

Office of Aging and People with Disabilities

Jane-ellen Weidanz

Deputy Director of Policy

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Who we are

- The ODHS Office of Aging and People with Disabilities (APD) is continually adapting to support **equity, independence, choice and dignity** so that the people we serve can achieve their best quality of life.
- APD is committed to advancing **consumer engagement**, a hallmark of Oregon's past innovations in developing person-centered services and supports.



APD programs address many needs

- Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC)
- Adult Protective Services (APS)
- Disability Determination Services
- Financial Eligibility Policy
- General Assistance
- Information and Assistance/Options Counseling
- Medicaid Long-Term Services and Supports
- Oregon Home Care Commission
- Oregon Project Independence (OPI)
- Older Americans Act (meals etc)
- Safety, Oversight and Quality (licensing)
- Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance (SHIBA)
- Support for OEP
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs
 - Medicaid
 - Medicare Premium assistance

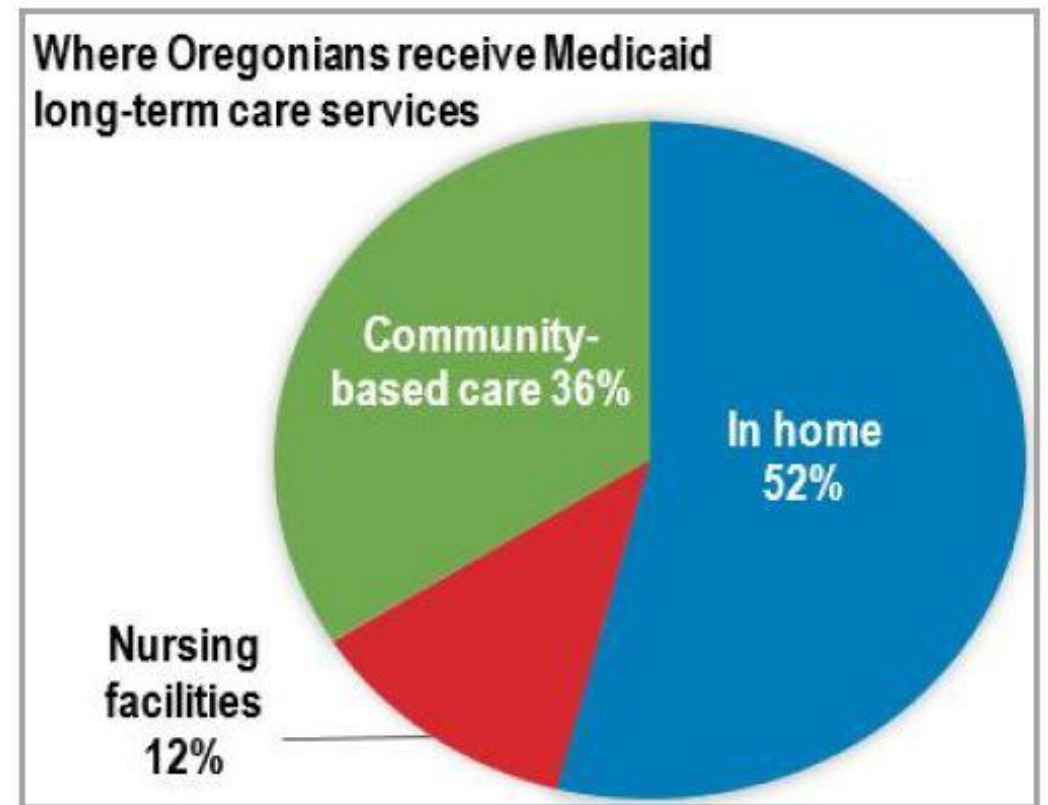


Long-term Services and Supports (LTSS)

Of the 35,000 consumers receiving Medicaid long-term services and supports:

- About 19,000 receive services in their homes;
- 12,000 in community-based care settings such as assisted living; and
- 4,000 in nursing facilities.

