

## **CONNECT OREGON**

### **FACT SHEET**

**1. What is Connect Oregon?**

Connect Oregon is a coordinated care network of health and social care providers. Partners in the network are connected through a shared technology platform, [Unite Us](#), which enables them to send and receive electronic, closed-loop referrals, address people’s social needs, and improve health across communities.

**2. Who is sponsoring Connect Oregon?**

Connect Oregon is sponsored by a variety of funding partners currently including Samaritan Health Services/InterCommunity Health Network CCO (IHN CCO), Kaiser Permanente, Central Oregon Health Council, PacificSource, CareOregon, Columbia Pacific CCO, Jackson Care Connect, Health Share of Oregon, and AllCare CCO. Oregon Health Leadership Council (OHLC) is a convening partner for the network.

**3. What is OHLC’s role as a convening partner?**

Following a 2019 environmental scan, discussions with OHLC and HIT Commons Boards, and at the request of OHLC stakeholders—Kaiser Permanente and Samaritan Health Services/IHN CCO—OHLC partnered with Unite Us in August 2019 to align efforts in the following areas:

- **Coordinated engagement**
- **Statewide pricing model**
- **Governance structure (statewide and regional)**

Through a series of “CIE Whiteboard” meetings held from October 2019 through October 2020, OHLC, Unite Us and interested health care partners worked together to align investments in building the Connect Oregon infrastructure. With contracting in place to offer Connect Oregon in 21 of 36 Oregon counties, and Clark and Cowlitz counties in Southwest Washington, OHLC and Unite Us will shift to a formal governance structure in late 2020/early 2021 to monitor and expand the network statewide.

**4. How did OHLC select Unite Us as its vendor partner?**

Given the pace of efforts to address social determinants of health (SDOH) at the national, state and local levels, OHLC leveraged the following resources and activities in its selection of Unite Us:

- [HIT Commons CIE environmental scan](#)
- Samaritan Health Services/IHN CCO CIE vendor selection process
- Kaiser Permanente’s national CIE vendor selection process
- Review of above activities with OHLC Board, OHLC Council and with input from HIT Commons Governance Board
- Continual engagement and feedback from Oregon stakeholders through six OHLC Whiteboards sessions held on October 9 and December 4, 2019, and February 27, April 29, July 20, and October 30, 2020.
- One-on-one stakeholder meetings as requested and ongoing environmental scanning of the CIE landscape in Oregon.

**5. For more information about OHLC’s efforts with Connect Oregon, contact Liz Whitworth, Managing Director, OHLC at [liz@orhealthleadershipcouncil.org](mailto:liz@orhealthleadershipcouncil.org)**