

Testimony in Support of Lottery Funds to support Construction of the new Klamath Crimson Rose Facility:
Good Afternoon Co-Chair Girod, Co-chair Holvey and members of the Joint Subcommittee on Capital Construction.
My name is Amy Boivin and I am the Director of Clinical Services at Klamath Basin Behavioral Health.

I am here today in support of the application by Klamath County to allocate Lottery Bond funds to complete the construction of a new facility for the Klamath Crimson Rose Program (KCR).

My organization has partnered closely for decades with the Klamath County Juvenile Department to provide behavioral health services to youth under the supervision of both the juvenile department and the Oregon Youth Authority, including the KCR program. The evidence-based and trauma-informed mental health and substance abuse services include individual and group counseling, medication management and skills training.

The construction of this new facility will enable KCR to almost double the number of young women who will have the opportunity to benefit from the program. The new facility will provide an environment that is warm and home-like, one that is much more conducive to their behavioral health and developmental needs. The academic space will give participants a place to continue their education. The living spaces will allow indoor and outdoor recreation, as well as areas to participate in music, art, and gardening. Treatment spaces will allow for participants to receive the mental health and substance abuse services in comfortable, private rooms.

The young women who come to this program come from histories that are hard for some of us to imagine. These include extensive trauma, neglect, poverty and family disfunction. They are managing diagnosis that include depression, anxiety, PTSD and often long histories of substance abuse. The KCR project provides them with an opportunity to learn, heal and start to imagine themselves differently than they ever have before. In fact, for many of these young women, this may be the last opportunity they have for a gender-responsive, treatment focused, strengths based environment where the adults around them believe in them and want to see them succeed.

Funding from the lottery bonds is imperative in order for our county to get this project completed and to provide this expanded and enhanced opportunity for young women to stabilize, heal and move toward healthy, productive futures they had never thought possible.

Thank you so much for your time and the opportunity to support this project that quite literally changes lives.