

Public Listening Session 2 – May 14, 2026

The Coordinated Care Organization Form A program (CCO Form A) reviews certain proposed business deals that involve Medicaid Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs) to make sure that they promote the interests of Oregon Health Plan members and all people in Oregon, and support Oregon’s shared goals of health equity, lower health care costs, increased access to care, and high-quality care. This document presents a transcript of the May 14th, 2026, Public Listening Session related to the CCO Form A review of FA-03 MultiCare – InterCommunity Health Network. OHA accepted public comment during the listening session conducted via Zoom.

The transcript was created during the meeting by a captioner, it may include typos or misspellings. OHA expresses no views on the substance of these comments, and their publication does not constitute an endorsement by OHA of the views expressed.

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Transcript

Speaker: Hello good evening and welcome to the second listening session for Form A review of the proposed transaction involving Intercommunity Health Network Community Care Organization.

I'm Erica Koscher with the Oregon Health Authority and I will be facilitating today's meeting. I would first like to remind everyone about the meeting logistics. This is a public meeting, so it is being recorded.

A transcriber is also attending this meeting who will produce a written transcript after the meeting. I request those who comment state their name clearly before making a comment and speak as clearly as possible to ensure an accurate transcription.

And third, we ask that you keep your microphone on mute until it is time for you to speak.

As a reminder you will need to sign up in order to provide public comment during this session. There is a sign up link located in the chat box here on zoom. If you have any difficulties accessing that sign up link, you can message in the zoom chat or otherwise put your name in the zoom chat.

We'll start with a brief overview of the meeting logistics. We will have 50 minutes for public comment and then a brief wrap up to talk about next steps.

As I mentioned, in order to provide public input, you will need to sign up. We will post a rolling list of those who have signed up in the zoom chat. When I call your name, please unmute your microphone and state your name, organization, or affiliation. Each person will have three minutes to speak.

We currently have four individuals signed up to speak, so there may be time at the end to provide additional comment. If there is time remaining and you would like to provide additional comment, please put your name in the chat.

If are you unable to provide comment today, we will provide additional ways for you to get us to know your thoughts.

Finally, before we get into the public comment period, I would like to describe OHA's role. OHA staff will actively listen to public input and we will not respond today. OHA staff will be compiling the input and last we will be posting a transcript of the listening session to the Form A web page for this particular review.

We will now begin the public comment period. When I call your name, OHA staff will unmute you and you should receive a notification from zoom that will allow you to unmute yourself and you will need to click that button to unmute. You are welcome to share your comments for three minutes. With that, we'll start with Trinh Le if you would like to provide comments?

Speaker: It looks like Trinh is not online yet. So we can circle back once we have gone through the current list. So I think we can move to the second person who is registered.

Speaker: Great thank you. Kathryn Henderson. Are you online with us today catherine?

Speaker: Yes I am. I'm trying to. Okay. I will begin. Can you hear me? Yes. My name is Kathryn Henderson member of the linn local advisory committee. I'm a retired nurse. I'm

writing this letter in support of MultiCare. I have reviewed the information regarding this affiliation and listened to the presentations made jointly by Samaritan Health Services.

As a community member I believe this affiliation represents, I believe this affiliation represents a substantial opportunity to stabilize and strengthen our local health care systems. I applaud Samaritan Health Care Systems to seek the right partner. The alignment, values for local control focus on improving access and available commitment to equitable services are critical.

We have a strong collaborative partnership and a broad network of providers, formal and informal, and represent the strong commitment to better serve our community members. This is an important step for our community being acknowledge to ensure we can be there for those in need. Around the nation we see health care systems contracting or disappearing particularly in rural communities.

Systems providing health care services and ensuring accessibility must find new ways and partners. This comes with greater stability. Thank you for your critical attention to this important opportunity.

Speaker: Thank you. We will move to the next person on the list Todd Noble.

Speaker: Okay. Can you hear me?

Speaker: Yes I can.

Speaker: Okay good. I'm Todd Noble for linn county and thank you for the opportunity to come to speak to support the MultiCare affiliation from the perspective of linn county. This is real and practical value especially for people doing the hardest work in our systems day in and day out.

First, the support for providers, our behavioral health workforce is stretched thin because the aftermath of the pandemic and because of out of state workforce. I, on the other hand, have been in the trenches as a partner who invest in and focuses on the most vulnerable.

