OREGON SPECIAL NEEDS TRUST Summer 2013

OSNT Quarterly



Achieve with us.

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What's Happening at the OSNT?

As we continue to implement the changes reported in the Spring, we will continue to keep you informed as to how these changes affect you and how they will help. We have some great news to report so please keep reading!

FROM THE DIRECTOR

By Paula Boga

Hello OSNT Friends and Family!

As I reported in the inaugural Spring issue of this newsletter, there were a lot of exciting things happening in the pooled trust program. Since then, several of

our anticipated changes have been implemented, including our long awaiting trust management software! Cici and I have been very busy transferring all of our account data from the paper files to the new database. This month, all of our account holders are receiving their first quarterly statement generated from the software.

Starting in August, we will begin our new Annual Review process. What that means is that each subaccount holder, and/or authorized representative, will receive a printout of all the information we have on file along with a request for updated and/or new information. You will also receive a letter explaining the process. Each month, those accounts that were originally established in that month of the year will receive the review packet. So, if your account was opened in August of any year, you will receive your packet in August. Likewise, those accounts opened in June or July will not receive their annual review packet until next year. This will apply to funded and unfunded accounts and will occur each year in your original enrollment month.

We are still working with the software developers to get the online account access set up and we will let you know as soon as that is available. In the meantime, if you have any questions or need any assistance in accessing your account, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Have a wonderful summer!

Paula

NEW ADDRESS!

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS:

The Arc Oregon 2405 Front Street NE Suite 120 Salem OR 97301



All correspondence, deposits and disbursement requests should be sent to the new address! We are still getting a lot of mail addressed to the State Street office address. Please note that your request will be delayed if it is mailed to our old address.



Stay informed about all of the great things happening at the OSNT and at The Arc Oregon by signing up for our enewsletter. Go to our website at

www.thearcoregon.org and click the *Stay In Touch* box to register.



Investment Performance for 2013

OREGON SPECIAL NEEDS TRUST

Performance Results for the Period Ending June 30th, 2013

The Oregon Special Needs Trust seeks to achieve a rate of current income necessary to meet the needs of the Trust beneficiaries.





incentment objective. Investments are not guaranteed by Union Bank, NA and are not insured by the FDIC or any other government agency.

OVERVIEW

GUIDELINES	TARGET ALLOCATION (* or - 10%)	BENCHMARK	CURRENT
Stocks	30%	S&P 500	33%
Bonds	50%	Barclay Intmdt US Aggregate	54%
Cash	20%	90 Day T-Bill	13%

PORTFLIO SUMMARY

Fixed Income	\$7,498,692	54.3%
Equities	\$4,553,834	33.0%
TOTAL	\$13,799,600	00.010



NEW FEE REDUCTIONS!

The time has arrived; we are happy to report significant fee reductions that will reduce trust fees for ALL account holders effective July 1, 2013!

The first Fee Reduction is courtesy of Union Bank. Since 1999, all accounts have been charged a 1% annual fee to cover the cost of our professional investment manager at Highmark Investments. *Union Bank has now agreed to a 25% fee reduction*, effectively reducing their fee to .75% annually (applied to sub-accounts on a quarterly basis).



The new lower fees will be reflected in the next quarterly statement. And, as part of our ongoing commitment to our subaccount holders, we will continue to explore other potential fee reductions for the future!

RECURRING PAYMENTS



Do you need help paying your monthly bills? Did you know that we can pay some of your bills automatically each month for up to a year with only one disbursement form?

Bills eligible for our recurring payment program include:

- ♪ Internet
- Phone (land line and/or mobile phones)
- Auto Insurance

These are just a few examples of eligible payments. Other bill payment options may be available as well so please do not hesitate to contact our office to find out of your monthly bills qualify.

Getting started with a recurring payment is easy:

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- 1. Complete a Recurring Disbursement Request Form
- 2. Attach a current statement from the vendor
- 3. Upon receipt of our letter confirming approval of your request, contact the vendor and change the billing address to our office.

If you have additional questions or need more information, please give us a call!

TARGET BUDGETING

The Annual Spending Target is the *recommended* amount of money per calendar year that you may access from the subaccount. The purpose of a spending target is to ensure that funds are available on a long term basis, if not throughout the benefiicary's lifetime.

If, based on the beneficiary's age and/or the amount of money deposited into the subaccount, the funds will not reasonably last a lifetime; the OSNT Program Director will work with the beneficiary and/or the beneficiary's advisors to develop a plan for using the money over a specified period of time.



It is important to remember that this is a recommended goal and can be adjusted as an account holder's circumstances may change. Not all accounts will need a spending (or budget) target. Most of all, we want to make sure that the money is being used in a way that will enhance the lives of subaccount holders over a long period of time.

We look forward to talking to you about your subaccount goals!

Achieve with us.

Proportations

Are you a member of a group that may benefit from more information about the Oregon Special Needs Trust?

Program Director, Paula Boga, is available for group presentations throughout the state of Oregon.

Contact Paula at 503.581.2726, ext 303, or <u>pboga@thearcoregon.org</u> to schedule a date for your group.

Did you know?

The OSNT is open to any individual with a disability as defined by the Social Security Administration. The trust is not restricted to those with I/DD.

Achieve with us.



SHOPPING DO'S & DON'TS

Do

- Call the OSNT office to talk about where you want to shop and what you need to buy.
- Send in your disbursement request and wait for the check to arrive BEFORE going shopping
- Purchase only items that are allowable (please ask us if you are not sure)
- Have the store manager call our office if there is any question about, or problem with, the check.
- Save and submit all of your ORIGINAL receipts related to your purchase.
- Make sure receipts add up to the entire amount of the check issued.

Don't

- Assume that something already purchased without pre-authorization will be reimbursed.
- Purchase any gifts, gift cards, food, drink, snacks, tobacco, alcoholic beverages or firearms.
- Send copies of receipts as documentation.
- Keep leftover funds.
- Submit additional disbursement requests until all receipts have been returned and approved.
- Use a credit card and expect payment to the credit card company if there is a prior balance or non-allowable items on the credit card bill.
- DON'T hesitate to call us if you have any questions or need additional clarification!

COMMON QUESTIONS

IN THE NEXT ISSUE:

- 3rd Quarter Investment
 Performance Report
- Updates on:
 - Online Access
 - Local Check
 Printing
- How to use a credit card for trust expenses
- Stetson Conference Report

Watch for the next issue in October!



Why can't I get reimbursement from my own trust account?

Currently, any money paid directly to a beneficiary (account holder) is deemed to be unearned income by government agencies. Our policies prevent us from issuing any disbursement that may adversely affect your public benefits. Since additional income could potentially affect your benefits, we cannot pay you directly under any circumstances.

What do I do if there is a staffing change at my provider and the individual listed on my Authorized Person list is no longer employed there?

Any changes in persons authorized to access a subaccount must be reported immediately to the OSNT office on an appropriate change form. You will find the Authorized Person Change Form on our website at <u>www.thearcoregon.org</u>, or you may call our office to have a new form sent to you. IMPORTANT: The person who signed the original Joinder Agreement to enroll in the pooled trust, must be the person who signs the change form. If that person is not able or available to sign, then please contact our office to find out how to submit any necessary changes.

Do you have a question that you think should be featured in the next newsletter? Please send your question to pboga@thearcoregon.org.

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