

CENTRAL OFFICE
125 N. 17th St.
St. Helens, Oregon 97051
Voice (503) 397-3511
Fax (503) 397-3290
Administration
Information & Referral Ext. 274

FISCAL OFFICE
124 N. 18th St.
St. Helens, Oregon 97051
Voice (503) 366-6570
(503) 366-6565
(503) 366-6569
Fax (503) 366-7906

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
125 N. 17th St.
St. Helens, Oregon 97051
(503) 397-3511 Ext. 279
Housing Development
Community Facilities

HOUSING CENTER
(800) 404-3511
Housing Information & Referral
Homeowner & Tenant Trainings
Home Ownership Assistance

SELF-HELP HOUSING
New Construction Sweat Equity
(503) 366-6550

HOUSING REHABILITATION
Rehabilitation
Weatherization
Astoria
(503) 325-8098
(800) 325-8098
Columbia
(503) 397-1675
(800) 955-1675

EMERGENCY HOUSING PROGRAM
125 N. 17th St.
St. Helens, Oregon 97051
(503) 336-6546
(800) 404-3511

**CHILD & FAMILY
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**
PO Box 10, 108 W. B. St.
Rainier, Oregon 97048
(503) 556-3736
Head Start
Healthy Start

ENERGY SERVICES PROGRAM
125 N. 17th St.
St. Helens, Oregon 97051
(503) 397-4951
(866) 722-4951
Energy Utility Assistance
Consumer Education
Tillamook
(503) 842-3267
(866) 722-4951
Astoria
(866) 722-4951

**SENIOR, RESPITE & VETERANS
SERVICE PROGRAMS**
125 N. 17th St.
St. Helens, Oregon 97051
(503) 366-6543
Respite Care, OPI
Senior Support & Nutrition Programs

Veterans Service Program
125 N. 17th St.
St. Helens, Oregon 97051
(503) 366-6580

DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM
850 Maple St.
Vernonia, Oregon 97064
(503) 429-4948

COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM, INC.

"BUILDING BRIDGES TO SELF-SUFFICIENCY"



Co-Chairs Komp, Monroe, Members of the Committee.

My name is Jim Tierney. I am the Executive Director of Community Action Team the Community Action Agency serving the three counties in NW Oregon. Our agency delivers a full suite of antipoverty and community development services within the three County area including Head Start, Healthy Start and Parenting Education programs. For 29 years, it has been my privilege and I believe, almost unique opportunity to serve and observe the communities in Northwest Oregon.

Outside of my day-to-day work, I am the President-Elect of the Community Action Partners of Oregon, the statewide association of Community Action agencies. I am also a member of the Early Learning Council and its HUB subcommittee.

I am here to speak in support of HB 2013.

My first reaction to the ELC and its charge was, "Terrific! This is essentially an effort to provide more children with services similar to the broad suite of Head Start services." I also quickly came to the conclusion that the delivery system proposed by the ELC is a revolution in service delivery here in Oregon. After a year of reading, meetings and conversations, I still believe that both of these impressions are correct.

You will have heard enough about services from others, so I wanted to address the revolutionary aspects of the HUB model and say a few words about the delivery system and accountability, particularly in our rural counties.

I realize the very concept of the HUBs seems vague, including in our final HUB report. That lack of specificity is intentional and a side effect of the revolutionary aspect of the ELC effort. In a nutshell, the ELC proposal is for the state to pay for outcomes, like kindergarten readiness, rather than for pre-determined, prescribed services rendered. I will call these prescribed services, outputs. Virtually all of the services delivered in our entire service delivery system, state and federal, are outputs, in this sense of the word. Legislation and agency rulemaking seldom leave much in the way of discretion for service providers like us.

It is the proposal of the ELC to hold HUBs accountable for outcomes over time. Of course, to do this the HUBs will have to purchase specific services. It is the HUBs who must answer to both the ELC and eventually, the Legislature for the impact of those choices of which services to deliver in their communities. This is what the ELC means by an Accountability HUB.

Serving Columbia, Clatsop, and Tillamook Counties for over Forty-Five Years

The idea of holding the HUBs accountable for long-term outcomes like Kindergarten Readiness is the revolutionary aspect of the ELC and its HUBs. The intent is to shift away from the current model of paying for outputs by allowing HUBs to direct resources to where they and their governing committees believe such investment will be most effective. The accountability part comes when the effectiveness of each HUB is measured based on the actual outcomes it produces. There is an implicit intent that underperforming HUBs would be de-funded.

Because the ELC and its HUB Committee recognize that the communities in Oregon are very different, we left the definition of a HUB intentionally vague so that each group of collaborative communities creating a HUB could design a HUB that would best work for their communities.

One important part of our HUB design proposal was the inclusion of community accountability in the form of either community governance, or at least a community-based advisory committee with the power to make a real impact on the HUB's decisions. The makeup of this accountability committee is critical.

We Community Action directors have supported HB 2013 in part based on our belief that a diverse, community-based advisory committee with real power would be part of the legislation. It is our collective experience that the diversity of our tripartite boards is one of our greatest strengths. For the HUBs to mimic this mix of low-income persons, business and government perspectives would greatly strengthen the HUBs ability to deliver the services with the greatest impact and engage their communities to leverage the state's resources with volunteers, and other funding.

Finally, because this idea is so revolutionary, I would ask that you institute a similar accountability for this enormous change to one of Oregon's most crucial delivery system. I believe that the Legislature should require reports on actual outcomes produced by the new system in 2015 and every two years beyond that.

Thank you very much,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "C. Ray", is written below the text.