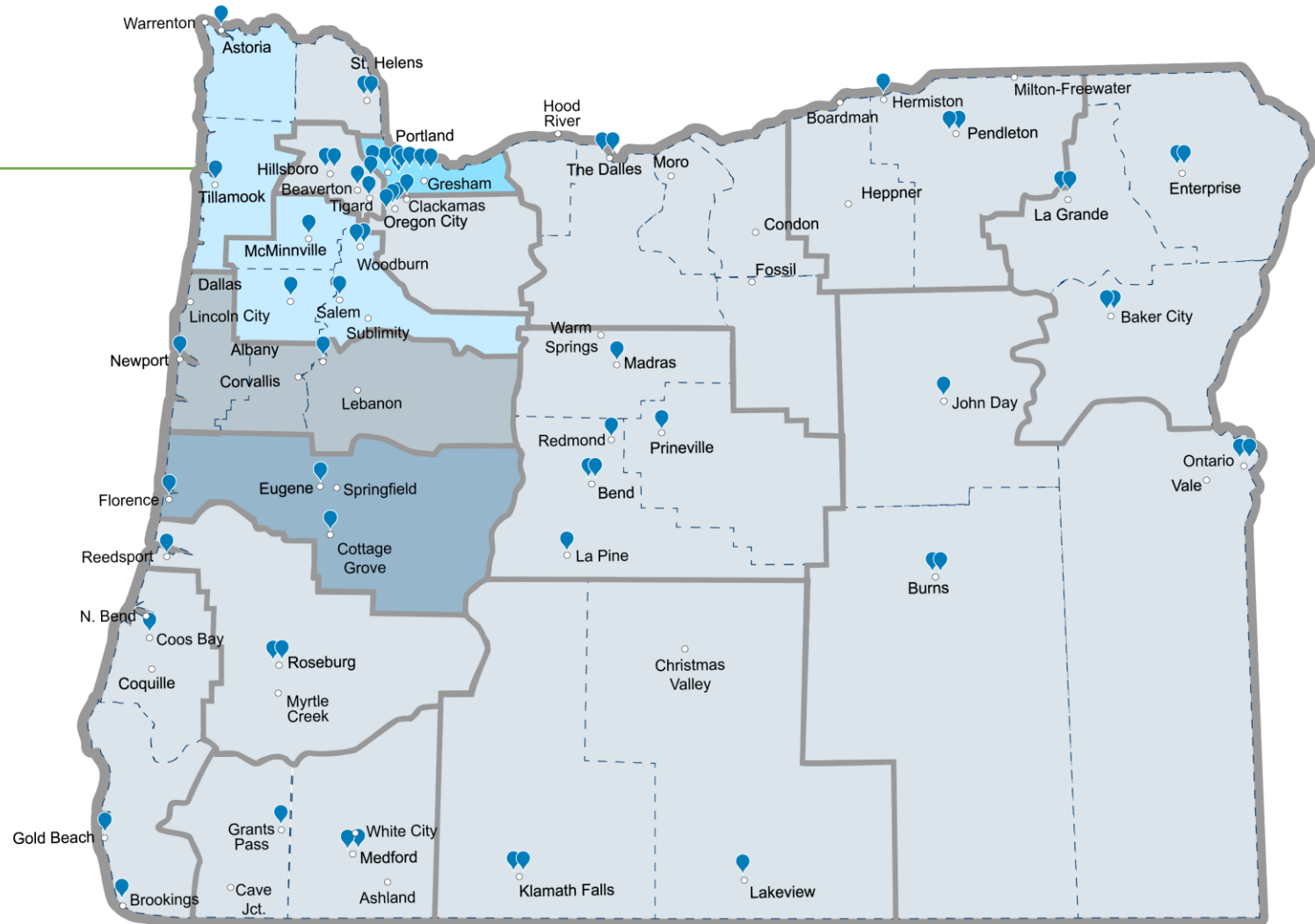
Long-term care licensing and oversight: Oversight of **2,052** facilities/homes



Where we serve

More than 50 local offices in
16 Districts

- 35 offices are state offices
 - 1,505 state FTEs
- 16 are administered by Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs)
 - 1,100 AAA FTEs



Operationalizing the Equity North Star across all programs

We are committed to supporting equity, independence, choice and dignity so that the people we serve can have their best quality of life.

- Instituted service equity plans beginning in 2018.
- APD Equity lens and Equity Impact Protocols established and operational in 2021.
- Consumer engagement – a hallmark of Oregon’s past innovations in developing person-centered services and supports – is being enhanced.
- Performance-based contracting for equity with our Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) and Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) contracts.
- Implementation of REALD and SOGIE training.



