

**May 23, 2015**

Capital Construction Sub-Committee of Ways and Means  
Oregon Housing and Community Services Bond Package  
Co-Chair Girod, Co-Chair Read, Members of the Committee:

My name is Dayna Sanders. I am a student at Portland State University earning my Masters in Social Work. I work for Janus Youth Programs (homeless & runaway youth) and Raphael House of Portland (survivors of domestic violence). I have a practicum in the Reynolds School district and I am mother to a Benson High School student. I have been fortunate enough to live in the Sunnyside neighborhood in Multnomah County for over five years. I live in a beautiful neighborhood, full of a unique sense of community that has made Portland famously desirable to live in. However, my family's ability to stay in our neighborhood is being threatened by a \$200/month rent increase due to begin 60 days from now, a 4% increase in school tuition, and flat wages at my jobs at local nonprofits.

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the \$20 Million lottery-backed Bonding proposal to preserve currently affordable homes. We are at risk of decreasing the number of homes affordable to people with low incomes. Across the state thousands of people with extremely low incomes (less than \$10,000 a year) live in homes with federal rent subsidies and in manufactured home parks which are at risk of conversion to market rate.

The proposed \$20 Million will allow the public-private partnership of the Oregon Housing Preservation Project (OHPP) to continue on its success helping families, seniors, and people with disabilities who are living on very low incomes stay in their homes and in their communities.

I work with hundreds of families in the Portland area whose resiliency is being highly stressed by difficulties with finding and

maintaining a necessary part of humanity, housing. Nearly 3,000 school-aged children were estimated to be homeless last year. Despite best efforts of non-profits such as the ones I work for, homelessness has grave impacts across a large spectrum of indicators of health and well-being of individuals. These children and families deserve to not only survive, but to thrive.

We cannot afford to lose this precious resource and risk displacement. This proven public-private partnership can save these homes and leverage private and federal resources with the investment of Lottery Backed Bonds.

We urge your careful consideration of, and support for continuing this investment and ensuring our most vulnerable community members continue to have a safe, stable, affordable place to call home.

Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

Dayna Sanders