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# Medicaid Division

Presented to  
Senate Committee on Early Childhood and Behavioral Health  
February 11, 2025

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# Agenda

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- Medicaid program and administration
- Coverage
- New developments
- Q&A

# OHA Strategic Plan





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# What is Medicaid?

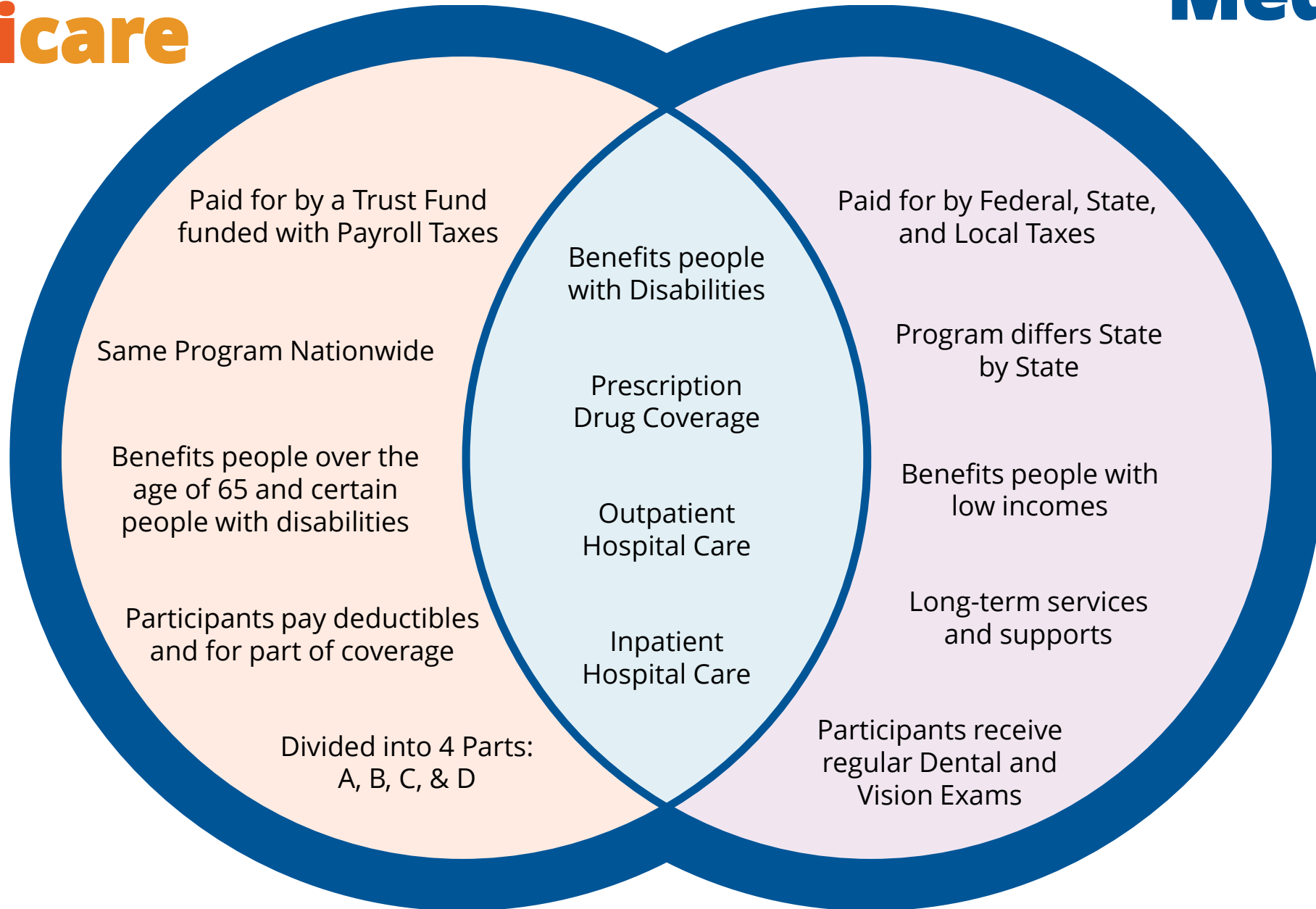
# What is Medicaid and the Oregon Health Plan (OHP)

