



**Date: November 5, 2014**

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## **State Seeks Participants for Oregon Project Independence (OPI) Program Pilot to Expand Services**

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The Oregon Project Independence (OPI) Program was created in 1975 to assist individuals over the age of 60, regardless of income, with in-home services to help them stay in their own homes and delay or prevent the need for more costly services. OPI services are modest and typically provide 20-30 hours of service per month. To qualify, a person must need in-home assistance based on an assessment and not be receiving benefits through Medicaid, such as the Oregon Health Plan.

In 2014, the Legislature provided funding to expand Oregon Project Independence to serve adults with disabilities, ages 19-59, in certain areas of the state. This is a one-year pilot ending on June 30, 2015 which will study the need and cost of providing the OPI program to younger adults on a permanent basis.

The State of Oregon is seeking additional individuals to participate in the OPI pilot. Participants must be ages 19-59, need in-home services based on an assessment, not be receiving full medical coverage through Medicaid such as the Oregon Health Plan and reside in the following counties: **Benton, Clatsop, Jackson, Josephine, Lane, Linn, Lincoln, Marion, Morrow, Multnomah, Polk, Umatilla and Washington.**

The OPI pilot is currently serving nearly 70 individual and has resources to serve several hundred more people. If you are in need, or know someone who is in need, and live in one of these counties, please contact Oregon's Aging and Disability Resource Connection -- Call toll-free at 1-855-673-2372 to be connected to the Area Agency on Aging serving your community by entering your zip code when prompted.

You can also visit the ADRC website at [www.adrcforegon.org](http://www.adrcforegon.org) and click on the "Connect" button to locate the contact information for the agency serving your county.

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