

Submitter: Harley Pritchard
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

My name is Harley Pritchard. I am here to ask you to support full funding of the Oregon Judicial Department and ODHS because I know personally how important these organizations are to families in our community.

I was an addict for 20 years and am now in recovery. ODHS became involved with my family and removed my two children in February of 2022. I entered FTC in June of 2022 as a participant. Through the program I personally received support in my recovery from substance use disorder and ultimately achieved the reunification of my family and a completely new life.

Family Treatment court is a specialty court program that takes a wholistic approach to helping families where a parent's substance abuse has become so severe that it affects their ability to provide safe and appropriate care for their children. Often families in this situation are struggling with other issues and lacking in resources to meet their basic needs such as food, housing, diapers, clothing, etc. The FTC helps by bringing together community partners to support families and meet these needs.

I am currently a Reunification Specialist for Iron Tribe Network, a non-profit organization that provides transitional housing and support for addicts and their families through collaboration with the Oregon Department of Human Services and the Family Treatment Court program. This is my dream job and one that would not have been possible without FTC. I am now a member of the Family Treatment Court Team, working every day to support other parents and families.