



February 9, 2017

Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer
House Committee on Human Services and Housing
Oregon Legislative Assembly
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 2221

Dear Representative Keny-Guyer and Members of the Committee,

Every day in our state, infants, children and teens disclose all forms of abuse – sexual abuse, physical, emotional, witnesses to intense adult violence, and child abuse intervention centers are vital in responding to these horrific incidences. We do that in partnership with law enforcement, child welfare, mental health providers and medical professionals. Regardless of where a child resides in Oregon, whether it is in a rural county or an urban community, the response to that child should absolutely be the same – one that protects them from further abuse, limits the impact of their trauma, and provides long-term healing through therapy and family support.

In order for child abuse intervention centers to provide this collaborative, vital and immediate response to child abuse, they have to be adequately funded. Since the passage of HB 2234 in 2015, KIDS Center has invested significant time and resources to realize the legislative intent of this bill and renegotiate all of our insurance contracts. I'd like to applaud MODA for offering 100% reimbursement of the cost for their commercial lines of business and 50% of the cost for OHP (for our eastern Oregon clients).

Since April 2016, KIDS Center has actively engaged with PacificSource, our CCO for Central Oregon. We have hired a health care consultant to assist us in navigating this unknown territory as we had previously contracted with Central Oregon Independent Practice Association, a third party credentialed and contracting provider.

KIDS Center has struggled to negotiate an agreeable contract with PacificSource (PS) for our Medicaid clients. Here is an overview of our process to date:

- Initiated a discussion with PS April 28, 2016. Met with Dr. Allison Little, the OHP/MA Medical Director on May 13, 2016.
- PS voiced support of KIDS Center (KC) and wanted to work together to create a direct contract to provide better reimbursement than currently offered through the COIPA contract.
- Once PS reviewed the cost analysis completed by KC, they began to lessen their previous support.

- PS was concerned about the financial impact without additional capitation payment.
- KC met with Peter McGarry, VP, Sara Ohrtman, Director, and Kirk Dantzman, Contract Negotiator, on September 20, 2016.
- KC requested 50% of the cost to care for a child and PS responded with coverage at 25% on September 29, 2016.
- KC met with Representative Whisnant to clarify the reimbursement intent of the bill.
- KC had a phone call with Representative Buehler to request his assistance with PS.
- KC encouraged PS to meet with Representative Whisnant and/or Buehler to help them understand the intent of the bill.
- PS sent rates to KC in January which are less than 50% of cost but in the ball park to work at this time.

Had KIDS Center not contracted with a professional to assist us, I don't think we would have made it this far, this fast. For small CAICs in Oregon, this resource is just not available.

I urge you to support HB 2221 and support children in Oregon who have been abused by ensuring child abuse assessments are MORE adequately funded so that we can all keep our doors open.

Respectfully,

Shelly Smith, M.S.
Executive Director