Data Governance Policy as Foundation for Data Equity

Data Equity Summit – 2026



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF Human Services

OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY

Snapshot of data at ODHS & OHA

1,191
data assets
↗ and growing

4 locations | **7** platforms

43%
Almost half are mission critical

53%
Over half contain sensitive data

Why Data Governance Policy for ODHS-OHA?



State law and DAS policy require data governance including inventories, standards, defined roles, and processes for data sharing.



A joint policy formalizes critical roles as well as the Data Governance Council and Executive Leadership Team's governance responsibilities.



Data governance provides a foundation for data equity by creating standards, increasing transparency, and building accountability.

The data we hold belongs to those we serve



Our role: stewardship, protection, and responsible use

Three critical roles to support data governance

DATA TRUSTEE



Accountable decisions

Data use
Sharing
Protection
Classification

DATA STEWARD



Expert guidance

Data quality
Meaning and definitions
Appropriate use
Equitable application

DATA CUSTODIAN



Secure technical management

Secure storage and access
Technical safeguards
Carry out authorized decisions

Trustees decide • Stewards guide • Custodians implement

Recognizing Tribal sovereignty

The policy includes language honoring **Tribal data ownership and sovereignty**, with Tribal-specific decisions coordinated with Tribal Affairs and the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes in Oregon.



Priorities that data governance policy can support



A practical approach to implementation



Transparency & accountability support data equity

Transparency

Explain how and why data is used, shared, classified, and protected.

Accountability

Trustees answer for decisions. Stewards and custodians carry out defined responsibilities.



Data equity

- Whose experiences are represented?
- Where could bias be reinforced?
- How does data use affect people?

Clear roles. Explainable decisions. Responsibility to people.

Thank you!

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For questions or feedback:

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