Partnering with communities

APD partners with community organizations and advocates on many initiatives. Recent examples include:

- 2021 Oregon LGBTQ+ Older Adult Survey.
- Innovation Fund grants focused on improving services.
- Elder Abuse Awareness Day outreach activities to prevent abuse.
- Distribution of air conditioners to help people susceptible to heat.
- Hosted webinars in recognition of the Americans with Disabilities Act anniversary.



Statutory advisory bodies

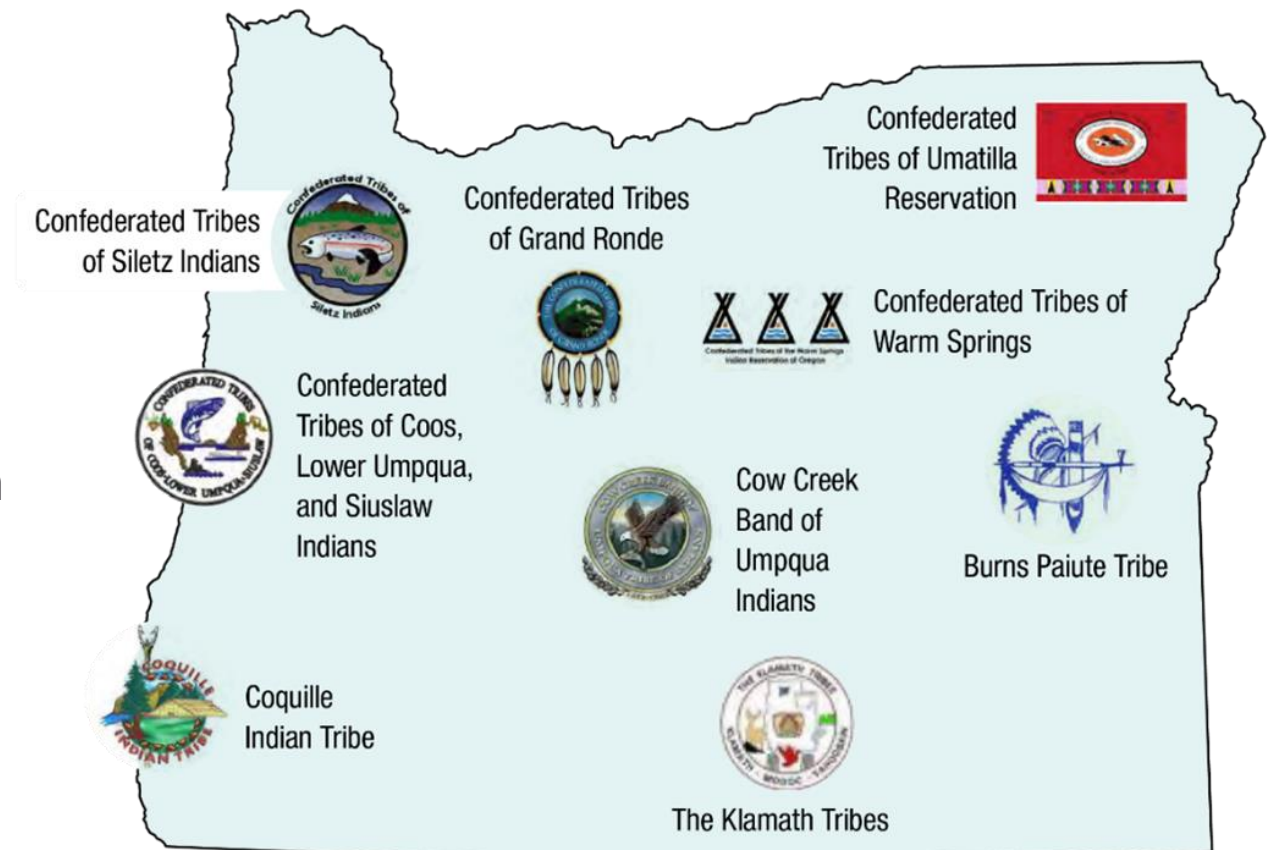
Governor's Commission on Senior Services (ORS 410.320-410.340)	Advise the Governor and ODHS on needs of older adults.
LGBTQIA2S+ Subcommittee of GCSS (ORS 410.320)	Advise the Governor and ODHS on needs of LGBTQIA2S+ older adults and how to improve service delivery.
Medicaid Long Term Care Quality and Reimbursement Advisory Council (ORS 410.550-410.555)	Review and recommend any proposed change to the reimbursement system for long-term care services and community-based care services.
Oregon Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Advisory Committee (ORS 410.740)	Advise ODHS on services for Deaf, hard of hearing, and DeafBlind Oregonians.
Oregon Disabilities Commission (ORS 185.110- 185.200)	Advise ODHS, Oregon Health Authority, the Governor, the Legislative Assembly and state agencies on meeting needs of individuals with disabilities.
Oregon Home Care Commission (ORS 410.595-410.632; Or. Const. Article XV(11))	Ensure quality home care services (consumer and worker training, orientation, registry).
Quality Measurement Council (ORS 443.447)	Develops metrics to measure the quality of care provided by licensed facilities.

