

Support for Funding Measure 110 Testimonial - Elizabeth Lattig

Elizabeth Lattig
Multnomah County, NE
Garden Teacher at Faubion Elementary K-8

Measure 110 is a racial equity issue, first and foremost. Please don't lose sight of that. Addiction and incarceration disproportionately affect BIPOC people because of institutionalized racism. Today we have a once in a lifetime opportunity to shift these scales of oppression in Oregon. But our only hope of success is to fully fund Measure 110 now.

When I was 11, my mom sat my brother and I down and told us our loving dad was being incarcerated for drugs. He would be in prison for nearly two years. Suffering severe abuse as a child, my dad had no access to treatment for his trauma, and turned to drugs and alcohol to soothe himself.

When my dad went to prison, my family was emotionally and financially devastated. My 18 year old brother, Evan, began turning to substances to soothe this sudden trauma. That was 1991. Thirty years later, Evan has been homeless and in and out of prison his entire adult life because of addiction, and lack of access to treatment. About once a year he resurfaces in our family, asking for money, or a sleeping bag, or medicine. He is emaciated, his teeth are broken and rotten; my sweet big brother is suffering greatly. I worked as a volunteer community organizer to pass Measure 110 to give loved ones like my brother hope of treatment.

It's time we end the cycle of addiction in Oregon. It's time we attend to the racial equity issues inherent in this crisis. With the compounding effects of COVID-19, our addiction crisis is only getting even worse. Help us save our loved ones now. We voted yes on Measure 110 because we need treatment now. Please listen. Please fully fund Measure 110 now.