Consumers choose
which setting they want



Eligibility Criteria

- **Basic Eligibility**

- Over age 18 with a disability
- Over age 65

- **Financial eligibility criteria**

- Income under 300% of SSI
- Under \$2,000 in assets

- **Service eligibility criteria**

- Must meet Service Priority Levels (SPLs) 1-13
- SPLs are clusters for needs defined as activities of daily living.
- Eligibility is limited to those who need significant assistance with:
 - Mobility (Ambulation/Transfer)
 - Eating
 - Elimination
 - Cognition
- Bathing, Dressing, Grooming, and Personal Hygiene do not drive eligibility

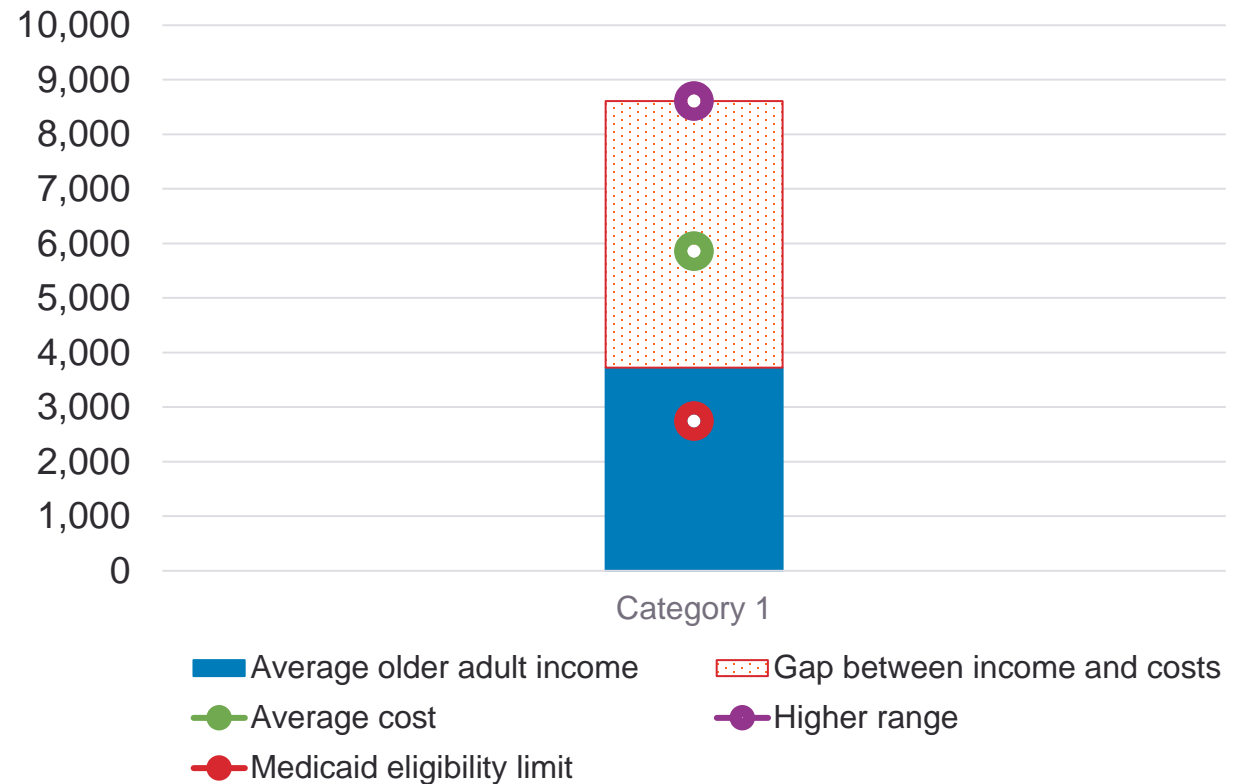
APD does not serve individuals 18-64 whose primary driver of need is a mental illness.