Tribal engagement

APD is improving service equity for Tribal Nations within our organizational structure and through specific programs including:

- Hiring a full-time APD Tribal Affairs consultant;
- Expanding the Tribal Navigator Program. Tribal Navigators, who work for the Tribes, help overcome barriers Tribal members may face in accessing services and supports;
- Developing equity plans to promote collaboration with Tribal governments;
- Holding statewide and regional Meet and Greet events with Tribal leaders and members; and
- Training Adult Protective Services workers to work with Tribal resources, law enforcement and Tribal governments.

Oregon's Nine Federally Recognized Tribes



Regulatory and Safety Oversight:

APD has three major programs to ensure older adults and people with disabilities are safe:

- Adult Protective Services
- Licensing
- Safety and Emergency Response.

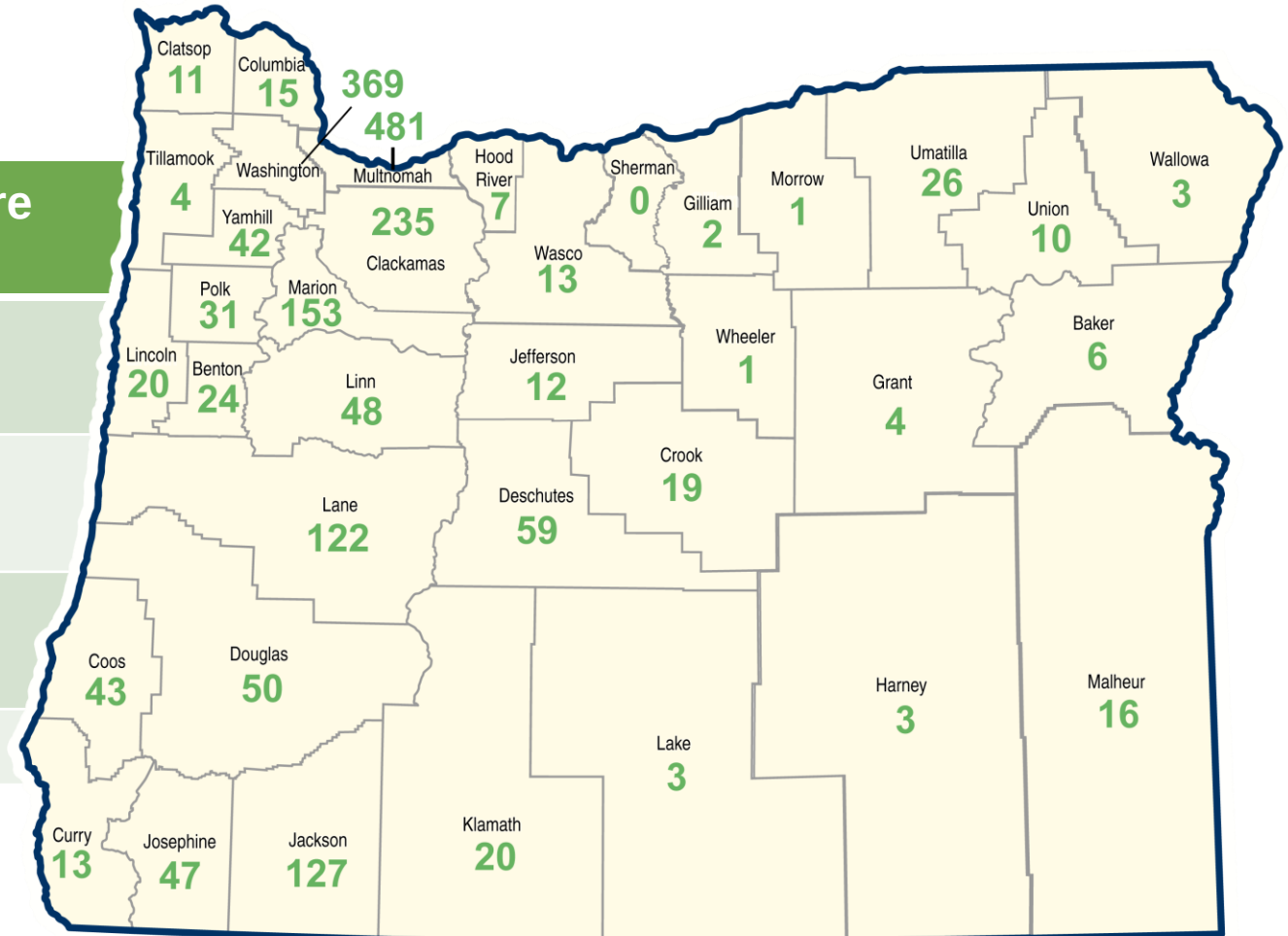
Combined these programs help ensure older adults and people with disabilities are:

- Safe from harm
- Receive the care they need
- Have the support they need during emergencies.



Long-term care setting licensing and oversight

Setting type	Number	Memory Care Endorsed
Nursing Facility	129	11
Assisted Living and Residential Care	567	228
Adult Foster Home	1,356	N/A
Totals	2,052	239



Safety and emergency response

APD Safety Team:

- Helps individuals get to safety when there are natural disasters;
- Relocates residents when facilities close;
- Addresses and prevents negative outcomes affecting consumers we serve.

Examples:

- Partnered with Oregon Health Authority to distribute air conditioners.
- Helped individuals evacuate during wildfires.
- Helped residential care facility residents move to a safe location when their provider became too ill to meet their needs.

Response spotlight

During the September 2022 wildfires and public safety power shutoffs, APD and Area Agencies on Aging staff contacted **1,321** people who receive in-home services to determine their needs in Clackamas, Lane and Marion counties.

Additional calls were made as fire risk increased - including 90 contacts made in Lane County and 35 in Douglas County - to assist them with information and resources.

In Marion County, APD worked with four assisted living facilities and two adult foster homes on potential evacuation planning.



Medicaid Long-Term Services and Supports:

Medicaid Long-Term Services and Supports unit provides critical, life sustaining supports for individuals who can no longer meet their own needs.

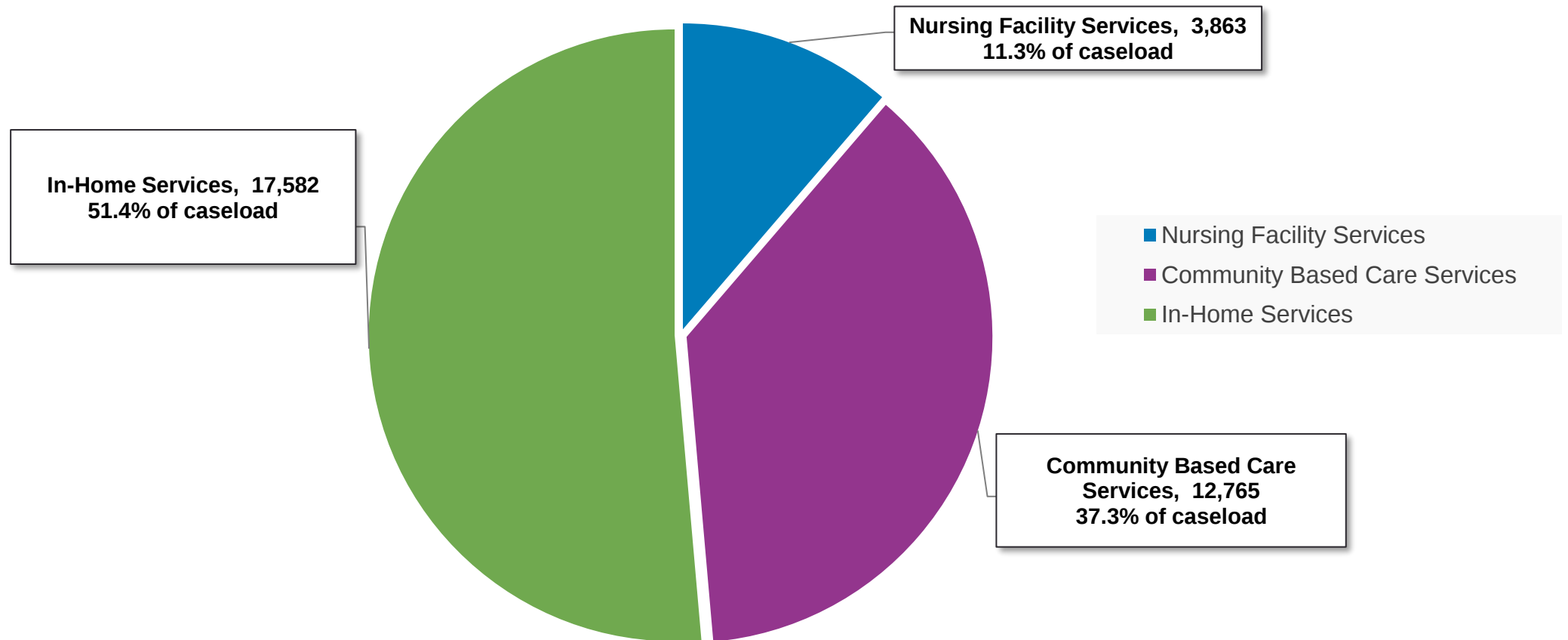
- Serves individuals who need daily assistance with:
 - Walking and transferring out of their chair or bed
 - Eating
 - Elimination and toileting
 - Cognition.