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- Medicaid is a joint federal and state program that is administered by each state in accordance with federal law, enacted in 1965 as companion legislation to Medicare
- The Oregon Health Plan (OHP) is Oregon's **Medicaid** program, providing coverage to individuals with lower incomes, regardless of age or immigration status. Unlike **Medicare**, which is a federal program for those 65 and older or with specific disabilities, OHP eligibility is based on income rather than age or work history.
- Oregon contracts with the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) through the approved Medicaid State Plan and various waivers.
  - States must follow federal rules to get Medicaid funding.
  - States can ask **to change** their Medicaid rules. These changes are called Medicaid waivers.

# Medicare

# Medicaid



# Better Health, Better Care and Lower Costs for All

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**Medicaid supports OHA's triple aim of better health, better care and lower costs for all.**

- Expanding eligibility
- Integrating care through CCOs
- Access to physical, behavioral and oral health care
- Preventative care
- Housing, nutrition and climate services
- Partnering with the nine federally recognized Tribes of Oregon and the Urban Indian Health Program for culturally appropriate care
- Addressing health inequities through data and community partnerships.



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# Who is Covered?



# Medicaid: Populations Served

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1.4 million Oregon Health Plan (OHP) Members

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1 in 3 people in Oregon covered by Medicaid

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57% of Oregon's Children (0-17 years old) covered by Medicaid

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Over 40% of births covered by Medicaid

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144 total written language preferences among OHP members

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242 unique spoken language preferences among OHP members

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# What is the Medicaid Division: Our Work

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## **Oregon Health Plan (OHP):**

- Oregon's Medicaid program. Covers doctor visits, hospital care, behavioral health services, oral health services, health-related social needs (HRSN) and additional benefits for children and pregnant people.

