

Oregon Alliance to Prevent Suicide  
Workforce Subcommittee Meeting Agenda & Action Planning

**Date & Time:** August 1, 2025 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

**Zoom Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89796541408?pwd=OGpPRVArcDhTS1MzWml3YUhaZHV3dz09>

**Subcommittee Voting Members in Attendance:** Chair Angela Perry, Don Erickson, Gordon Clay

**Subcommittee Voting Members not in Attendance:** Erin Porter, Stephanie Willard

**Subcommittee Non-Voting Members in Attendance:** Marielena McWhirter, Linda Hockman, Meghan Crane

**Subcommittee Non-Voting Members Not in Attendance:** Lindsay Wills, Sarah Spafford, Suzie Stadelman, Tanya Pritt

**Staff:** Jenn Fraga

---

**Subcommittee Decision Making:** Each OHA appointed member is entitled to one vote on any matter referred to the Subcommittee. Votes will require a quorum. A quorum in Subcommittees, other than the Executive Subcommittee, will be three voting members of the Alliance, and must include a Subcommittee Chair or Co-chair. Decisions will be made by majority vote of the total number of members on that Subcommittee that are present.

**Quick Recap:** The team reconvened after their summer break to discuss updates on suicide prevention initiatives, funding for various programs, and policy recommendations. They reviewed legislative strategies and engagement tactics with potential champions, while also addressing concerns about training requirements and workforce initiatives. The conversation ended with discussions about addressing suicide rates among young adults and agricultural workers.

**Agenda Item:** Funding updates

**Notes:** The group discussed funding for suicide prevention programs, with Meghan explaining that while the SAMHSA Zero Suicide and Health Systems Grant ends in August 2025, there is no current replacement funding, though state general fund mini-grants will continue through June 2026. Angela shared positive updates from the Senate Appropriations Committee.

**Action:**

- Subcommittee to discuss potential workforce expansion areas in a future meeting as suggested by Don.

**Agenda Item:** Review policy timeline and previous policy recommendations to see what else we would like to recommend.

**Notes:** The group agreed to review previous policy recommendations as a foundation for potential 2027 legislative session proposals. The group discussed policy recommendations for suicide prevention training, with Don suggesting these could be integrated into a larger policy statement rather than submitted as standalone recommendations. They agreed to review the SB 48 report when it becomes available on Monday and to consider revising the legislative language to focus on providing options rather than mandates for training. Steve emphasized the importance of having legislative champions who understand the issues, and the group agreed to identify and reach out to potential lawmakers for informational sessions. The group discussed strategies for engaging champions and partners in their work, with Don suggesting earlier engagement to build support. Steve mentioned plans to reconvene the veterans caucus in September and potentially identify new supporters. They also discussed the lack of significant pushback on their legislation, with the main opposition coming from a misunderstanding of the bill's intent. The group discussed reviewing

testimony and opposition to past legislation, with Jenn offering to share relevant documents before the next meeting. They agreed to reach out to Julie Schultz for potential lessons learned and to connect with the Oregon task force on suicide prevention and community violence.

**Action:**

- Jill to send the SB 48 report to the Alliance on Monday.
- Subcommittee members to review the SB 48 report that will be available on Monday.
- Committee to revisit and potentially rework the training policy recommendations in the September subcommittee meeting after reviewing the SB 48 report.

**Action Item Priorities:**

- Jenn to contact Donna Marie and James Dixon about the Oregon Task Force on Suicide Prevention and Community Violence to ensure communication and avoid duplicating work.
- Jenn to email Angela and Donald the testimony submitted for HB 2538 for their review.