Medicaid helps individuals remain as healthy and independent as possible.

- Individuals can receive services in their own home, in a licensed community setting or a nursing facility.
- All services are person centered and help the individual meet their goals.

Increasingly APD serves people in home or community-based settings

2023-2025 Forecasted Caseload



Housing supports to address needs

Existing services

- Diversion and Transition Services
- Room and Board payments
- Specific Needs Programs
- Enhanced Care Services
- Home Modifications
- Extended Waiver Eligibility
- Cash Assistance
- General Assistance Cash Benefit

New services 2021-2023

- Eliminated client pay-in allowing consumers to keep more of their money
- Crisis funds that help with repairs and other urgent issues to keep people in the home
- Housing Support Services



Financial Eligibility Determinations:

Financial eligibility determinations are the doorway to a multitude of programs administered by APD including:

- Medicaid
- Medicare Savings Programs
- SNAP benefits
- General Assistance.

Determinations are completed by local office eligibility workers who help ensure access to:

- Healthcare, Medicare premium assistance
- Long-term services and supports
- Food assistance
- Social Security disability benefits
- Housing assistance including utility assistance.

Expanding Medicaid funded services:

- Medicaid has strict eligibility criteria, leaving many people without the supports they need.
- Oregon Project Independence (OPI) has helped fill the gap, but it is limited by the available general funds.
- More than 2,000 people have been waiting to receive OPI services.
- APD received Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' approval to **expand Oregon Project Independence** using Medicaid to serve more older adults and people with physical disabilities (OPI-M)



OPI-M Intent & Purpose

- Increase the number of individuals with access to services
- Support consumers to live safely at home with independence, choice and dignity
- Provide a package of services that support the individual and their unpaid caregiver supports
- Potentially delay or prevent consumers from entering traditional Medicaid system
- Enhance use of person-centered tools and practices

Deaf, DeafBlind and hard of hearing services:

“The ability to communicate, **to understand and to be understood**, is the cornerstone of all areas of human development. It may look different from person to person, but without it, everything else is lost.”

– Community-Based Needs Assessment of Oregon’s Deaf and Hard of Hearing Communities: Final Report

- People who are Deaf, DeafBlind, Deaf with additional disabilities and individuals who are hard of hearing often face problems accessing state and local services.
- Without a statewide program, government entities often struggle with serving these individuals.



Deaf and hard of hearing services

Service unit:

Works to make state services and programs welcoming and accessible to people who are Deaf, DeafBlind and hard of hearing by providing:

- Information and referral;
- Accommodations for services;
- Support for individuals accessing state services; and
- Training for state agencies on how to better serve these individuals.

Oregon Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Advisory Committee:

- Represents people who are Deaf, DeafBlind, Deaf with additional disabilities and hard of hearing.
- Provides advice to ODHS by identifying needs, concerns and programs.

