"The future is now." – George Allen, football coach

"The past is never dead. It's not even past." – William Faulkner, novelist

Oregon's Moving Into the Future

- Share the Federal vision of one seamless system where the only variable is level of subsidy based on income level

- Exchange created as a public corporation with a board appointed by the Governor

- Fancy new rules-engine-based automated eligibility system for all services

- Fancy new Exchange staff people, some with serious private sector experience

… But wary of the power of the past

- As we imagine the future state, examine our current state, and review the proposed regulations, we are trying to develop a realistic picture of just how fancy and automated the new world can really be – and to identify barriers and opportunities

- How many will be enrolled through information received through databases? How many will require a labor-intensive paper process to prove recent changes?
  - In an Oregon sample, for 150 of 396 applicants (38%), current income did not match up with SWICA database sources (usually due to out-of-date Employment Department data; also some self-employment income or database-unavailable unearned income).

- Medicaid:
  - Rules say self-attestation OK. But will States be punished for inaccuracies caused by acceptance of self-attestation?
  - Oklahoma now doing "attestation plus quarterly wage data lookback" – it's been a bit of a challenge – we should look to them for guidance.

- Exchange:
  - Perhaps less income volatility than in Medicaid; we are polling on perceived volatility.
  - Rules say documentation of changes required. ACK! Is self-attestation possible here, given there is an automatic lookback via IRS?

Eligibility Staffing

- **How many eligibility staffers will we need after 2014?**
  - Partly depends on answers to previous 'databaseability questions – how volatile are incomes? Will the Exchange really need paper verification of recent income changes? How much will Medicaid really be able to use self-attestation?

  - For the State, question of how much staff savings there are if lots of paper / labor still needed for other programs, like SNAP.

  - For both Exchange / Medicaid: How many clients will want to go online?
- **How will Medicaid/Exchange divide eligibility staffing?**
  - Unclear – several options

Single, Streamlined Form

- Exchange says, "that's great" – DHS worries
- What impact does that have on combined forms (say, Medicaid / SNAP)?
  - Online we can imagine a prompt to move on to a new form with additional questions.
  - But on paper, it would still be one form. So – do we eliminate combined SNAP / Medicaid paper form?
- Only asking questions necessary for eligibility – how does that affect questions we traditionally ask to help us meet other Federal rules, like questions about 'absent parents' asked to help meet child support standards?

Wake up, MAGI, I think I've got somethin' to say to you

- Not counting child support as income – will increase the CHIP / old Medicaid population, with State budget impact, unless there's an adjustment for it.

- Can we account for it in the "MAGI-equivalent formula" CMS and the States are supposed to develop?

"I've grasped that, Jules. All I'm doin' is contemplating the "ifs.""

- Marsellus Wallace, "Pulp Fiction"