

To: Honorable CoChairs Shields and Williamson,

My name is Arthur Cooper. I am a retired OBGYN physician who has been involved with many aspects of domestic violence and sexual abuse over the past 35 years. I am currently on the Board of Clackamas Women's Services and feel compelled to support more adequate funding, to better address DV and sexual abuse. Our organization is constantly struggling to find funds to support survivors of DV.

CWS, as a partner in the Clackamas County Family Justice Center, provides excellent services to, primarily women and children, who have experienced DV. I also volunteer at the Clackamas Volunteers in Medicine Clinic, in Oregon City. Just last week, I saw a young woman who was being protected at the CWS shelter. She was brought to the CVM clinic by a CWS advocate. She was so frightened that her offender might find her that she was afraid to request previous medical records for fear that she might be traced via those records. She had an STD that apparently was transmitted to her by her offender.

Clackamas County Commissioners have vetted the work of CWS and have been very supportive of the services CWS. CWS is working very closely with other legal and social service providers in our community to coordinate care/services for survivors of DV.

Everyone deserves to be SAFE at home.

Thanks for your consideration and support,

Arthur Cooper MD