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On Behalf Of:

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Behavioral Health

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Syringe service and other harm reduction efforts have no place near schools and childcare facilities. I have witnessed first hand the negative externalities that this type of operation has on the surrounding area. For several years a harm reduction operated near the Cathedral School in downtown Portland. The effects were felt for days as illegal activity such as drug dealing and open air use created a dystopia in which children (PK -8) had to navigate human waste, garbage, sharps and other discarded paraphernalia amongst passed out humans and people in crisis on their way to and from school. Efforts by the community at large and the District Attorney had this operation shut down and moved out of the area. Since that time the school and surrounding neighborhood is both cleaner and safer for the children, parents teachers, staff and everyone that lives in the vicinity. This service has no place near schools and childcare facilities.