

**Oregon Alliance to Prevent Suicide
Equity Subcommittee Meeting**

04.28.26

9:00am – 10:30am

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87288390258>

Subcommittee Appointed Voting Members:

Chair Maryanne Mueller, Aaron Townsend, Angela Perry, and Craig Leets

Subcommittee Non-Voting Members: Rachel Howard, Taylor Chambers

Staff: Amanda Ferrat, Nicole Vega

Guests:

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 Cochair. Decisions will be made by majority vote of the total number of members on that Subcommittee that are present

Group agreements

1. We slow down so we have time to think and reflect. Learn to sit with silence.
2. We value being a community of care. Reach out for support and offer support if able.
3. Be in the growth zone. Always be ready and willing to learn.
4. Be aware of and address/challenge oppression and any supremacy culture.

5. Even if your intent is positive, the impact may still cause harm. We strive to rebuild trust and commit to taking accountability when any of us name that harm was caused.
6. Replace judgment with curiosity.
7. Be aware of how much you are speaking: Make space/take space. And be aware of the language you use (avoid acronyms, use simple language).
8. Speak your truth and be aware of the ways you hold privilege.
9. Strive for suicide-safer messaging and language.
 - a. <https://www.iasp.info/wp-content/uploads/IASP-Language-Guidelines-2022-1.pdf> or this <https://www.camh.ca/-/media/files/words-matter-suicide-language-guide.pdf> or this <https://988.ca/understanding-suicide/suicide-safe-language>
10. We are a human system, and we expect it to get messy sometimes.
When it does get messy - [*Growth Zone Invitation*](#)
 - **Community Agreements:** These agreements are currently in development and have not yet been formally approved. Appointed Alliance members who are available next Tuesday will have the opportunity to participate in a vote.
 - It was noted that the community agreements will be included in meeting notes moving forward.
 - The group expressed appreciation for the inclusion of the “growth zone” invitation.

Agenda Item: Check-in, group agreements

Notes:

- Equity centered Ice breaker: Who is someone in your life or history that influenced your sense of justice or fairness.
 - Responses included a range of influential figures such as grandparents, parents, professors, and other impactful individuals.

Agenda Item: Equity Subcommittee YSIPP Initiatives Review

Notes: (see below for Initiatives)

Agenda Item: YSIPP Breakdown and Brainstorm

Notes:

- The group opened a shared Google Docs to review the initiatives and agreed to focus on discussing the first two during this meeting. Google Docs [link](#).
 - Participants contributed to the Google Docs by adding the names of key partners the group currently collaborates with, as well as those they may wish to engage in the future for initiative 1.1.1.3.2.
 - An Microsoft Excel spreadsheet titled “OAPS Key Partners” was created to track and quantify the number of key partner organizations. [Link here](#).
 - The group discussed next steps for utilizing this list, including clarifying how they engage with partner organizations and identifying opportunities to strengthen those interactions. They also considered enhancing the tracking tool by adding columns for designated points of contact. This excel sheet will be shared with the Alliance for further review and input.
 - Participants were asked to share any existing lists of resources or youth-serving organizations with Amanda or Jenn.
- **Focus Question:** The group considered how these initiatives are currently being measured and whether more effective methods of evaluation could be implemented.

Agenda Item: Next Steps for June/Moving Forward

Notes:

- This item was not discussed during the current meeting and will be addressed in a future discussion.

Agenda Item: Staff Updates

Notes:

- A webinar titled “**The Dynamism of Hope**” featuring Lines for Life is scheduled for Wednesday, April 29th at 11:00 a.m. Here is the meeting [link](#).
- Jenn circulated information regarding next week’s extended Executive Subcommittee Meeting, encouraging attendees to join during the first 30 minutes to ensure quorum for voting. Following the voting period, the group will continue working through remaining items from the retreat. There will also be a discussion of the path forward.

Agenda Item: OHA Updates

Notes:

- No updates were reported at this time.
- Taylor Chambers noted that she is available for support and encouraged participants to reach out if assistance is needed.

Equity Subcommittee YSIPP Initiatives-

1.1.1.3.2 ● -The Oregon Alliance to Prevent Suicide will continue to identify and engage with key partners for equity work to address disparities in youth suicide based on community and identity.

1.1.1.3.3 ● -OHA and The Alliance will maintain a list of priority youth-serving, culturally diverse community-based organizations and partnerships with which to develop or maintain pathways for meaningful engagement.

1.1.3.1.4 ● -The Alliance will systematize the use of culturally infused practices- such as equity impact analyses, disaggregated data, input from cultural brokers, and community narratives-when making policy recommendations to OHA, with the equity subcommittee and its equity tool empowered to guide this work.

1.1.3.1.4.4 ● The Alliance's Executive Subcommittee will work with the Alliance Equity Subcommittee to establish transparent accountability mechanisms—including community feedback loops, equity audits, and reporting—to ensure the Alliance remains aligned with cultural equity goals and community trust.

1.1.3.1.6 ● - The Alliance Equity Subcommittee will solidify their operational structure as the central driver of cultural infusion strategy, coordination, and accountability across the Alliance.

1.1.3.1.6.1 ● -The Alliance Equity Subcommittee will systemize cultural infusion checkpoints in which other Alliance subcommittees regularly engage with the Alliance Equity Subcommittee for cultural infusion input, feedback, support and alignment.

1.1.3.1.6.2 ● -The Alliance Equity Subcommittee will create and carry out an implementation workplan for 1.1.5.7 through full engagement of its members, exploring strategies such as establishing Alliance Equity Subcommittee liaison roles with other Alliance subcommittees, creating a brief equity tool for all Alliance meetings and initiatives, offering technical assistance, or others.