The Rural Advisory Council met on May 13 in Florence, Oregon. Debi Farr gave the Trillium update. Char Reavis and Robin Roberts reported about the CAC meeting with RideSource. The group was enthusiastic about helping to develop new information to be shared in rural communities. RAC members felt that communication often went wrong in rural communities, leaving people with the impression that they can’t access services. A good example was from Oakridge, where a woman called the company that previously provided transportation and was told that they didn’t have RideSource any longer. Unfortunately, she was not told that another business was providing rides.

Debi Farr gave an update on the pain management / opioid prescription changes. She shared Trillium’s plan for notifying patients and clarified the new services Trillium would be offering to help manage pain. The RAC members encouraged Trillium to consider doing some outreach through the media in smaller towns. They also reiterated their concerns about the availability of alternative pain management services in rural communities.

The next RAC meeting will be on June 10 at Trillium in Eugene.