



Rural Advisory Council

The RAC met at the Laurelwood Homes in Florence, OR on Friday June 13th. There was no public comment. The members discussed the challenges of getting all the members to attend the meetings. They noted that consumers particularly have a difficult time traveling to meetings. It was decided to poll the members regarding whether we should change the time, day of week or location of the monthly meetings. It was also proposed that we hold the next 2-4 meetings in Cottage Grove to see if that improved attendance. They also discussed using Skype or other video conferencing tools. They will look into the possibility of using existing networks, such as PeaceHealth or DHS.

The RAC members also expressed a desire to “go deeper” into either a community or a program in order to make actionable recommendations. They felt that visiting many communities was worthwhile, but that it “skimmed the surface”. There was agreement that the RAC would identify the rural community that could use the most help and focus on that area for 4-6 months and then make recommendations to Trillium.

The members also agreed that compiling the information we have gathered about the different communities and creating a report is a good goal. We can look for opportunities to flesh out the information and fill in gaps. The report would at where there are gaps, where there is duplication, and identifying the biggest challenges regarding healthcare in each community.

Recruiting new members continues to be a challenge. Members agreed to help get the word out through different sources, such as schools, preschools, faith organizations, and community groups. It was agreed that one-on-one recruitment works best.

The next RAC meeting will be July 11 in Cottage Grove.