Good morning Co-Chairs, Senator Gelser, and Representative Bynum,

As you craft the public safety portion of the COVID response package, your Network of Children's Advocacy Centers asks that you consider the below emergency needs—

Your Children's Advocacy Centers need access to emergency funding of $530,000 to provide services via telemedicine.

- **$350,000 for a 24/7 physician helpline**
- **$180,000 for telemedicine machinery and cameras for 8 of our CACs**

Like much of the world, the Network of Oregon's Children's Advocacy Centers is facing an unprecedented circumstance due to COVID-19. It is the unfortunate reality that during times of great stress and when families experience isolation, we know that the cases of child abuse rise as well as the need for our services. However, we also recognize the importance of action during our current public health crisis, namely the need to protect the health of the children and families we serve and our own staff. To that end, we have needed to alter the ways we provide service while following guidelines set forth by the OHA and CDC that recommend enhancing services provided remotely, including telemedicine, when possible.

To fulfill this need, we need $350,000 for a 24/7 physician with medical expertise and better support for CACs and our MDT partners, including potential forensic interviewer support. We have identified 8 CACs in our Network with already limited staff that need access to telemedicine technology that they do not currently have to meet the needs in their community. The machinery and camera necessary to provide these services across all 8 CACs will cost $180,000 in total ($22,500 per CAC).

Our total ask for a helpline and telemedicine machinery is: $530,000.

Thank you all for your leadership during this unprecedented time—if you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to reach out,

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