

January 31, 2020

ATTN: Senate Committee on Mental Health

Dear Chair Roblan, Vice-Chair Boles, and members of the Committee,

I am writing as both a Wallowa County community member and staff of Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness. Myself, my colleagues and my neighbors all feel strongly that the CCBHC model continue in Oregon. The \$15M requested in SB1552 will truly make a difference for the residents of our tiny frontier community. This program has enabled us to serve community members holistically by providing physical health, mental health and addiction services in one location. We have been able to eliminate barriers to care and strengthen our partnerships with medical providers, the local critical access hospital, schools and law enforcement.

As a mom of four small kids on OHP, my family has experienced better and more holistic care for our health needs due to CCBHC.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

~Bridget

Bridget Brown COO Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness