

DSAC Membership Update and New Member Recommendations

The bylaws of the Disability Services Advisory Council allow between 9 and 15 members. A minimum of 50% must be individuals living with a disability.

There are 9 returning active Council members, of whom 3 are living with a disability.

The Nominating Committee held new applicant interviews on August 30th. They received 7 applications and interviewed 5 (two withdrew their applications). All 5 are recommended for membership for this council. With the addition of these applicants, DSAC would have 14 members, of which 7 who live with a disability.

Nominating Committee - Proposed New DSAC Members

- 1. Lynne Schwartz, in her 60s:** Lynne has worked in various roles serving people with disabilities which has helped shape her desire to advocate for disability awareness and advocacy for herself and the community. Lynne wants to use her time on this Council to be part of a team that is working to improve conditions in our community for older adults who also experience living with a disability.
- 2. Ivy Medow, in her 60s:** Ivy is a former Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor who has helped people with disabilities find ways to become employable, and then to obtain and maintain jobs in the community. Ivy focuses on the challenges people with disabilities face in getting quality care in their homes, and having accessible homes. Ivy wants to use her time on the Council to make an impact as there is a lot of room for education & advocacy aging in place for those living with a disability.
- 3. Shengxiao (Alex) Li, in his 30s:** Alex is a visiting professor in the School of Planning, Public Policy, and Management at the University of Oregon. His research focuses on age-friendly urban and community planning, with a focus on transportation and housing. He would like to use his time on the Council to help advocate for funding for local aging-related areas and programs.

4. **Sherrie Freund, in her 50s:** Sherrie has lived with a disability her whole life which has given her real life experience navigating the systems for care and services. Though the community has made great strides for people with disabilities, Sherrie shared that a lack of awareness for individuals specific disabilities and a one-size-fits-all approach for programs does not continue to work for all. Sherrie would like to use her time on the Council to be a contributing member to society, especially when it comes to disability services.

5. **Alison Hunter, in her 40s:** Alison has worked in social research in the past in a variety of capacities and projects. She has firsthand experience living with a disability in Eugene and exploring the services and systems with complex medical conditions. She focuses her advocacy on ensuring services are accessible and can easily be navigated. She would like to use her time on the Council to help inform the work of the Council in regards to accessibility and to be of service to the community.