



March 25, 2019

Senate Committee on Health Care
Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson, Chair

Dear Chair Monnes Anderson, Vice-Chair Linthicum, members of the Committee,

FamilyCare Health is submitting the attached “fact sheet” as testimony on Senate Bill 137 and our behavioral health model of care. The concepts outlined in our fact sheet are relevant to the intent of this legislation and are in line with what we have shared previously with legislators and the Oregon Health Policy Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Art Suchorzewski
Director, Government Affairs
FamilyCare Health



FACT SHEET: FamilyCare's Behavioral Health Model

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IS PRIMARY CARE.

➤ No silos or carve outs.

- Many coordinated care organizations and commercial insurance plans “carve out” behavioral health coverage. These benefits are provided under a separate contract with a separate set of providers.
- “Carve outs” create administrative barriers and unnecessary burdens on both providers and members.
- “Carve outs” are the opposite of integration, one of the main goals of Oregon’s coordinated care model.

➤ Treat behavioral health with parity to physical health.

- One contracting and credentialing process for behavioral and physical health providers.
- Unified claims, referrals, and authorization process for behavioral and physical health providers.
- Parity, in part, means not having more administrative barriers for behavioral health providers than physical health.

➤ Pay for quality and access.

- Increase reimbursements for behavioral health procedure codes for services performed in a primary care setting or by any other practitioner billing for services under the Oregon Health Plan.

“The edifice we have constructed is baffling to the people it is intended to serve...There are physical health networks and behavioral health networks, sometimes within the same plan. This non-scientific distinction between physical health and mental health impedes care coordination. FamilyCare has a system that is simplified to the point of improving clinical health outcomes.”

Morgan O’Toole, CEO, Kartini Clinic - The Lund Report, 5/31/2017