Issues: Cost of care unreachable for many older adults

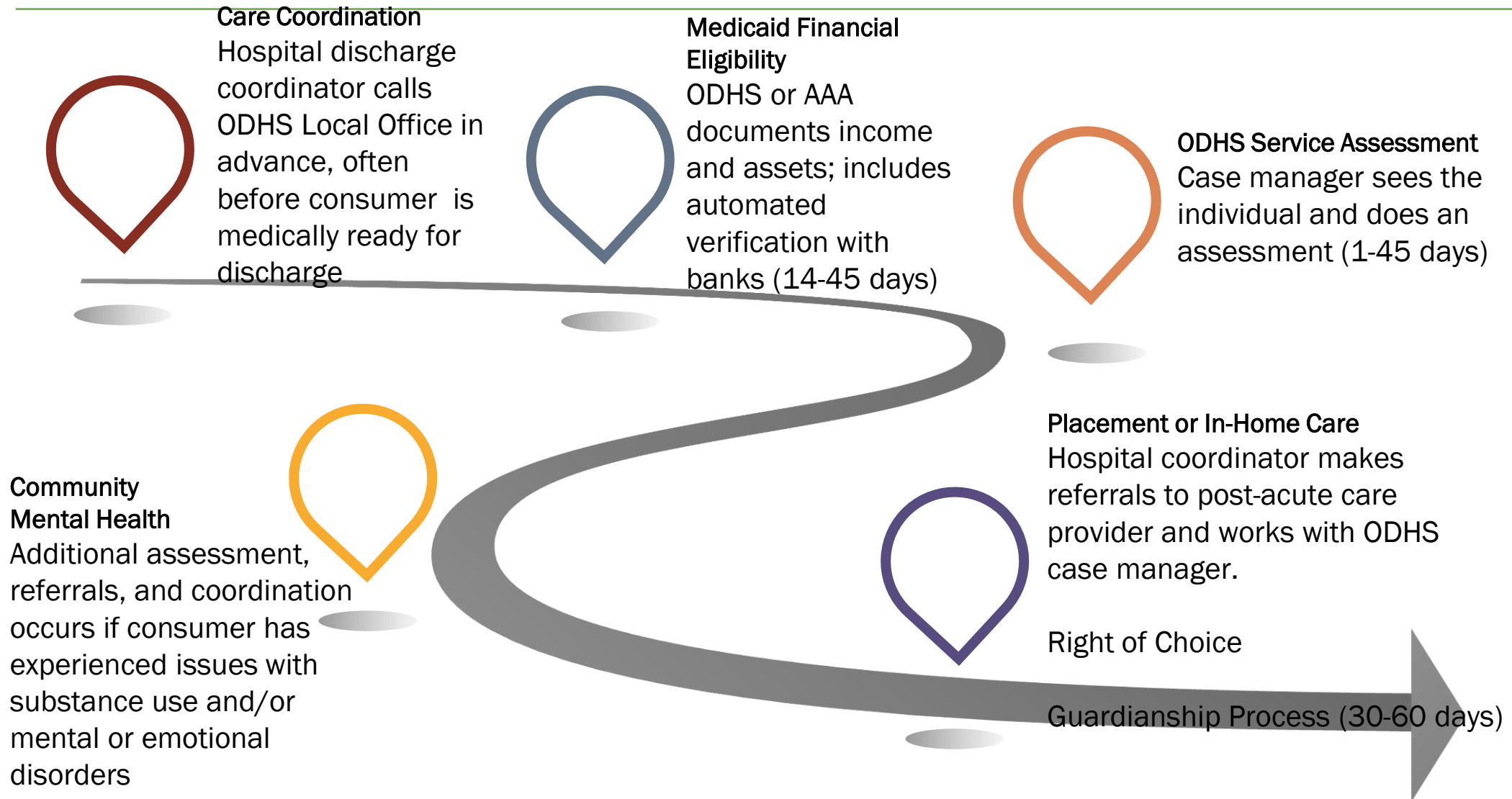
There is a gap between income and the cost of care:

- Average older adult income in Oregon: **\$3,725** per month.
- Medicaid income limit: **\$2,742** per month.
- Private pay costs for ALF and RCF: **\$5,852** per month
- Older adults and people with disabilities cannot afford LTSS and go without because of Medicaid limits.