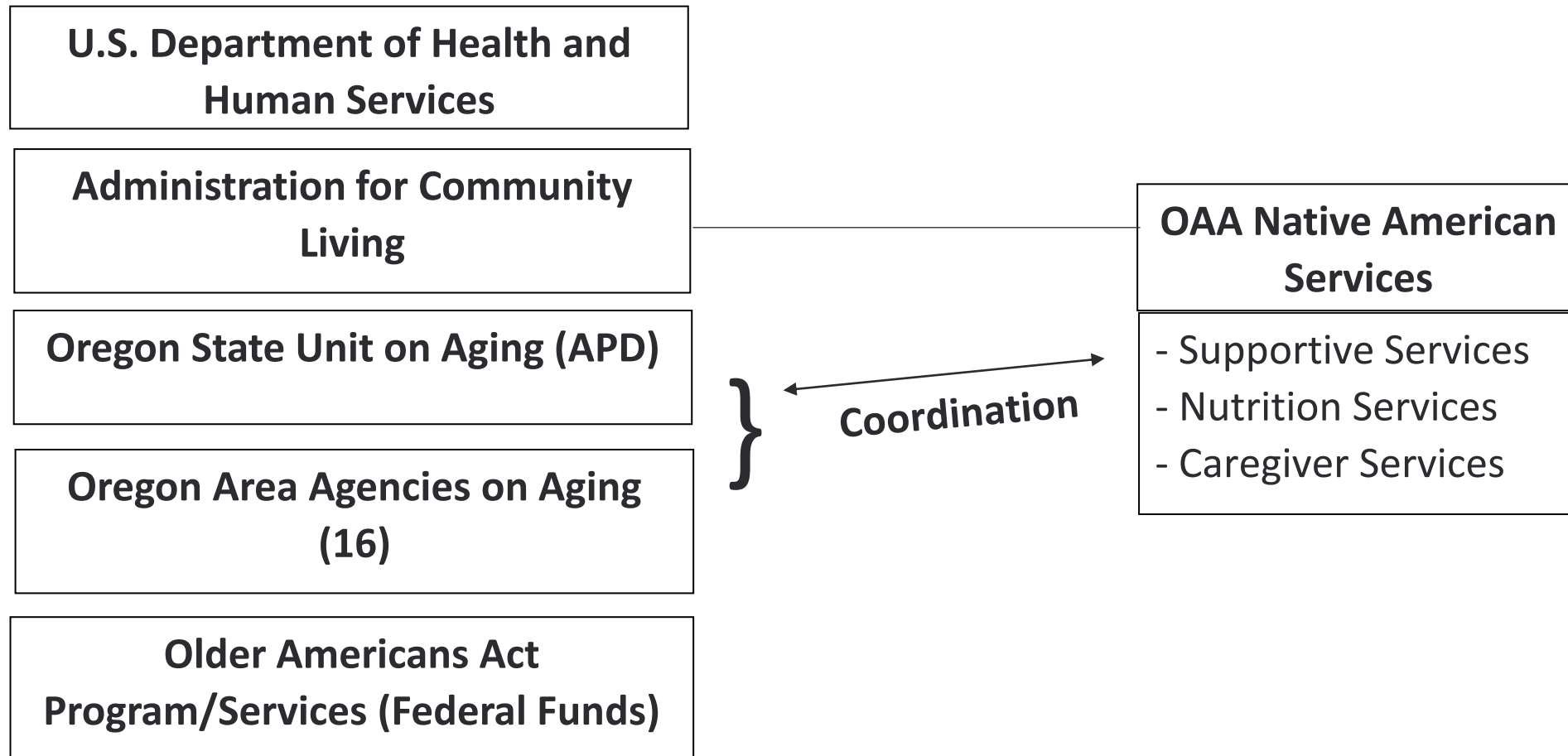
Examples:

- Changed eligibility for State Plan Personal Care to support DeafBlind individuals in the community.
- Upcoming request for proposals to start a new program to help DeafBlind individuals fully engage in their communities.

Older Americans Act programs:

- Congress passed the Older Americans Act (OAA) in 1965
- Provides grants to states for community planning and social services
- The OAA remains a major vehicle for the organization and delivery of social and nutrition services to the aging population and their caregivers
- National network of 56 state agencies on aging, 618 area agencies on aging, nearly 20,000 service providers, 281 Tribal organizations and 1 Native Hawaiian organization representing 400 Tribes
- Reauthorizations of the Act have included provisions for the Long-term Care Ombudsman and National Family Caregiver Services
- Title VI, establishing programs for Native Americans, was added in the 1978 reauthorization

Roles of the Aging Network:



Older Americans Act services:

