

Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
Subcommittee on Capital Construction  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Girod, Chair Holvey, and Committee Members:

Please accept this testimony supporting the **HB 5201** related **Capital Funding Request** for the **Catholic Community Services Foundation (CCSF)** project, **Pacific Station Apartments for Families**.

As a physician and founder of the Curandi Human Services Network, an organization working to establish a more capable outcome-focused social service delivery system for Marion and Polk County, I can attest to the importance of housing as a priority.

Housing First has solid empirical evidence to support it, and California's 5-yr Whole Person Care (WPC) pilot demonstrated community-level economic impact using Housing First coupled with structured local care coordination.

In California, integrating whole-person care coordination with housing first reduced healthcare costs and, at the same time, increased specialty and substance use disorder services. All the while producing savings in healthcare expenditures. These results were maintained over 25 counties for 5 years, with 247,877 unique beneficiaries compared to a control group (Good Science!).

As a member of the CCSF Board of Directors, I know the project's planning and requirements to begin construction are complete. The timing for the project and for funders to see results is ideal.

Like other CCSF housing, this project will participate in the existing social determinants of health support from Catholic Community Services (CCS), further supported by standardized data and networking from Curandi, which serves additional housing partners outside CCS. This built-in support, data, and reporting provide the likelihood that this project will generate documented improvement and learning.

To summarize, my arguments that this is an excellent project to fund are:

1. It is a housing-first project, the place to begin if we want to make a change.
2. It will be part of a successful integrated social service support network modeled on California's Whole Person Care pilot.
3. Without directly funding the system integration enjoyed by this project, it nonetheless provides data to the community to learn and innovate toward sustainable social solutions.
4. The preliminaries are done, and this project is ready to go.

This implements proven concepts by proven organizations.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael D. Rohwer M.D.