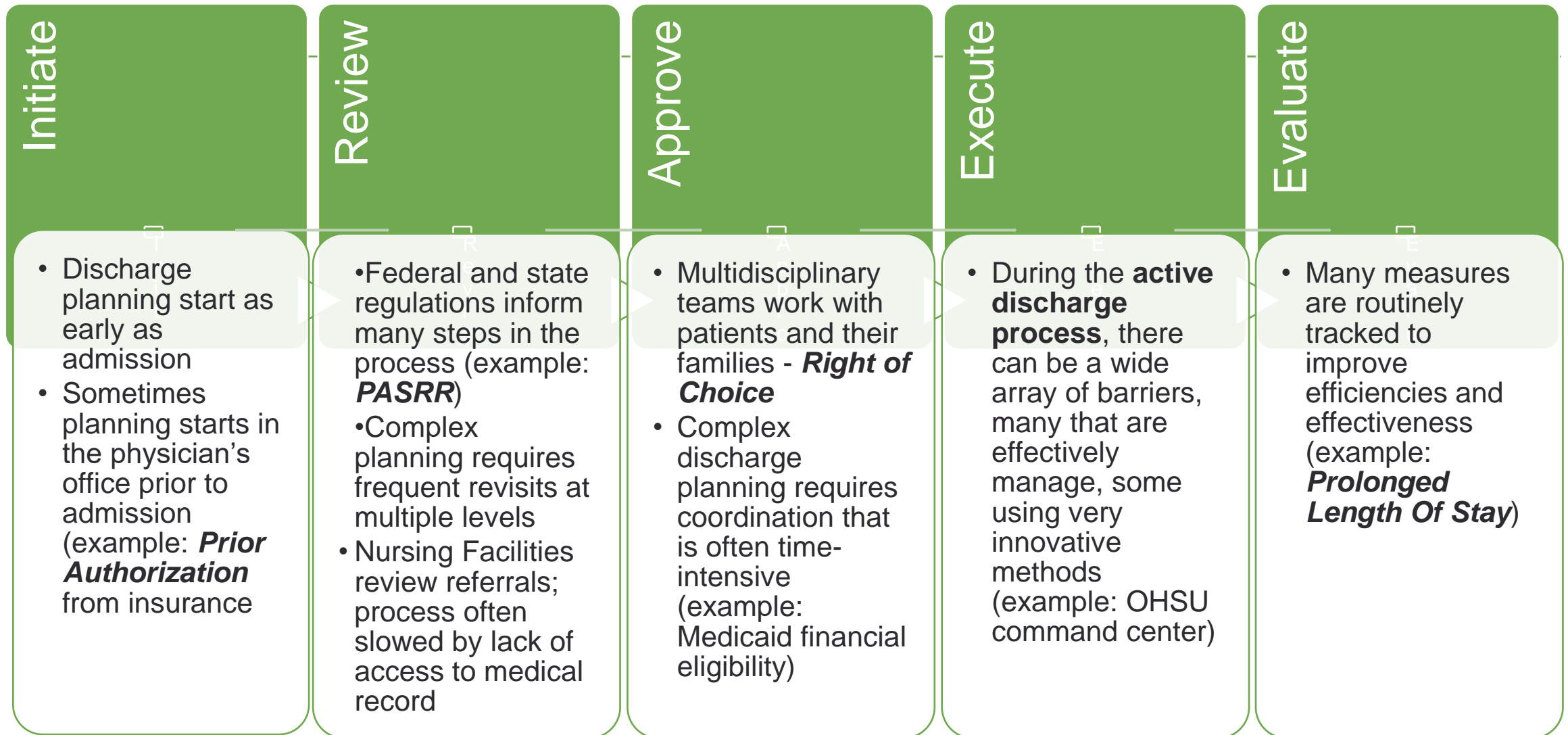
Care costs, income and Medicaid eligibility limits



Care coordination — long-term services and supports



Discharge planning process



Who sets eligibility criteria?

- The requirements are a mix of federal regulations and state policy.
- Federal regs set limits but there are state flexibilities.
 - States can choose to serve individuals with lower incomes or can file an 1115 Demonstration Waiver to serve individuals with higher incomes or assets.
- States can determine what asset limits
- To date, Oregon has not chosen to increase financial eligibility for the entire LTSS population though some states have done so.
 - California just eliminated their asset test for individuals needing LTSS while Oregon uses the same dollar amount that was set in 1987 (the \$2,000 limit.).
 - Oregon has chosen to eliminate an asset test for individuals who need medical benefits (i.e., Oregon Health Plan) but not those who need LTSS.
- Service eligibility is a state decision only.

Office of Aging and People with Disabilities (APD)

Long-term care providers, and the direct-care workforce, are essential in providing services to older adults and people with disabilities.