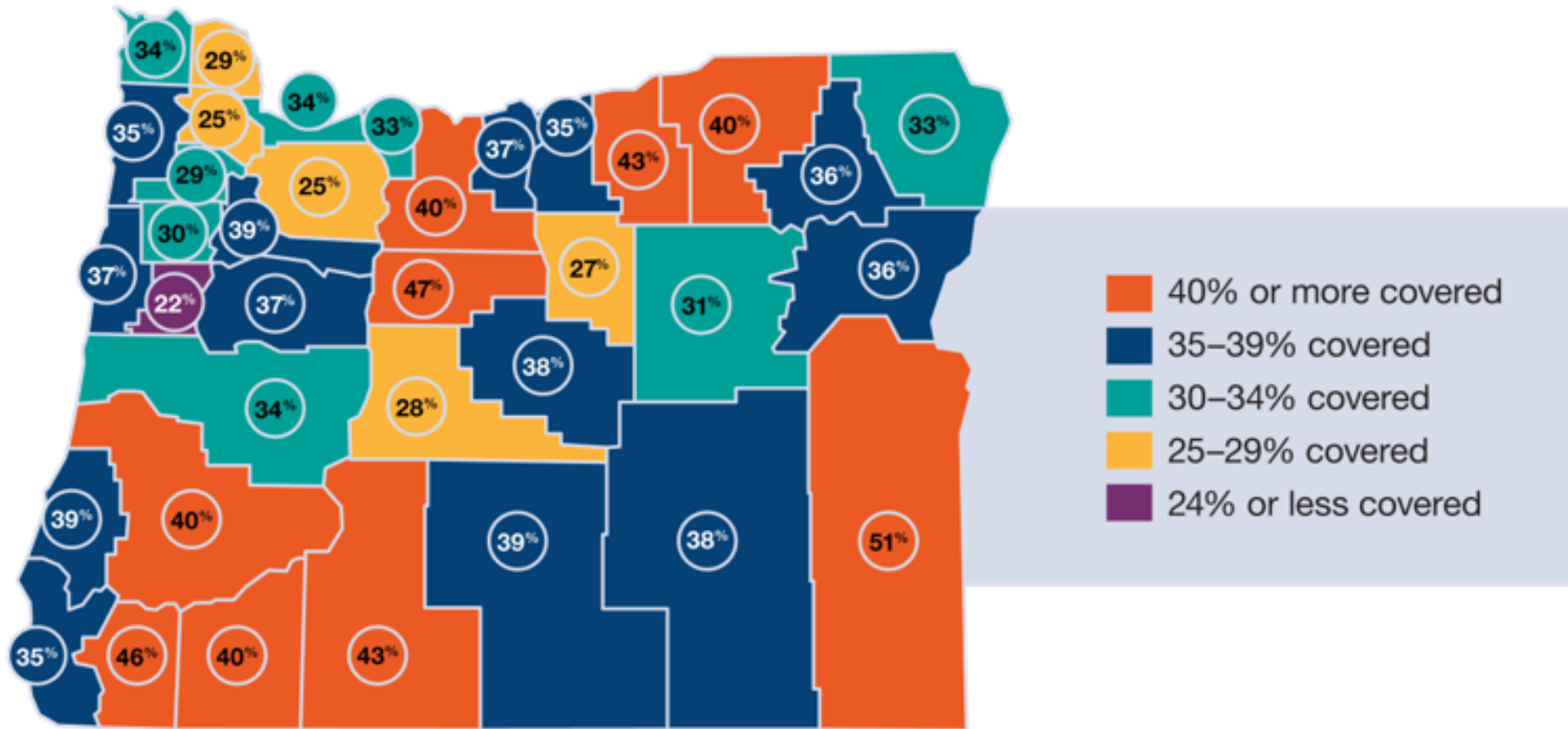
## **Healthier Oregon:**

- Provides full OHP benefits to anyone meeting income and other OHP eligibility requirements. Immigration status no longer determines if someone can qualify for full OHP.

## **OHP Bridge:**

- Covers medical, dental, and behavioral health care, along with additional benefits like transportation to medical appointments and health-related services.
  - OHP Bridge does not include coverage for long-term services and supports or HRSN.

# Medicaid Enrollment by County in 2024



# Medicaid's Structure

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## Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs)

- **92.4%** members are enrolled with CCOs
- Manage financial risk and coordinate health care access for their members

## Statewide Fee for Service (FFS)

- **7.5%** members have an “open card” arrangement
- Exists outside the CCO structure due to federally mandated exemptions, and OHA pays providers directly
- Carved out services for all Medicaid-eligible populations
  - Behavior Rehabilitation Services
  - Home and Community-Based Care

