

PANDEMIC RESPONSE

COVID IMPACT: EDUCATION

- Our education program has continued uninterrupted, thanks to our online courses.
- Rebuilt online courses with higher production values and interactive learning tools will be launched this year. They will feature improved accessibility for Spanish-speakers and those with impaired hearing.
- Live webinars are being explored as a way of combining the benefits of in-person classes with the convenience of online learning.

COVID IMPACT: MONITORING

- All case monitoring is being done virtually.
- Our virtual monitoring model was created with input from community partners and courts. An additional collateral interview such as a doctor, therapist or case manager is required for cases monitored virtually.
- On hold for much of 2020, monitoring restarted in late summer and quickly resumed our pre-Covid pace of 2-3 cases per week.

COVID IMPACT: FUNDING & SUPPORT

- Thanks to incredible support from our donors and sponsors, Partners Party net revenue increased more than 47% as the event went virtual.
- Cooperation from the Ronald W. Naito MD Foundation allowed us to redirect grant funds to rebuild online courses for improved virtual learning.
- Volunteer participation thrives as virtual case monitoring gives people a safe, but meaningful way to help others regardless of geographic area.

HISTORY & GROWTH

Guardian Partners, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, was founded in 2013 with the goal of preventing abuse of people living with cognitive disabilities. Our model is unique; no other agency in the country offers the combination of education for new guardians and the oversight that our monitor program provides. We are eager to bring our suite of programs to more communities. Contact Executive Director Marc Kochanski to discuss partnership at marc@guardian-partners.org.



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Liz Gatti, Education Coordinator
Steve Knutson, Monitoring Coordinator
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Clackamas • Douglas • Lane
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MONITORING & EDUCATION PROGRAMS

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



PROTECTING THE DIGNITY AND SAFETY OF OREGONIANS UNDER GUARDIANSHIP

— including seniors & adults with disabilities and minors — and supporting court-appointed fiduciaries with case monitoring, education and resources.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Resourcefulness. Adaptability. Determination to protect people with cognitive disabilities in the face of a public health crisis. The staff and volunteers of Guardian Partners have demonstrated all of these qualities and I could not be prouder of them.

The unswerving support of our board members and donors meant our important mission would not only carry on, but expand to meet the moment with new volunteers trained, new online courses created, and new communities served.

Nothing tells our story more powerfully than the impact on one person or family aided by Guardian Partners:

“I appreciate the work, research and time of all those involved in this program. It is a great resource and gives me hope in this process knowing others have gone before me & I am not alone in this journey with my mom. Thank you.”

— Elaine C., 2021 Guardian of Adult course participant

“Not alone in this journey.” What an eloquent sentiment. And a theme we may reflect on as we persevere in 2021. It’s a time of growth and opportunity at Guardian Partners and I hope you’ll join us.

— **Marc Kochanski,**
Executive Director
February 2021

EDUCATION

Being appointed a lay guardian or other fiduciary is a serious responsibility, often one not expected or planned for. We offer an array of courses and other resources to educate non-professional fiduciaries on their legal and ethical responsibilities. Attorneys and other expert professionals instruct our classes and review content annually to reflect statutory changes. Due to Covid restrictions, courses are offered online only at this time.

- Guardian of Minor class is offered free-of-charge. Fee for Guardian of Adult is \$100; Conservator, Personal Representative, and Trustee classes are \$150.
- Class fees are waived when court fees have been waived.
- Anyone is welcome to attend our classes, with or without court mandate.
- Cost of language interpretation is covered for court-mandated attendees.

2020 Impact

- Total Class Attendees: 2,290
- Attendees by County:
 - Clackamas: 705
 - Lane: 100
 - Marion: 190
 - Multnomah: 1,201
 - Tillamook: 59
 - Other counties/Unknown: 35
- Attendees by Class Type:
 - Guardian of Adult: 496
 - Conservator: 221
 - Guardian of Minor: 169
 - Personal Representative: 1,389
 - Trustee: 15
- 83% Personal Representative class participants who reported learning "Much More" about their duties.
- 88% New Guardians who said they learned "Much More" about making decisions which reflect the Protected Person's values and best interests.



2,290 community members attended a Guardian Partners class in 2020.

MONITORING

Guardianship is a powerful legal arrangement and there is little oversight. That's where our volunteers come in. We train volunteer case monitors to visit people with cognitive disabilities and conduct a wellness interview, looking for signs of abuse or exploitation, and making sure they are being well cared for by their guardians. Often, the monitor shares resources or referrals which benefit the protected person. Finally, the monitor drafts a report to the court, which can intervene if there is a concern. A case typically requires eight to ten hours of volunteer time, but can take longer if issues arise.

2020 Impact

- 57 Cases Monitored
- Total Cases by County
 - Clackamas: 17
 - Lane: 3
 - Multnomah: 37
- 500+ hours of service by 39 active volunteer Monitors
- 32 cases (56%) benefited from Monitor assistance:

Impact Highlight

- **22** cases were connected to resources by the Monitor.
- **21** cases included recommendations to the Court. (e.g., Monitor follow-up, appointment of attorney or court visitor, adjustment to guardianship)

VOLUNTEER TO PREVENT ABUSE

Guardian Partners seeks volunteer case monitors to meet with seniors and adults with cognitive disabilities to ensure they are safe and thriving.

Our volunteer commitment is very flexible and can accommodate almost any schedule.

The difference you make in the life of a vulnerable Oregonian can be profound!

Contact Monitoring Coordinator Steve Knutson to learn more: steve@guardian-partners.org or 503-567-6815



56% of our cases benefit from monitoring assistance.

Thank You for Volunteering

Janis A.	Althea E.	Beth K.	Suzanne R.
Munira A.	Rachael E.	Dar K.	Jessica S.
Jillian A.	Jo Ann F.	Malia L.	Adam S.
Austin B.	Liz G.	Jake L.	Heidi S.
Russell B.	George G.	Patrick M.	Daria S.
Jessica B.	Alyssa G.	Nancy N.	Scott S.
Joseph C.	Kirstin H.	Katie P.	Hannah S.
Marcia C.	Anne H.	Linda R.	Savanna S.
Jennifer D.	Stefan H.	Lauren R.	Rosann W.
Mauria D.	Ryan J.	Austin R.	

Thank You to Our Instructors

Janis Adler	Jennifer A. Davison
Scott N. Barbur	Kathryn Gapinski
Holly Berman	Julie Meyer Rowett
Jessica Bryant	Stephen Owen
Brett Callahan	Kyoko Wyse
Shannon Conley	Whitney Yazzolino

FUNDING & SUPPORT

2020 Total Income: \$383,937

74% Class Fees	3% Public Funding
11% Events	1% Donor Contributions
9% Private Grants	1% Miscellaneous

Thank You Sponsors and Grant Funders

Allen Trust Company	OnPoint Community Credit Union
Butcher & Smith Law	Oregon Elder Law
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Field Guide Films	Pacific Office Automation
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Multnomah County Public Guardian & Conservator	

We are grateful to all our donors. To protect privacy, we do not list the names of individual donors.



Board Member Dr. Mahnaz Ahmad interviewed by Executive Director Marc Kochanski at the virtual Partners Party in October 2020.



STAY TUNED! Whether virtual or in-person, Partners Party will take place in fall 2021. Details to come.

Contact Executive Director Marc Kochanski to learn about sponsorship or make a gift: marc@guardian-partners.org or 971-409-1358