What we have seen through this partnership is meaningful reinforcements, not just staffing stability. And providers are carrying the weight alone.

This backing matters for retention quality and morale. Unlike other CCO's who cut rates to safety net services for the most vulnerable following the rate increase last year, IHN did

the opposite and did not cut and continued to invest in community based services to CMHPs who are the boots on the ground for behavioral health service delivery.

Ihn was the only CCO that chose not to cut CMHPs in our region, the most vulnerable in our community, and focusing on the investment IHN has been the envy of many of my peers around the state.

Secondly, improving access capacity consistently challenged many of us. Through shared ability, we have been able to address gaps that pushed people into crisis emergency centers. This is operational.

Unlike others CCO, CMHPs, we didn't get funding from the state to build our behavioral health crisis center which will be finished at the end of the month. Ihn did support our ethics to our community. And maybe the most important I would like to emphasize of the strength of the health services and county partners.

I speak for Linn County. What we have here is not accidental. I can tell you directly this kind of partnership is coveted around the counties. They ask how we made it work. Through collaboration. Ihn is not an insurance company. There are partners, shared interest and service delivery.

In our region the CCO is community providers. We had a real success together particularly addressing behavioral capacity fee across our continuum of care. We lost psychiatrists, hospitals, but partnered with Samaritan to advocate, to share the much needed beds.

Samaritan told us and they have been proactive and the MultiCare affiliation strengthens what already works and positions us to meet the needs that we know are coming. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. Move to the next individual on the list, Tina Smith.

Speaker: Hello everyone. Okay. Yeah. Hi. Again my name is Tina Smith. I'm here as a member, the CAC representative. What matters most to me is knowing I can keep my providers and can I'm sorry and community care close to home. This affiliation doesn't disrupt my coverage.

It is better coordination and more services where I live and it means I can have the opportunity and I can also rely on and trust my health care and remain and it will remain local.

I apologize I have a little headache right now. So approving this affiliation helps patients sooner instead of letting uncertainty drag on.

I ask OHA to approve this transaction for patients like me. I don't know if this was the right time to read this, but in case my headache is worse, I'm glad I did. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. We'll move next to Alison Hopgood.

Speaker: This is Alison here. I use she her pronouns and serve as one of executive director at a place called Corvallis drop in center. We're a navigation and resilience center for people experiencing chronic poverty. I can second and third and fourth what folks have already said so far.

I have found just personally and from an administrative perspective our work to create thriving communities for people experiencing homelessness. Their grant funds allow for creative and new solutions to really, really benefit problems and have funding they supported us with, support specifically.

They were still committed to the work we were doing in the area. We purchased a forever home so we can have a location where we don't have to lose our spot. This is meaningful to us and partners and guest that we serve.

More pragmatic, almost every week the Samaritan Health noble bus comes to offer care to the guest at our center and the team there and one example of kind of our on the ground partnership but the team there, the care that they offer, the quality of care and compassion with which they offer that care is really unparalleled.

So I want to condone any kind of support we can do to continue to strengthen, sustain, stabilize, motivate and just move forward the things they are doing. And I can't say enough about my gratitude for this partnership. Thanks for giving me time to speak today.

Speaker: Thank you. We will move next to Trinh Le.

Speaker: Hello everyone. My name is Trinh Le analyst for kaiser health care and I'm here to representative myself as an individual person. I'm here to support the affiliation between Samaritan and Multi Care.

I hope this will strengthen the care in our region by enhancing the care and affordability. I know no one has to travel 50 miles to get the care that they need.

So hopefully, with this population, it will help to strengthen the health system in the area. At the same time, I also express some concern over, you know, the CCO management because MultiCare is an out of state entity, so I'm concerned about the interests of the operations.

So that is my support and also express concern. Thank you so much for the opportunity to voice.

Speaker: Thank you. We will next move to Doug Mahs.

Speaker: good evening everyone. My name is Doug I'm a resident of Olympia in Washington state city of Olympia and home to capital care medical center.

And if you were to speak in support of the proposal by way of background, I served on the Olympia city counsel between 2001 and 2011 including the last four years as mayor of the capital city. I served on the capital medical center board of trustees between 2012 and 2022, serving as a college trustee a large credit union and chamber of commerce retained me to provide advocacy and public policy support so invested in our community.

