Dear Co-Chairs,

I would like to urge you to support recommendations by the Oregon Alliance (Safe Kids, Healthy Families, Strong Communities) to ensure that our children's system of care for at-risk and vulnerable children survives the current economic and health crisis.

At Oregon Community Programs, we serve Lane County children and their parents on Medicaid through outpatient behavioral health and statewide youth in our specialized Behavior Rehabilitation Service treatment foster care programs. These youth and their families are typically dealing with poverty, child welfare involvement, multigenerational abuse patterns, and high levels of stress. Over 35% of our clients score at the same levels as youth placed in residential levels of care, yet we maintain them in their communities with creative and empirically based supports. These children are constantly on the verge of escalating into foster care, disrupting from placements, or escalating into more restrictive and expensive placements.

We are facing a crisis with staff concerns, workforce challenges, and a potential financial catastrophe. We are currently estimating a loss of over \$300,000 in the next 6 months due to massive challenges related to the coronavirus impact on a system that was already under-resourced. As a non-profit agency, we absolutely do not have the margin to sustain that level of loss and maintain critical services for vulnerable children.

We urge you to allocate direct emergency funding to children's system providers to allow us to stabilize our workforce, hire temporary employees if needed, purchase critical PPE and infection control supplies, etc.

Our youth are placed in Lane County, but come from all over the state. Please give us your support to ensure that vulnerable children can continue to receive our services during and after this community crisis.

Sincerely, Ana Day

Ana Day, LMFT

Executive Director

Oregon Community Programs 1170 Pearl Street, Eugene, OR 97401

541-743-4361 (desk) | 541-743-4369 (fax) | 541-556-5727 (mobile)

anad@oregoncp.org | Visit us at oregoncp.org



Fostering Success in Families

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