



To: House Committee on Human Services
From: Paige Spence, Washington County Government Relations Manager
Date: March 1, 2021
Re: Support for HB 3116

Dear Chair Williams and Committee Members:

Thank you for hearing HB 3116, which aims to rethink how we fund community developmental disabilities programs (CDDPs) in Oregon. On behalf of Washington County's CDDP, we strongly support revisiting the statewide funding formulas and offer our operational expertise to the studies and discussions that HB 3116 would enable.

The Washington County CDDP relies entirely on state funding and we have experienced funding cuts over the last two biennia. As you may know, the state sets caseload standards at 1 services coordinator to 45 cases. But, at Washington County, current caseloads average 1 services coordinator to 65 program participants. And, we average a new caseload every 1 ½ months through new participant applications. Since we are only funded at roughly 80% percent of the workload model, we are not able to hire the necessary service coordinators to keep up with the demand. Our major concern about the increased caseload growth is over the health and safety of vulnerable children and adults in Washington County who receive our services.

Our CDDP provides an array of service coordination to youth and adult individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and to their families and caregivers. Services range from initial intake and eligibility determinations to protective services, adult foster care, residential services, crisis management, transportation, and family education and support. Providing this comprehensive and high-quality range of services for some of our most vulnerable residents unfortunately is increasingly difficult and we encourage you to pass HB 3116 to allow for strategic rethinking of how we fund this system statewide.

Thank you for considering this bill and Washington County's testimony.

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