

WASHINGTON COUNTY CHILD ABUSE MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Justice Services Building 150 N. First Avenue, Suite 300, MS 40 Hillsboro, Oregon 97124 (503) 846-3862

May 7th, 2021

Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital Construction Oregon State Legislature 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chair Girod, Co-Chair Holvey and Members of the Committee:

We are writing to you today to express our full support for the proposed Washington County Family Peace Center (SB 5534). As leaders of the Washington County Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team, we deeply understand the challenges facing child abuse intervention and response in our community and its impact on victims.

The Washington County Family Peace Center project seeks to establish a comprehensive "one-stop" facility for Washington County children and families affected by child abuse, neglect and domestic violence. This site will provide medical treatment, therapy, family support and prevention services to address trauma collaboratively while promoting the health and safety of our community. Co-locating services for both child abuse and domestic violence addresses an urgent and growing need in Washington County. Both child abuse and domestic violence are widespread and cause long-lasting social and economic harm, not only to victims individually but to the community as a whole. Additionally, while trauma can impact anyone, it has a disproportionate impact on those who are financially vulnerable or historically marginalized.

Please give the Washington County Family Peace Center project your strong support. This investment in serving the most vulnerable members of our community will not only promote the health and safety of children and families today, but also the well-being of future generations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kathleen McDonough, MPA Vulnerable Populations MDT Coordinator Washington County District Attorney's Office Andy Pulver, Senior Deputy District Attorney Child Abuse MDT Chair Washington County District Attorney's Office