III-B: Supportive Services

III-C1: Congregate Meals

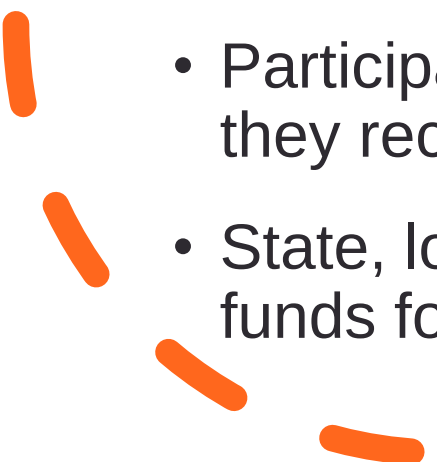
III-C2: Home Delivered Meals

III-D: Health Promotion

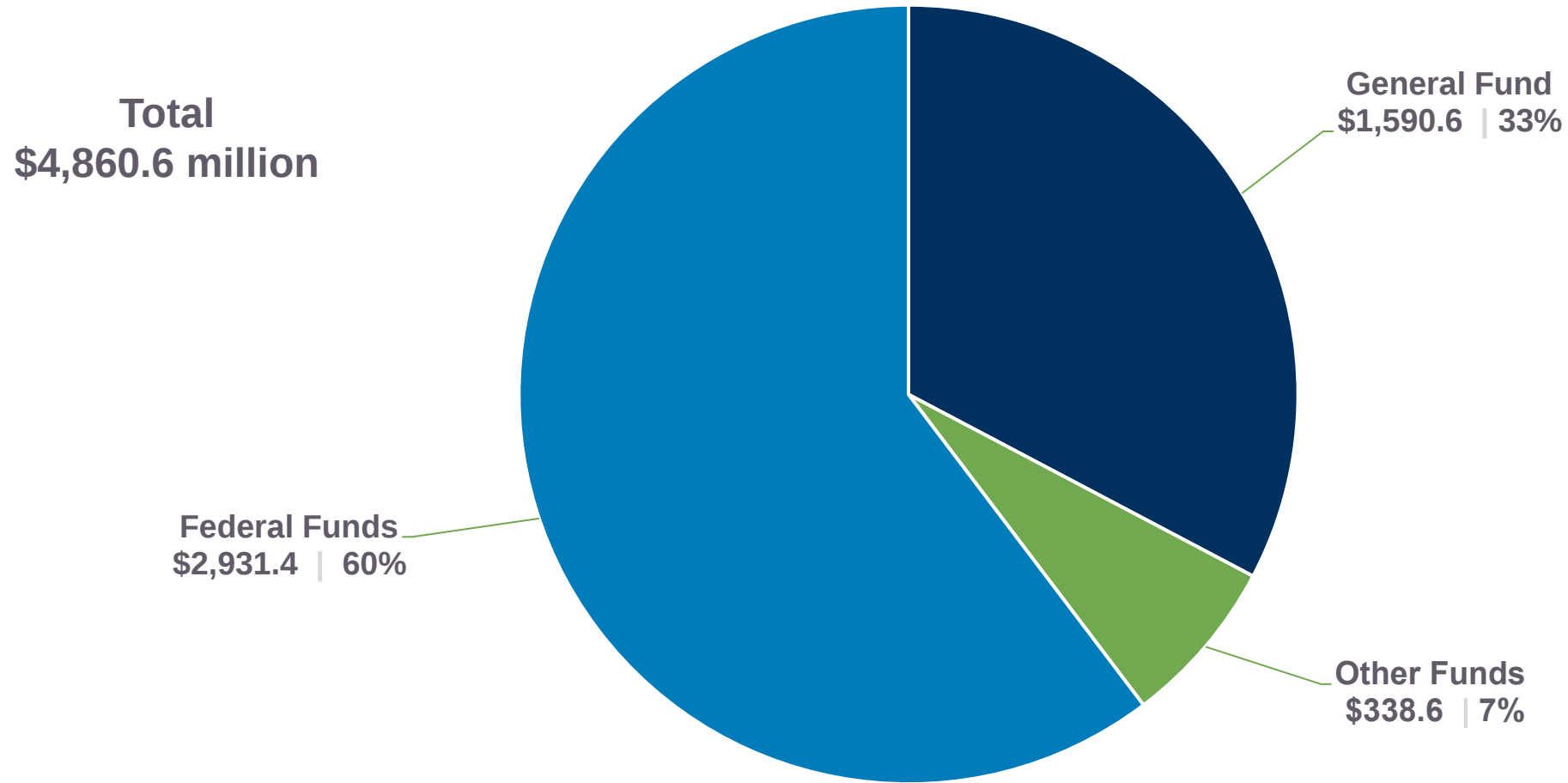
III-E: Family Caregiver



OAA Title III Services

- Available to all persons **aged 60 and older**
 - Prioritized to those with the **greatest economic and social need**
 - Ex: low-income, minority persons, older individuals with language barriers, LGBTQ+, older persons residing in rural areas
 - **Means testing is prohibited** (no assessment of financial eligibility)
 - Participants are encouraged to make voluntary contributions for services they receive.
 - State, local, and private funding sources also supplement federal OAA funds for these services
