

HB 2825: NAMI Supports Creation of Housing Development Fund

Independent and treatment housing for individuals living with mental illness is in short supply. In 2014, the Legislature granted \$5 million to a NAMI Oregon concept that provided incentive funding for the development of new housing for individuals living with mental illness. The goal was to better leverage state funds so that for every \$1 in mental health funding invested in development, another \$4 would be generated from other sources.

→ NAMI's concept worked. The state's \$5 million investment in 2014 is generating \$24.5 million in total new housing development across Oregon for individuals living with mental illness.

HB 2825 formalizes NAMI Oregon's housing development incentive fund and allows for its expansion into more Oregon communities.

NAMI's proposal would:

- Create a special fund that will provide up to 20 percent of construction costs as an incentive for development. Outside funding will come from various sources, such as private financing, federal grants, local funds and other housing incentives.
- The fund can provide up to 50 percent of startup costs such as fixtures and training. In a typical 16-bed center, those costs are about \$200,000. In this example, the fund could provide up to \$100,000.
- Housing projects can include higher-end residential treatment, respite, treatment homes, independent supported housing, or other housing projects that are shown to be needed within a region. We envision that Coordinated Care Organizations and Local Mental Health Authorities would partner with providers to apply for funding. The legislation is intended to dovetail with regional planning that is ongoing in Oregon communities now being served by CCOs.
- The Addictions and Mental Health Division would create an Advisory Group that will assist the division with the development of a prioritized list of community mental health projects to be developed and funded during the biennium.

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