

Submitter: Elissa Looney

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital
Construction

Measure: HB5201

I am writing to ask you to invest the final \$8M we need to finish a brand new, 40 bed, 28,000 square foot residential treatment campus for Oregon's most vulnerable kids. This is an exciting, sector-leading project that has already gained accolades and awards, is working with local and national experts in trauma-informed design and helps answer the myriad of crises affecting thousands of children and teenagers in our state.

Our project increases residential drug, alcohol and mental health treatment capacity, will help prevent Child Welfare placements in Temporary Lodging, assists youth to avoid incarceration, and addresses the intersection of these three critical areas of need with youth who end up homeless on our streets.

For too long Oregon has treated its most vulnerable children like third class citizens. Our project makes sure they are nurtured, honored and respected as the leaders of tomorrow that they truly are. An \$8M investment today will ensure this vision is made possible ASAP. Oregon's youth cannot wait another day, let alone many more years, to get the services they truly need in appropriate infrastructure.

I look forward to working hand in hand with you to create a brighter future for all of Oregon's children.