

RE: Lincoln Community Dispute Resolution

May 6, 2021

Oregon State Legislature

Education Subcommittee of the Joint Ways and Means Committee

Dear Co-chairs Frederick and McLain and committee members,

I write to request that you please fully fund Dispute Resolution in the State Programs at Universities section of the budget which funds community dispute resolution services across the state through the Oregon Office for Community Dispute Resolution (OOCDR).

On behalf of the Partnership Against Alcohol and Drug Abuse (PAADA), and Don McDonald, Coalition Coordinator, I am writing this letter to endorse LCDR's programs. PAADA is a non-profit, grassroots community coalition working to empower youth and adults to make healthy decisions and to reduce the use or abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

For almost 10 years, PAADA has been collaborating with LCDR to provide vital services to Lincoln County's youth not otherwise available from the Lincoln County Juvenile Department or Lincoln County School District.

Because of the Covid pandemic many services have changed over the last year. We are continuing to partner with LCDR to provide as many services as possible. With the easing of restrictions and youth being back in school, our collaborative programs will return.

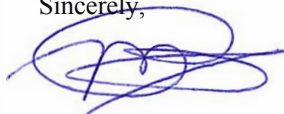
We partner with LCDR in organizing and conducting Lincoln County's Teen Justice Panels and Siletz Peacemaking Circles. These restorative justice programs are diversions for young people who have committed minor law violations. The referrals come from Lincoln County Juvenile Department. LCDR trains its volunteers to be Facilitators and Advisors for the programs and trains the participant youth in communication and problem-solving skills.

We have partnered with LCDR to plan and provide twice yearly Leadership Academies with focus on communication, problem-solving, accountability, diversity awareness, and drug and alcohol prevention. The majority of presenters are LCDR volunteers.

We have worked together to develop restorative practices in Lincoln County's two charter schools. We have reached staff and students K-12 at both schools. The practices include community building circles, problem-solving circles, peer mediation, accountability circles, and restorative conversations.

PAADA wholeheartedly endorses LCDR's request for this grant funding.

Sincerely,



Melinda Baxter

Youth Projects Coordinator, PAADA



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School of Law

May 10, 2021

Oregon State Legislature  
Education Subcommittee of the Joint Ways and Means Committee  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Co-chairs Frederick and McLain and committee members,

The above letter of support highlights one of the fifteen community dispute resolution centers that receive grant funds through the Oregon Office for Community Dispute Resolution. OOCDR uploaded the letter to OLIS on their behalf.

Best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patrick Sponsler".

Patrick Sponsler, MPA  
[sponsler@uoregon.edu](mailto:sponsler@uoregon.edu)  
OOCDR Administrator

**Oregon Office for Community Dispute Resolution**

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