



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: October 1, 2025

SUBJECT: Approval of an amendment to the agreement with Central Oregon Guardian Assistance to extend the term and provide more funding in FY2026

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Move approval of Document No. 2025-942 amending Document No. 2024-772, an agreement with Central Oregon Guardian Assistance.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

On June 26, 2023, Central Oregon Guardian Assistance (COGAP) presented to the Board regarding the need for pro bono and low-cost guardian services to assist responding to the needs of persons experiencing health-related crisis. Included in this population are veterans, elderly, indigent and civil commitment population.

The purpose of this amendment to the grant agreement is to provide a one-time appropriation of \$50,000 for the establishment of a program that will provide free and low-cost professional guardianship assistance and fiduciary services in an effort to facilitate better patient outcomes. COGAP's core mission is to provide pro-bono court appointed professional guardianship services to adult incapacitated Central Oregonians who, because of cognitive and/or physical impairment, are unable to make medical, housing, and/or financial decisions for themselves.

Over the last year, COGAP has provided pro-bono or low-fee guardianship services to 34 incapacitated individuals. COGAP continues to receive referrals from St. Charles Hospital, Deschutes County Behavioral Health, Deschutes County Judges, Adult Protective Services, Deschutes County District Attorney's office and local attorneys. COGAP's services facilitate the placement of incapacitated people in secure, safe and supported care environments.

In addition to providing another \$50,000, this amendment also extends the original termination date of the agreement to June 30, 2026.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

\$50,000 in Behavioral General Health Funds which were budgeted in FY26 for this purpose.

ATTENDANCE: Shannon Brister-Raugust, Behavioral Health Deputy Director