



# Marion County

## OREGON

### Board of Commissioners

**Testimony provided by:**  
**Commissioner Kevin Cameron**

March 28, 2019

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### **HB 2244 -2 Amendments – CourtCare – Support**

#### **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

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Kevin Cameron  
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#### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

John Lattimer

Marion County Board of Commissioners and the Marion County Public Safety Coordinating Council support HB 2244 -2 amendments, regarding the CourtCare program. Last biennium, Marion and Polk Counties were pilot counties for this program.

CourtCare provides high quality child care to families or single parents who are attending the Marion County Circuit Court. Parents may need to attend court for a variety of reasons including custody trials; drug, behavioral health, or veteran's services courts; Juvenile and Fostering Attachment Treatment Courts, filing legal forms, meetings with attorneys, and mediation on a variety of disputes.

90% of judges in Marion County report seeing fewer children in the courtroom since CourtCare began, and parents report CourtCare enables them to be on time to attend court dates, knowing that their children are being cared for in a safe environment.

1,155 children have been served to date in Marion County through CourtCare, whose trained staff also provides families with resource materials and services such as:

#### **Age Breakdown:**

42% 1 year and younger  
10% 2 years  
16% 3 Years  
20% 4 years  
12% 5 years and older

#### **Program Referrals:**

Food Resources  
Clothing Resources  
Emergency Assistance  
Hygiene Supplies & Diapers  
Oregon Health Plans  
Public Health  
Resource Centers  
Relief Nursery  
Community Events

Of the children that used CourtCare in Marion County, 42 % were a year old or younger, 46% were between 2 and 4 years, and 12% are 5 years and older.

HB 2244 -2 amendments require a 10% funding match and 15% match for services, materials or facilities for the program grant. Marion County agrees to provide both of these match requirements.

We feel this program is an important service to our families and has been very successful. We urge your continued support and expansion of the CourtCare Program.