



The force for families | O R E G O N

2/18/15

Chair Keny-Guyer and members of the committee,

My name is Andrew Grover, Director of Operations for Youth Villages - Oregon. I am writing to urge your support for HB 2031.

On any given day Youth Villages is safely and successfully supporting over 4,000 youth and families in a variety of ways – including intensive in-home services. We do this work in Oregon, 9 other states, and the District of Columbia. From this experience, we know first hand that intensive in-home services are a critical part of an effective array of interventions for high-needs youth and their families.

In many cases, this type of service is the ideal method of intervention. By working in homes and communities we are able to effectively treat those with mental health issues, be sensitive to the environmental context they are living in, and address the underlying issues that lead to the troubles they face.

It will also be important to focus on the functional outcomes of the services provided. As such, we strongly support the metric evaluation requirements in the bill as they relate to the long term impact of critical things like: family functioning, educational progress, and recidivism.

Thank you for your consideration.

Andrew Grover, MPH
Director of Oregon Operations
Youth Villages Oregon