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DSACs Working to Reach People with Disabilities through Healthy Communities: In Oregon

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- The purpose of the DSACs is to advise, educate, and advocate the local Aging and People with Disabilities (APD) and / or Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) offices to Department of Human Services (DHS) on policy, programs, and services that consumers receive. And... advise and educate the community on issues concerning the rights and needs of people with disabilities.
Engaging and Supporting DSAC Members

1. **First meeting**: Introduce the project - high level overview, build report, answer questions, share materials (CHII) and review next steps

2. **Second Meeting**: Begin planning for Community Meeting and provide templates

3. **Meeting Preparation**: Complete the CHII Macro Assessment, disseminate the Community Health Participation Survey, news / social media, and invite attendees (coalition members?)

4. **Community Meeting**: Increase visibility (media) and recruit coalition members and potential sites
Marion DSAC (Meeting #1)
Clackamas DSAC (Meeting #2)
Why this approach?

- Builds team strength internally for DSAC members
- Shows DSAC as an effective, impactful organization (builds community reputation)
- Creates and enhances collaborative relationships and community partnerships
- Allows DSAC to promote, advocate for, and influence changes within their communities (creating opportunities for healthy living for all)
Why this approach?

- Access to training and technical assistance from national partners - EASY
- Builds foundation for short AND long-term change
- Less formal, less legal approach to change
  - Informational and Educational
  - Not ADA enforcement
Want to join the effort here in OR? 😊

- Contact and / or join your local DSAC or contact Joseph Lowe for information

- Offer to be a site to be assessed for accessibility

- Spread the word and encourage participation
Contact Information
(We would love to hear from you!)

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