



Legacy Health  
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February 5, 2019

Representative Mitch Greenlick, Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Health Care

RE: Legacy Health Supports Section 9 of HB 2257

Members of the House Committee on Health Care:

Legacy Health is proud to support Project Nurture, which provides prenatal care, inpatient maternity care, and postpartum care for women who struggle with addictions, as well as pediatric care for their infants. Section 9 of HB 2257 would fund the opportunity for Project Nurture to spread to additional Oregon Communities.

Legacy is Oregon's only locally owned nonprofit health care provider in the Portland-Vancouver area and mid-Willamette Valley. We are an integrated network of care providers in over 100 primary care, urgent care and specialty care clinics, and seven community-based and nationally recognized hospital, including Legacy Emanuel Medical Center.

As one of three Project Nurture sites currently supported by Health Share of Oregon, the Legacy Midwifery clinic at Legacy Emanuel partners with Lifeworks NW to provide a weekly group for maternity care and outpatient addiction treatment. A certified alcohol and drug counselor from Lifeworks provides individual assessments, referrals for inpatient and mental health services, and co-facilitates the treatment groups with a certified nurse midwife clinician. Peer support is provided through the group prenatal care model and a strong peer recovery mentor and doula on the team.

Women who participate in Project Nurture are informed of policies regarding DHS Child Welfare reporting, which facilitates trusting relationships with providers and allows providers to advocate for women and their families whenever possible. 93 percent of women participating in Project Nurture are parenting their own children.

Legacy supports Section 9 of HB 2257, proposing a statewide pilot project modeled after the Project Nurture program. Spreading Project Nurture, a Centers of Excellence program with proven success, can only benefit Oregonians by building resilient families for the future of our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Duncan R. Neilson, Jr., MD".

Duncan Neilson, MD  
Clinical Vice President