



To Chair Patterson, and members of the Senate Committee on Health Care:

As the largest homeless shelter serving all of Central Oregon, we hereby affirm our support for SB 741. We, and so many partner agencies have come to rely on the critical role the Central Oregon Health Council plays in our region. They are a proven collaborator and force multiplier in effectively meeting their goals and objectives and improving the health outcomes for many who are at risk.

The strategic vision and leadership they provide ensures that the region is focused on solution based outcomes. With help from the Central Oregon Health Council, Bethlehem Inn was able to invest in developing and establishing a robust evaluation of residents' experiences based on the social determinants of health. A program like this was made possible thanks to the collaboration and well thought out strategic guidelines created and administered by Central Oregon Health Council.

The role of Central Oregon Health Council is vital in our region and needs to continue to further build upon their commitment to continued accountability and wellbeing.

SB 741 is needed to continue the leadership and collaboration our region needs and is established through the Central Oregon Health Council.

Sincerely,

Gwenn Wysling
Executive Director