## FFS Covered populations can include:

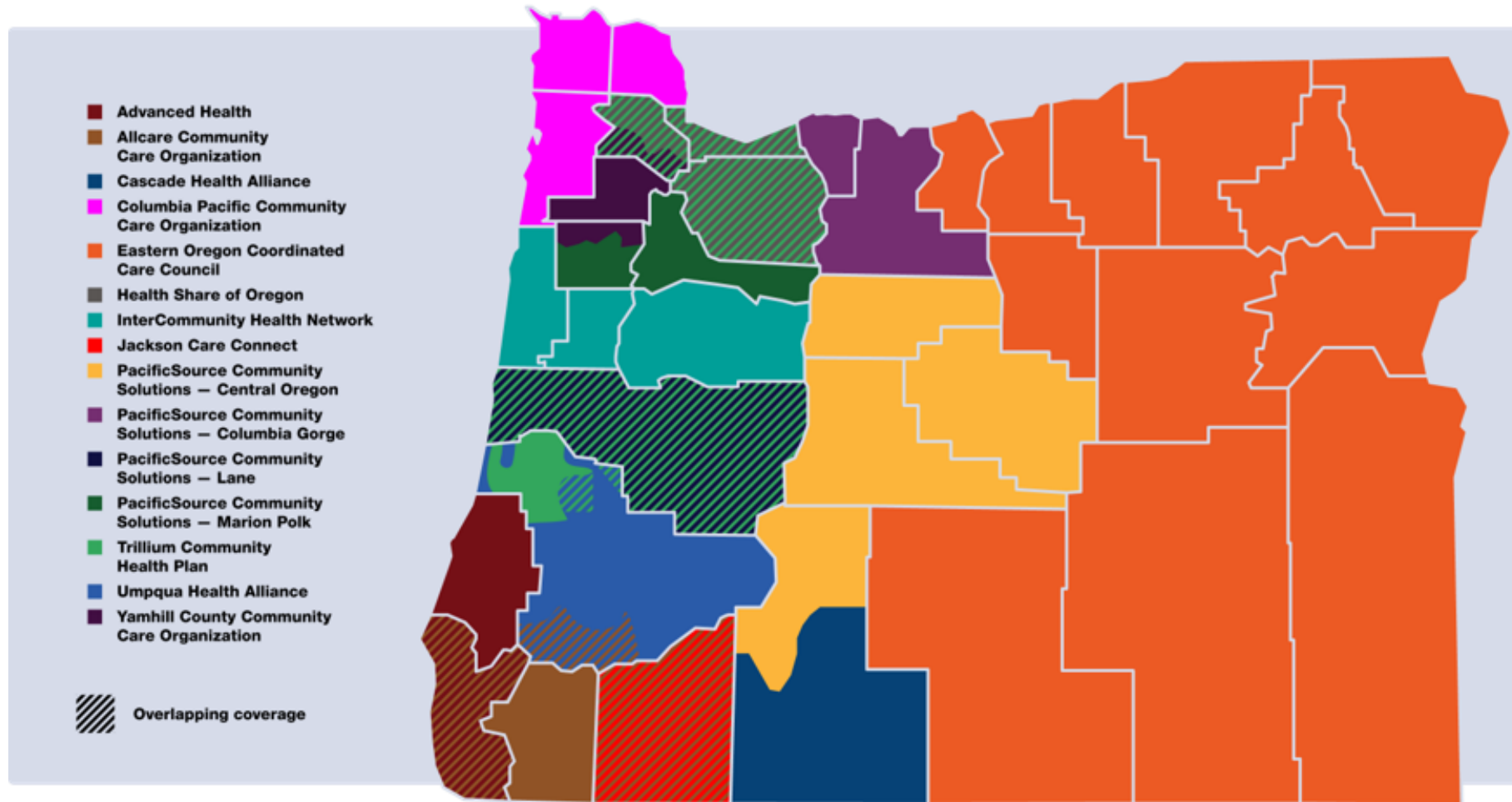
- American Indian/Alaska Native people
- Youth involved in child welfare
- Youth served by Oregon Youth Authority
- People who are Dual Eligible for Medicaid and Medicare
- Newly eligible pregnant people in 3rd trimester
- Children with complex medical needs (“medically fragile”)
- People with third party insurance

# Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs)

