

Glossary of Terms

Aging & Disability Resource Connection (ADRC): A powerful tool to connect older adults and people with disabilities to the local information and services. Toll-free at 855-673-2372 or www.adrcforegon.org

Aging and Veteran Services Advisory Council (AVSAC): An awesome group of volunteers who advise DAVS on policy, programs and actions that affect the delivery of services to older adults and veterans. A required organizational body under the Older Americans Act.

Area Agency on Aging (AAA): A federal designation under the Older Americans Act. There are 16 in Oregon. DAVS is the designated one of these for Washington County.

Community Services & Supports Unit (CSSU): A State of Oregon department that works closely with all 16 Area Agencies on Aging to create a comprehensive package of community services. Reviews and monitors DAVS Area Plan.

Consensus-based decision making: A creative and dynamic way of reaching agreement between all members of a group.

Discrimination: The unequal treatment of members of various groups based on race, gender, social class, sexual orientation, physical ability, religion and other categories.

Diversity: Encompasses all the different characteristics that make one individual or group different from another. A broad definition includes not only race, ethnicity, and gender — the groups that most often come to mind when this term is used — but also age, national origin, religion, disability, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, education, marital status, language, and physical appearance. It also involves different ideas, perspectives, and values.

Gender Identity: The way a person identifies with a gender, or with no gender at all.

Gender Pronouns: How someone is referred to as a sign of understanding and respect towards how a person identifies regarding gender, i.e. she/her;

he/him; they/them. Language is fluid and it is grammatically correct to use they/them in new ways.

Inclusion: Authentically bringing traditionally excluded individuals and/or groups into processes, activities, and decision/policy making in a way that shares power.

Information & Referral (I & R): Helping people find appropriate resources and services through clarifying needs, making referrals and providing follow-up to ascertain whether their needs were met.

In-Home Service: Helps people remain in their own homes and includes personal care, home care and/or other services based on case manager assessment. May be provided by a contract agency, provider or client-employed provider.

Intersectionality: The philosophy that classifications such as gender, race, class, and others cannot be examined in isolation from one another; they interact and intersect in individuals' lives, in society, in social systems, and are mutually constitutive.

Leading with Race: A recognition that the creation and perpetuation of racial inequities has been "baked into" government and that one-size-fits all approaches will favor existing structures that have led to those inequities. By focusing on race and racial disparities created through individual, institutional, and structural racism we can also tackle the many other forms of inequity and marginalization.

LGBTQQIA2S+: The umbrella acronym to represent lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, two spirit and all those who identify as non-heterosexual or non-cisgender.

Medicaid: A state and federal program that provides health coverage if you have a very low income. In Washington County, eligibility and case management under this program is provided by Aging & People with Disabilities (APD)/State of Oregon.

Medicare: A federal program that provides health coverage if you are 65+ or under 65 and have a disability, no matter your income. You can call a SHIBA volunteer to understand which provider of this program is right for you.

Nutrition Services: Older Americans Act program providing congregate meals, home-delivered meals, and nutrition education.

Older Americans Act (OAA): The first federal level initiative aimed at providing comprehensive services for older adults. It created State Units on Aging at the state level and Area Agencies on Aging at the local level. Requires that Area Agencies on Aging coordinate with designated Tribal entities.

Oregon Project Independence (OPI): A state funded program providing services to individuals 60 and older who are at risk of entering a nursing home and are not eligible for Medicaid. A similar program is available for individuals with physical disabilities ages 18-59.

Power: Can be conceptualized as being *over other* individuals or groups, *with others* (as in collective strength and advocacy); and *within oneself* (self-efficacy). Learning to “see” and understand relations of this is vital to promoting equity in process and outcomes.

Privilege: Unearned social power accorded by the formal and informal institutions of society to ALL members of a dominant group. Usually invisible to those who have it because we’re taught not to see it, but nevertheless it puts them at an advantage over those who do not have it.

Respite Care: Older Americans Act program providing companionship, supervision, meal preparation, recreation, and socialization, and light assistance in activities of daily living service to those individuals who are functionally disabled and over the age of 60, providing relief to the primary care-giver.

State Health Insurance Benefits Assistance (SHIBA): Help older adults make informed choices about Medicare benefits.

Note: Definitions and terms assembled from a variety of resources, including www.racialequityalliance.org; www.acl.org; www.genderequity.org