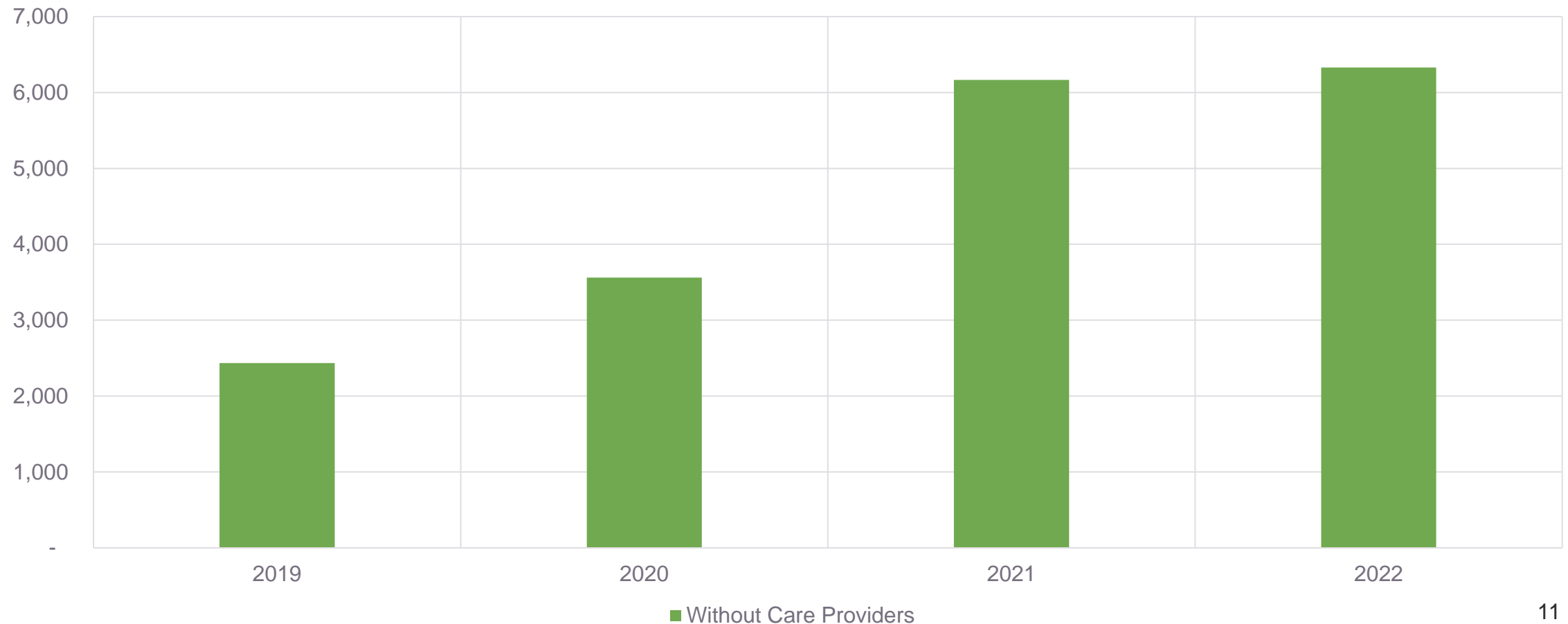
- There are approximately 19,600 homecare workers
- There is an unknown number of caregivers in in-home care agencies.

Oregon currently licenses about:

- 130 nursing facilities;
- 560 assisted living and residential care facilities; and
- 1,400 adult foster homes.

Issues: Help increasingly not available

Number of people eligible for Medicaid services and supports in Oregon who do not have care providers.