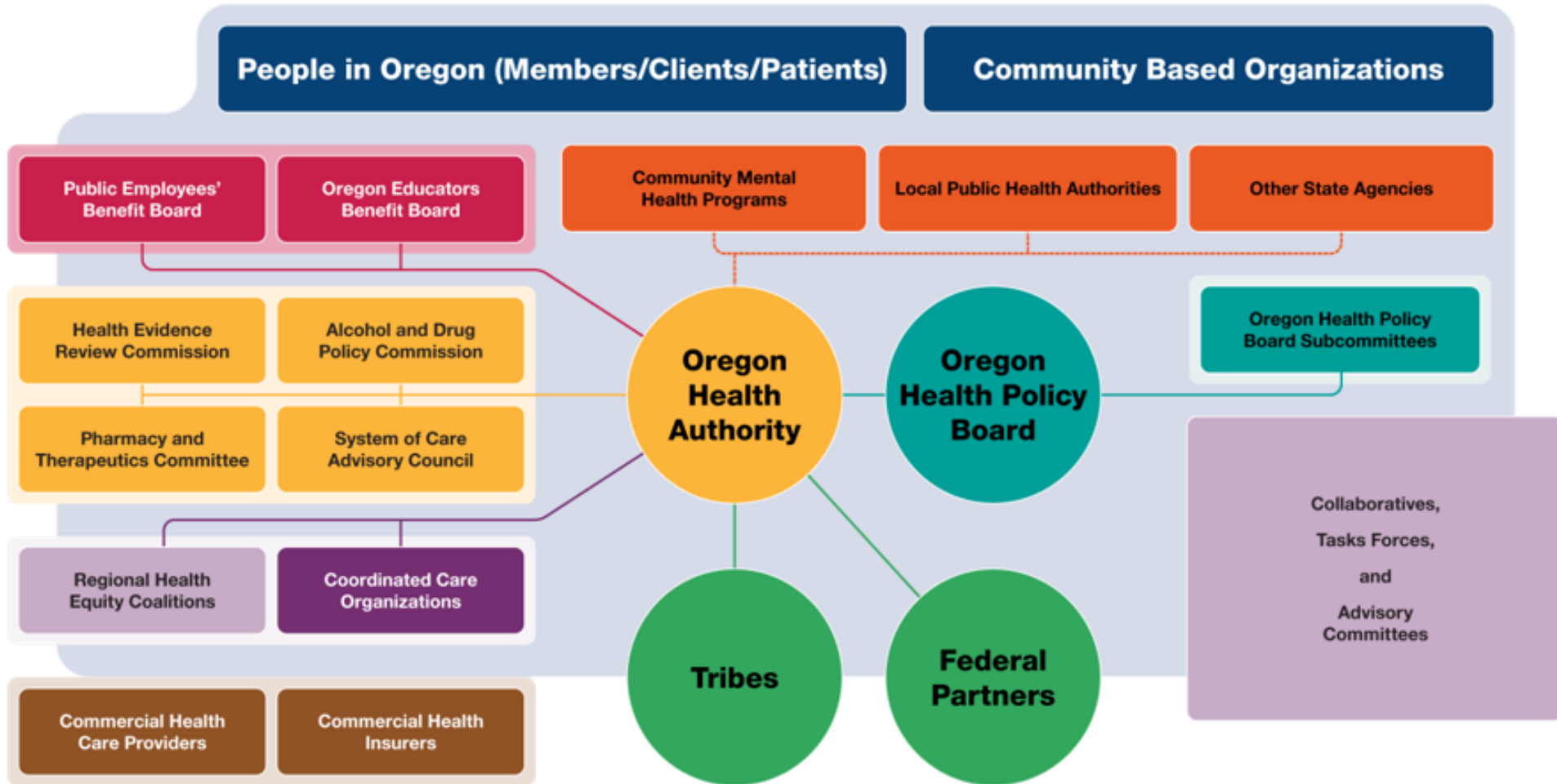
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- Coordinated Care Organizations are community-governed organizations that contract with the state to provide to coordinate care for people on the Oregon Health Plan. This includes Medicaid, the Basic Health Plan and state-funded plans such as Healthier Oregon.
- CCOs receive fixed monthly payments from the state to coordinate care. There are financial incentives available to reward outcomes and quality.
- CCOs also have the flexibility to address their members' health needs outside traditional medical services. This model is designed to improve member care and reduce taxpayer costs.

