

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Lisa Austin from Healthy Families Douglas County. I am writing you today to ask Oregon Legislature to maintain a full funding for Health Families Oregon. I am a Lead Family Support Specialist and have worked with Healthy Families for over 15 years. I have served hundreds of families over this time period and have seen them succeed in their lives to be the Best and Most Important Parent they can possibly be. This program is critical to the well-being of our families and future generations to come. We provide evidence-based supports for high risk and vulnerable families. We support families from the beginning of pregnancy up to three years. We connect them with referrals and resources such as WIC, OHP, SNAP, TANF, rental assistance, Anger Management, Drug and Alcohol Treatment, finding a Health Care Provider and Pediatrician. We individualize each family to their needs to best support their journey through where they are now to where they want to be. We are changing generations. We support them in being self-sufficient, knowledgeable of child development, make family goals, plan for the future and be a strong member of our community. There is so much more that we do with our families over the time they are in our program. I cannot give you enough reasons why our program is so important to the families we serve. We are the ONLY Child Abuse Prevention Program in our state. Our data shows the outcomes of families who have had Healthy Families involved in their lives and it is outstanding where they are now vs. when we first started with their family. Please decide to fully fund our Healthy Families program so that we can support families in our community to make a difference in our part of the World.

Thank you

Sincerely Yours

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