What level of services are consumers receiving

Program	Average 2 Week Authorization
APD In-Home	88.67
Spousal Pay	87.96
Independent Choices	67.51
KPS In-Home	51.96
Average	74.03

- Most consumers receive less than 5.5 hours per day
- Consumers can receive 24-hour care through an exception
- In-home services must be delivered in a safe setting

KPS is a designation for individuals who receive Medicaid through the Medicaid expansion allowed by the Affordable Care Act

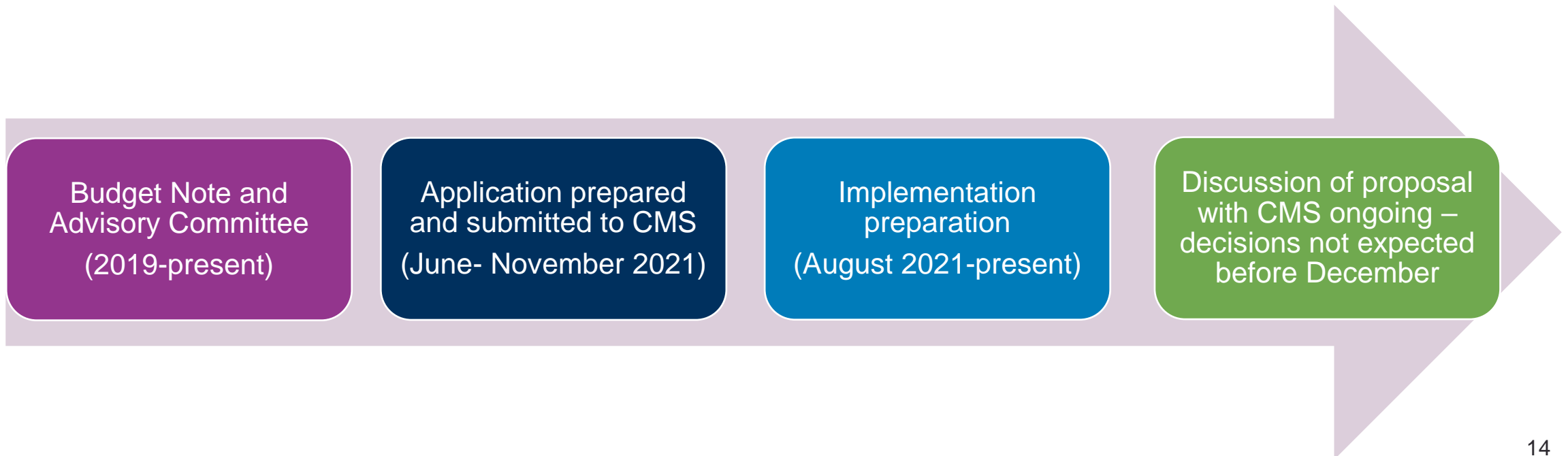
Serving individuals with higher asset limits

- With Legislative approval, APD has filed an 1115 Demonstration Waiver to create a new in-home program that would use Oregon Project Independence (OPI) funding (GF only) to draw down Medicaid.
- This will allow us to serve more individuals than ever before in OPI.
- Income levels would be set at 400% of Federal Poverty Level and asset limits would be set at 6 months' worth of NF costs.
- APD has been in negotiations with CMS since early 2022 about the waiver and we expect a decision this month. We would likely implement the program some time in 2024.

Projects and initiatives:

1115 Medicaid Demonstration Waiver

- Waiver asks Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to expand **Oregon Project Independence** using Medicaid.
- Goal is to serve more older adults and people with disabilities who require assistance with activities of daily living.



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





Questions?

Issues: Long-term care workforce challenges

Low wages in the caring professions have contributed to workforce crisis.

- Hourly rates start at **\$17.77 an hour for homecare workers** serving people in Oregon with Medicaid services. Comparable employment options pay \$18. - \$22 an hour.
- Direct care workers are often people who are members of historically socially and economically marginalized groups:
 - **1 in 4 are aged 55** and older;
 - 1 in 6 are immigrants;
 - **1 in 3 are people of color**; and
 - **81 percent are women.**



Source: Ruggles, Steven, Sarah Flood, Ronald Goeken, Megan Schouweiler, and Matthew Sobek. 2022. IPUMS USA: Version 12.0. <https://doi.org/10.18128/D010.V12.0>; analysis by PHI (September 2022).

Where we serve

- APD delivers services through contracts with local partners such as community-based organizations and local governments.
- All Area Agencies on Aging administer Older Americans Act and Oregon Project Independence
- In 10 of the biggest counties local government-run AAAs also provide Medicaid services
 - Case management
 - AFH Licensing
 - APS
 - Financial eligibility
 - LTSS eligibility
- In the other counties APD provides Medicaid Services

