



Dear Co-Chairs Sanchez and Steiner and members of the Ways and Means Committee

My name is Katie Lentz, I am a member of AFSCME Local 88, which represents the employees of Multnomah County, where I am a QMHP Consultant with the Forensic Diversion Program, a program designed to serve all of Multnomah County's Aid and Assist patients. A program that has been significantly impacted by the Federal Mossman ruling.

Forensic Diversion receives MHS04 Aid and Assist funding for all individuals at Oregon State Hospital on Treat Until Fit Orders. We work to divert individuals unable to Aid and Assist from OSH into outpatient restoration services, to connect them with services in the community to attain sustained diversion from the criminal justice system. Prior to the Mossman ruling, we were working to divert individuals with lower acuity mental health issues and less severe charges. We lacked placements and treatment services then, we moved from overburdened to overwhelmed. Services have been flat funded while the needs of this population, particularly those with the highest acuity, have grown exponentially in a matter of months. The Mossman ruling has exacerbated a crisis!

Funding our services saves money. In 2017 an analysis by Multnomah county showed our program saved over \$5million by diverting over 100 unique patients from a hospital stay, and almost \$2million in savings from jail bed stays. (See attached)

We need funding for more beds and I ask that you fund treatment for

- *\$178M for Mental Health Residential to increase capacity for beds across Oregon and in Multnomah County so people coming out of OSH have a place to go and continue treatment*
- *At least \$235.8M for Supportive Housing - so important for people not completely ready to be on their own but not needing a treatment facility level of care.*

We need to make sure we are funding the staff at the community level:

- *\$45.9M for a rate COLA to keep the reimbursement rates that brought many providers' wages up to keep and recruit much-needed staffing at all levels.*
- For the connections across the public safety and health care sectors we need to make sure that we have continued funding through the Criminal Justice Commission and ask for full funding of the IMPACTS program of \$10million*

Thank you for your time and attention to these needs.

Forensic Diversion Program Metrics & Outcomes: 3 Year Snapshot

	FY16-17 (7/1/16 - 6/30/17)	FY15-16 (7/1/15 - 6/30/16)	FY14-15 (7/1/14 - 6/30/15)
Total Unique Clients Served	438	405*	262
Unique Clients referred to Oregon State Hospital (at some point during their enrollment with Forensic Diversion)	199 (45%)	190 (47%)	95 (36%)
Total Unique Clients Diverted from Oregon State Hospital	46	50	19
Average Hospital Days Saved Per Individual	124	110	132
Cumulative Total of Hospital Days Saved	5,833	5,513	2,505
Total Hospital Bed Dollars Saved:	\$5,249,700**	\$4,961,700**	\$2,254,425**
Total Unique Clients Diverted from Jail	116	61	63
Average Jail Bed Days Saved Per Individual	79	108	59
Cumulative Total of Jail Bed Days Saved	8,629	6,577	3,709
Total Jail Bed Dollars Saved:	\$1,723,643***	\$1,313,756***	\$740,970***
Grand Total Dollars Saved	\$6,973,343	\$6,275,456	\$2,995,395

Cumulative 3 Year Total Dollars Saved: \$16,244,194

*Increase from FY14-15 to FY15-16 is largely due to the passage of HB 2420 in January 2016, which significantly increased referrals, as well as the program's ability to hire additional staff by obtaining grants to better meet the existing need.

**Figure computed utilizing a rate of \$900 per day at OSH.

***Figure computed utilizing average daily cost per inmate rate of \$199.75, *VERA Institute of Justice Survey of Jail Expenses and Revenues (FY14) for Multnomah County*. This figure only considers the cost for general jail population and not higher costs beds/units that typically house the population served by this program with severe mental health, addiction, physical/medical, and other issues.



Note regarding data: dollars saved figures are believed to be very conservative estimates. Additionally, the total impact on public dollars saved across systems is likely much higher considering the targeted population's high occurrence/frequency of recidivism events, utilization of crisis system services, severity of chronic physical health issues, etc. - not included in the above figures.

Forensic Diversion Program

Program Metrics & Outcomes: FY16-17

(7/1/16 - 6/30/17)

Total Unique Clients Served	438
Total Unique .370 Clients Served	229 (52%)
Unique Clients referred to Oregon State Hospital (at some point during their enrollment with Forensic Diversion)	199* (45%)
Total Unique Clients Diverted from Oregon State Hospital	46
Average Hospital Days Saved Per Individual	124
Cumulative Total of Hospital Days Saved	5,833
Total Hospital Bed Dollars Saved:	\$5,249,700**
Total Unique Clients Diverted from Jail	116
Average Jail Bed Days Saved Per Individual	79
Cumulative Total of Jail Bed Days Saved	8,629
Total Jail Bed Dollars Saved:	\$1,723,643***
Grand Total Dollars Saved in FY16-17	\$6,973,343

*Altogether, these 199 individuals spent a combined total of 26,829 days at OSH (on average 140 days per individual) at \$900 per day for a total cost of \$24,146,100.

**Figure computed utilizing a rate of \$900 per day at OSH.

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