

Progress Report: Healthier Oregon (July 2022–present)

House Bill (HB) 3352 (2021) established “Cover All People,” later renamed “Healthier Oregon.” Healthier Oregon provides full Oregon Health Plan (OHP) coverage and other medical benefits to people in Oregon who meet income

and other criteria, regardless of immigration status. OHA covers service costs and provides culturally specific outreach to applicants and members. Outreach examples include education, enrollment assistance and navigation support.

Program background and summary

Historical background highlighting how we got to where we are today.

In 2017, [Senate Bill \(SB\) 558](#) passed. The new state-funded “Cover All Kids” launched in 2018. It extended OHP health services to kids and teens regardless of immigration status. However, inequities in adult health coverage remained. These mainly affected non-U.S. citizens historically disqualified from full health care.

In 2022, per [HB 3352](#), OHA provided coverage to eligible adults, regardless of immigration status, within a \$100 million budget. With community advisory workgroup guidance, Oregon expanded full OHP benefits to adults ages 19-25 and 55 and older.

On July 1, 2023, the program opened to all ages. OHA expanded benefits to thousands more people. However, this does not naturally lead to equitable access to services. In collaboration with community partners, OHA’s Community Partner Outreach Program (CPOP) leads outreach and engagement for Healthier Oregon. CPOP’s focus is to:

- Increase access to health services through culturally and linguistically responsive support.
- Support grantee partners assisting people with enrollment, training and health care systems navigation through funds provided by CPOP.

Trends and outcomes summary

Overall trends across the state relating to the program and the desired outcomes.

Enrollment:

Before Healthier Oregon, people without qualifying immigration status qualified for Citizenship Waived Medical (CWM) benefits, mainly emergency health coverage.

As of November 2024, about **95,000 people were enrolled through Healthier Oregon.**

Here is how coverage progressed:

- On July 1, 2022, close to 12,000 CWM members ages 19-25 and 55 and older automatically enrolled.

- By the end of the first program year, there were close to 16,000 members.
- On July 1, 2023, nearly 40,000 CWM members automatically enrolled when it expanded to all ages.
- By the end of the second year, close to 47,100 members were enrolled in the new age groups.
- Both the first and second program years saw an increase in enrollment.

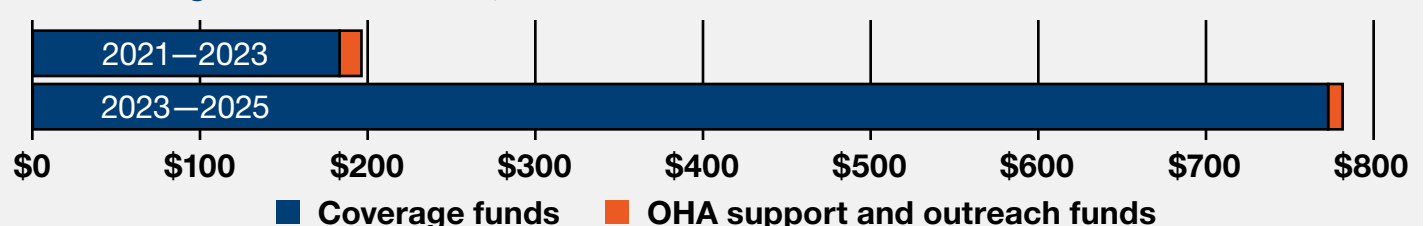
Use of health benefits:

While OHA continues to see new enrollments, members use fewer health benefits in some areas than traditional OHP members – behavioral and physical health have less use

whereas dental services have more use. CPOP continues to work with community partners to improve members’ use and understanding of benefits.

Spending and use

Total funding for each biennium, in millions



Total Legislatively Adopted Budget General Fund investments for Healthier Oregon since launch. The Healthier Oregon budget adjusts as updates are made to the caseload forecast.

Some health coverage costs are matched by federal funds, not cited in this chart. Coverage funds support Goal 1. OHA support and outreach funds mainly support Goals 2 and 3.

Goals, outputs and impacts

How funding addresses overall outcomes and trends

Goal	Outputs	Effects
<p>Goal 1: Coverage and enrollment</p> <p>Continue enrolling eligible people not aware of the opportunity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly enrollment reports show the growth of Healthier Oregon and its effect on the budget. July 2023 – August 2024, community partner organizations provided OHP enrollment assistance 54,456 times. 	<p>Increases access to care by maximizing the number of eligible people who have full health coverage. Since Healthier Oregon expanded to full eligibility in July 2023, more than 1,000 members have been enrolled monthly.</p>
<p>Goal 2: Outreach and navigation</p> <p>Support community members navigating the health care system and using their benefits.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CPOP funds, trains and provides one-on-one support to 26 community partner organizations that help Healthier Oregon applicants and members. Grantees get OHP, health care system navigation and community health worker training. Known and trusted, partners help people with an understanding of different cultures and languages. 	<p>Members get support from a trusted partner who helps them understand and use their benefits to achieve better health.</p>
<p>Goal 3: Use of health benefits</p> <p>Increase the use of health services to at least 85 percent of traditional OHP members.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review health service use to identify where outreach and navigation could increase to maximize benefit use. July 2023 – August 2024, community partner organizations helped with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 23,252 health system navigations. For example, scheduling transportation and providing language access. 27,044 accesses to social determinants of health resources for members. For example, housing, food and childcare. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members connect with health care providers, services and resources to help them achieve better health. More people in Oregon access behavioral, physical and preventive health care services.

Considerations

Discussion of project considerations for the future.

Keep reviewing health care system use to better understand:

- Where there are challenges, and
- Where to remove barriers for ease of navigation, access and use of services.

OHA will continue to support trusted local partners to help people enroll and understand their benefits. View a video for examples at [Healthier Oregon: Giving Back](#).

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