Rural Advisory Council

The RAC met on December 12\textsuperscript{th} at Trillium in Eugene. There were reports from Trillium and from members who had attended the Coordinated Care Model Summit in Portland. Debi Farr gave the Trillium report, including an explanation and update on the situation with Reedsport.

RAC members discussed the mission and purpose of the RAC. They felt that they have done a good job of gathering information from rural Lane County communities and being “ambassadors” for Trillium. There was agreement that they want to do a better job of making specific recommendations to Trillium and to develop better ways to share information with rural communities. It was also suggested that the RAC and CAC have one joint meeting each year.

The RAC also wants to expand its membership and has been frustrated by the lack of success in recruiting new members. The group decided that it was critical that they continue to visit rural communities. Several strategies were suggested to re-invigorate the committee. They included:

1. Develop specific questions/inquiries for people living in rural communities which could lead to recommendations to Trillium. For example, develop a way to determine what barriers Trillium members are experiencing in their communities.
2. Identify resources and information that the RAC can bring to rural communities.
3. In order to increase membership and representation, invite representatives from social service agencies in rural communities to learn about the RAC. We will encourage them to help us identify consumer members from their organizations to serve on the RAC.

The January meeting will be held at Trillium and will be a planning meeting for the 2015.