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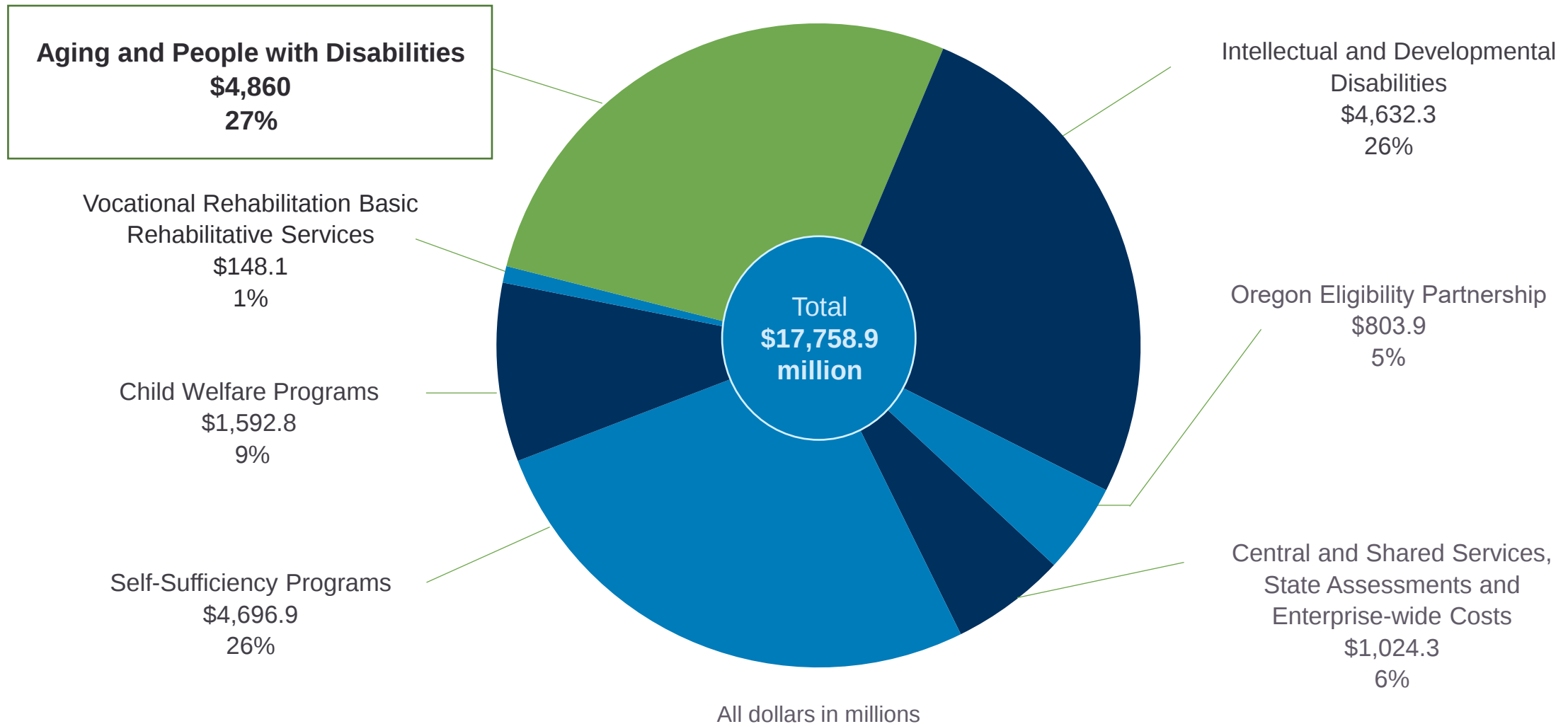
Governor's Budget: APD total by fund type



All dollars in millions

2023-25 Governor's Budget:

ODHS total fund by program area



Budget

\$5.17 billion APD '23-'25 allocation

- Medicaid match of **60%** from federal funds, **33%** from state funds, and **7%** from other revenue sources

\$38.3 million OAA '23-'25 allocations (federal funds)

- **\$10.1 million** - Supportive Services
- **\$13.4 million** - Congregate Meals
- **\$9 million** - Home Delivered Meals
- **\$688,000** - Health Promotion
- **\$5 million** - Caregiver Services
- **\$101,000** - Abuse, Neglect Prevention



Questions?