# 16 Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs)



# External Partnerships



# 1115 Waiver: Filling gaps in health care with new OHP benefits

## Continuous eligibility

Members stay enrolled for 2 years even if their income changes

## HRSN

Health-related social needs  
Housing, nutrition, climate change

## YSHCN

Young adults with special health care needs  
People with childhood health conditions get same care even after age 18

## CCBF

Community Capacity Building Funds  
Grants for groups who offer waiver benefits

## EPSDT

Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment  
No cost for children and YSCHN

## Reentry

Health care coverage that starts before people leave incarceration

## Tribal healing practices

Traditional healing methods covered

## BUP Benefit Update Project

Aligning OHP benefits with Federal guidelines to ensure coverage



# Oregon 1115 Waiver Key Changes



## Extended Oregon Health Plan (OHP) Eligibility and Benefits

### Expanded Medicaid Coverage:

- Continuous OHP for children up to age 6
- 2 years of OHP enrollment for ages 6+
- Coverage for young adults with special health needs up to age 26

### Expanded Medicaid Benefits & Services:

- HRSN supports (housing, nutrition, climate, outreach)
- Limited services for individuals in carceral settings (90 days pre-release)
- Tribal Traditional Healing practices
- New appeals system for OHP Open Card/FFS (by Jan 1, 2027)
- Additional OHP services covered starting Jan 1, 2027

# Implementation Timeline

## ● 2023-2024

- EPSDT
- Continuous eligibility
- HRSN Services:  
Climate, Outreach &  
Engagement,  
Housing

## ● 2025

- HRSN Services:  
Nutrition
- YSHCN  
benefits begin  
rolling out

## ● 2026 - 2027

- Reentry Health Care
- Prioritized List phase  
out (1/1/2027)

# 2025-27 Focus Areas

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## **Medicaid and Health Care Funding & Coverage Expansion**

- Continue to build 1115 Medicaid waiver benefits
- Transition people and families from Healthier Oregon to OHP Bridge
- Renew hospital & insurers' assessments for stable Medicaid funding

## **Behavioral Health and Integration**

- Sustain and expand Medicaid Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC)
- Increase access to behavioral health treatment

## **Health System Infrastructure and Access Improvement**

- CCO Contract Procurement Project
- Expand interpreter availability for language access
- Ongoing efforts to align with federal access, quality, and compliance standards

# What is OHP Bridge?

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- OHP Bridge is a new benefit that launched in July 2024 for adults with higher incomes.
- People who get OHP Bridge must:
  - Have income up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level,
  - Be 19 to 64 years old,
  - Not have access to other affordable health insurance, and
  - Have an eligible citizenship or immigration status to qualify.
- OHP Bridge is free coverage with no member costs like copays or deductibles.



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# Key Successes

# Medicaid Outcomes

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## Outcomes of Medicaid's work:

- Expanded eligibility for children, immigrants, and adults with incomes between 138% and 200% of FPL.
- Helped people maintain OHP coverage after the end of the Public Health Emergency (PHE).
- Increasing access to preventative services (e.g., screening, vaccinations, HRSNs).
- Covering Substance Use Disorder treatments, including Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT).
- Providing culturally appropriate care and telehealth to reach underserved areas.
- Played a key role in insurance coverage for key groups.

Health Insurance Coverage in Oregon	2017	2023
Statewide	93.8%	97.0%
American Indian or Alaska Native	89.7%	96.3%
Black or African American	91.4%	93.9%
Latinx	84.6%	92.3%
19- to 34-year-olds	88.0%	94.0%

# Resources

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[CMS Homepage](#)

[Medicaid Homepage \(Federal\) – Medicaid in Oregon](#)

[Oregon's 1115 Medicaid Demonstrations – 2022-2027 two-page summary](#)

[Oregon Health Plan Terms](#)



# Thank you

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## Medicaid Division

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