Presentation to the Senate Interim Committee on Human Services

COVID-19 Response

Fariborz Pakseresht, Director
Oregon Department of Human Services

June 3, 2020
Today’s Agenda

• General DHS Updates
• Budget Realities
• Domestic Violence Needs
• COVID-19 Response and Recovery Unit
COVID-19 Response and Recovery Unit

- Similar to how Emergency Rooms aren’t meant for long-term recovery, we needed to move from the Emergency Control Center to a stable, coordinated place to help Oregon recover and rebuild after the worst of COVID-19.
Challenges Oregon will likely face

We know COVID-19 issues will arise including:

• Continued outbreaks in congregate settings
• Effective DHS and OHA collaboration in active monitoring efforts through the FEMA Lifelines tool (stabilizing, stable and unstable)
• Incorporating broad social service needs as part of recovery phase
Response and Recovery Unit Focus

• Continue shared, coordinated response to COVID-19 challenges and help Oregon communities rebuild.

• Identify ways to best support program operations.

• Center equity in the work, recognizing the disproportionate impact COVID-19 has had on historically underserved populations.
Unit Structure - DRAFT

Jana McLellan, Director

- Communications
- Equity response
- Government Relations
  - Monitoring CARES Act and other relief funding

- Health Intelligence/Active Monitoring
- Congregate setting outbreaks
- Operations
- Social services response and supports
Questions?

www.oregon.gov/dhs