From: Sunny Spicer
To: JWMED Exhibits
Subject: Written Testimony

Date: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:08:28 AM

Kid Time is a nonprofit Children's Museum and Early Learning Center. We are a Preschool Promise site, we run two Kindergarten Partnership and Innovation Projects, we have numerous early intervention and bilingual students in our preschool in addition to high risk students who attend our preschool on a private scholarships.

Within our children's museum we operate unique drop-in preschool programs that serve upwards of 500 children each week. These children often live in substandard housing, many are dealing with adverse childhood experiences, and most have no other opportunity for early learning. Our drop-in programs are taught by experienced educators to meet the highest quality standards, preparing children for school while also offering a healing, nurturing, developmentally appropriate environment in which to thrive. Our programs are available to all for little to no cost to those we serve.

As a nonprofit, we collaborate with local funders, businesses, and other social service providers to pool resources to efficiently and effectively reach optimal outcomes for our children and ultimately those who will enter our workforce and drive Oregon's economy.

The evidence is clear - early investments have the highest yields long-term yields. One of our students, who visits us while his parents are in residential treatment, told us "this is the best day of my life" after just one day of music, art, and creative learning classes here at Kid Time. He deserves to have that every day. He deserves to have the opportunity to break the cycle of poverty and self-destruction his parents have been on. And we have the ability to give it to him for a relatively small cost in comparison to what will happen if we don't help him.

I urge your continued support of early learning and the great work we are doing in Preschool Promise, Kindergarten Partnership and Innovation, Early Learning Hubs and more.

Thank you

Sunny Spicer

Executive Director

Kid Time Discovery Experience

106 N Central Ave

Medford, OR 97501

www.kid-time.org

541-772-9922

<u>541-944-6206</u> mobile

