

Mobile Health Unit Advisory Committee Overview

In 2021, the Oregon Legislature declared racism a public health crisis but the need to identify and fund specific strategies to address the crisis remained. The Oregon Health Equity Task Force, composed of leaders and community-based organizations representing people of color, Tribal, as well as immigrant and refugee communities, created and fought for specific strategies, resulting in the passage of [House Bill 4052 \(2022\)](#) earlier this year.

Purpose

Racism and discrimination have far-reaching and negative effects on our Oregonian communities. Racial and ethnic minority groups, throughout the state, experience higher rates of death and illness across a wide range of health outcomes.

House Bill 4052 requires Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to convene a committee to gather input from communities to provide guidance on establishing, funding and operating a Mobile Health Unit pilot program. Community input will inform how the committee:

- Prioritizes services offered by the mobile health units.
- Defines staffing requirements.
- Establishes training requirements for staff.
- Designs data collection.
- Evaluates opportunities to leverage federal funds.

Membership

Because House Bill 4052 specifies that at least 51 percent of members with decision-making authority must be of priority populations, OHA will prioritize applicants with lived experience in:

- Communities of color;
- Groups that disproportionately experience avoidable illness, death or other poor health or social outcomes attributable directly or indirectly to racism. These include:
 - Oregon's nine federally recognized tribes and the descendants of the members of the Tribes;
 - Immigrants;
 - Refugees;
 - Migrant and seasonal farmworkers;
 - Low-income individuals and families;
 - Persons with disabilities; and
 - Individuals who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer or who question their sexual or gender identity.

Commitment

- Bi-monthly 2- to 3-hour remote meetings starting October 2022, to run 4-6 months.
- Review of material to prepare for the meetings.

Compensation

Full-time public service employees are not eligible for compensation. Other committee members are eligible for \$151 for a full day's work.

Accessibility statement

You have a right to know about and participate in OHA committees. Upon request, OHA can provide free services related to accessibility such as sign language and spoken language interpreters, written materials in other languages, Braille, large print, audio and other formats.

If you need help or have questions, please contact [Elizabeth Gerardo](#) (503-510-3305, TTY 711).

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