



The Leadership Council  
of the Community Healing And Response Team

**February 10, 2017**

**To: 2017 Oregon Legislature**

**From: The Leadership Council**

**Re: HB 2590 Relating to Community Recovery after the Tragedy at Umpqua Community College**

The Leadership Council (TLC) of Douglas County is a group of community leaders and decision makers with primary responsibility for the ongoing recovery and healing of the Douglas County community in the wake of the worst human caused mass casualty in Oregon's history at Umpqua Community College on October 1, 2015.

We thank you for supporting the immediate capital needs of the college in the 2016 session to rebuild Snyder Hall and other critical infrastructure with the \$6million dollar distribution to UCC. UCC is a community institution and so our entire community was affected, not just the campus community: families, neighbors, students in the K-12 schools system, first responders, etc. TLC recognizes that many of the UCC students have graduated and left campus since the tragedy, with many more leaving in 2017, yet nearly all of the victims and their families continue to live and work in Douglas County. The trauma is widespread and will be long-lasting. Notably, lessons learned from other communities where mass shootings have occurred show post-traumatic stress disorder needs 20 years later. As such, TLC, which includes UCC, has developed a comprehensive recovery framework to serve the community and address the needs of victims, families and issues related to ongoing trauma.

Over the past year, we have met nearly every other week to identify how to strengthen existing services, address service gaps, and add capacity where necessary to support our community. We developed a comprehensive recovery framework and received partial funding in late December 2016 from the US Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crimes for \$1.2 million through the Antiterrorism and Emergency Assistance Program (AEAP) for reimbursement and ongoing recovery needs over the next 18 months. Grant recipients are currently coordinating with the Oregon Department of Justice to establish grant agreements and reporting mechanisms to receive grant funds for "new initiatives" on a reimbursement basis.

Tim Freeman  
TLC Chair and  
Douglas County Commissioner

Cedric Hayden  
State Representative  
House District 7

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Michael Lasher  
Superintendent  
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Dr. Pat Sublette,  
Asst. Superintendent  
Douglas Education Service District

Dr. Steven Schenewerk  
Pastor  
Community Baptist Church

There are several components of the recovery framework that were not allowed for consideration or were only partially funded under the AEAP grant guidelines including:

- Support for trauma within our K-12 system;
- Support for trauma within our First Responder community, agencies and organizations;
- Reimbursement for extraordinary community costs
- Developing lessons learned and policy recommendations documentation;
- Addressing negative stereotypes impacting economic development, and;
- Organizational support for the TLC and CHART.

In addition, from what we understand in working with community advocates from Sandy Hook, Virginia Tech and others, the 18 month time constraint from the AEAP grant is insufficient to address our long term recovery needs. To address these unmet needs and support the community recovery we are requesting \$2,310,000 from the 2017-2019 Oregon Legislature.

Included with this letter is a background paper that outlines our work, funding received-to-date and a summary of the recovery framework we have developed. We can provide detailed budget information and narratives for each aspect of the recovery framework upon request.

The Leadership Council is a cross-section of representatives from our diverse community – decision makers, policymakers, civic and faith leaders with the ability to vet proposals and allocate resources within our agencies and organizations. We have worked diligently with each other and across our community to assess our community’s strengths, weaknesses and service gaps that allow us to address the trauma and recovery needs of victims, families and our communities.

It is our vision to guide and support our community through this trauma to build our resiliency and capacity to address the uncertainties of our future and restore the vitality and faith of our community.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and support,

Tim Freeman, Chair, The Leadership Council