

March 20, 2020

Senator Arnie Roblan
900 Court Street NE S-417
Salem Oregon 97301

Dear Senator Roblan:

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

In our agency, we serve adolescents and work closely with Salem-Keizer School District as well as families of clients suffering from symptoms of mental illness or chemical dependency. These youth and their families are at high risk of depression and anxiety.

We are facing a crisis with staff concerns, workforce challenges, and a potential financial catastrophe. We might have to close our adolescent program or take other actions such as teletherapy sessions.

Our medically managed withdrawal clinic (Detox) has reduced bed capacity from 24 beds to 12. This will result in a revenue loss of \$300,000.00 per month. Our residential substance use disorder clinics, which we anticipate closing in early April will result in an additional revenue loss of \$120,000.00 per month.

We will begin laying off administrative and ancillary support staff next week. The situation is bad and we need your support immediately.

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 in Salem, Marion County and surrounding areas of our community need your assistance to weather this crisis.

Sincerely,

Tim Murphy
Chief Executive Officer