I have three observations meaningful for your consideration regarding Multi Care. First, corporate stability as noted, I was on the board of trustees for capital medical center for over 8 years. During that time, I worked with 3 different CCOs and 4 different corporate owners MultiCare. Very much impressed with the large capital investments in surgery centers and operating rooms. And you know that investment also brought a focus on our community and the ability to listen to the needs of the community especially around women's health, the impetus for the original creation of the second capital medical center.

They were able to listen to the community, provide meaningful services, but also able to do it in such a way as to create stability in the region. An advantage outcome of their investment and corporate stability, they have improved access to care and improved the care received by our community.

I've been very much impressed with the new off campus emergency department located in an adjacent city. The city of Lacey has brought about an incredible, has addressed

incredible needs and minimize some of the pressures applied to the two hospital emergency departments.

They also continued to provide an address and need to create more permanent care providers and I think in the end all of this the corporate stability and impressive investments in facility and infrastructure focusing on local need creates improved access and care has made the hospital and MultiCare a better and stronger partner for our community.

They have very high credibility. They are attentive to community needs, and they are much more collaborative than the previous owners of capital medical center.

So by all means, I encourage you and this community to consider strongly what Multi Care brings to your community. And I can say that they have been an impressive and important partner in our community here in Thurston County and the city of Olympia, Washington. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. We will next move to Lacey Mollel.

Speaker: Good afternoon. I'm the executive direct for the Community Health Centers of Benton and Linn counties. So I, you know, kind of want to come and talk a little bit about deeply invested in making sure that we have stable and sustainable health care delivery in our ecosystem here cross Linn and Benton counties.

I come from a hospital state in Kansas and affiliation is a big step. Folks have difficult conversations and I commend Samaritan for finding a good partner.

We know having a reliable hospital system means that people are better served and more prepared to meet the demands and challenges of health care delivery across the region.

At the same time, I'm here to talk about IHN affiliation with MultiCare because it's important for us to, for OHA to consider the unique dynamics of our region and our environment. The success of our CCO is very closely tied to the success of Samaritan Health Services and it has, it is our environment and our ecosystem where the payer and the provider network are major recipients of Medicaid funding, and it means we are deeply interconnected.

While it creates opportunities for alignment, it raises important questions about government and oversight and accountability as well and as careful attention.

Our communities are already experiencing instability and health care access and coverage. We, in our safety net provider spaces, have been dealing with really challenges, situations and rural linn county patients when Samaritan made the decision to no longer take united health care this year has brought about a lot of uncertainty as well for Samaritan Health Care plan in January 2026.

So there's a lot of anxiety among community members whenever we think about other changes that could be made. So I really would just encourage OHA to continue to evaluate this process and look at both the areas where we need transparency and more meaningful partnership and community health centers across Linn Benton counties because with all the instability around HR 1 and finances and changes coming we will continue to care for folks regardless of their Medicaid eligibility status. And this partnership needs to be sustainable and long lasting.

Speaker: Thank you. I think we are at the end of the list of folks who signed up to speak today. We will stay on the line for the full hour, 6:30 pm, to hear public comment if any individuals end up joining and would like to provide comment.

I also will offer at this time if anyone who has already spoken would like to speak again to provide more comment, please put your name in the chat or anyone else that would like to speak.

We will remain on the line if anybody else joins or would like to provide comment. Thank you.

Speaker: Hello this is OHA public listening session involving Intercommunity Health Network CCO. If you would like to provide public comment, please sign up in the chat or please put you your name in the chat box.

We will continue to remain on the line until 6:30 if anyone would like to provide public comment.

Hello, this is OHA public listening session involved in intercommunity health network CCO. If you would like to provide public comment, please sign up with the link in the chat. And you can put your name in the chat as well. We will remain to the line until 6: 25 and then wrap up at that time.

Speaker: Hello. This concludes the second listening session for OHA's review. We appreciate everyone who attended today and provided public comment. We very much value comments from the community as we are doing our review.

Please note that there are additional ways to provide public input into this review. In the chat you can find the contact information for the CCO form, a review program, including the email and phone number as well as the link to our public comment form.

All public comments will be posted to OHA, CCO Form A on the transition website for the MultiCare and community health network review. With that, we'll wrap up for today. Thank you everyone for your time.

Recording stopped.

About CCO Form A

The CCO Form A Review program is reviewing this deal to understand how it could impact Oregon Health Plan members and all people in Oregon. For more information, you can connect with CCO Form A staff:

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