

March 22, 2021

Chair Anna Williams  
Vice-Chair Leif  
View-Chair Ruiz  
House Committee on Human Resources  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for House Bill 3366

Dear Chair Williams, Vice-Chairs Leif and Ruiz, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to express CASA of Clackamas County's support of HB 3366 Family Treatment Court (FTC). We have a strong partnership with the court, and Shari Fromm, Program Director, was part of the weekly Clackamas County FTC team for seven years. During that time, she saw firsthand the encouraging outcomes for individuals participating in Family Drug Court and the positive affects those outcomes had on their families.

Clackamas County Family Drug Court was structured with accountability, tools for success, and a team to support the voluntary participants. At graduation from the program, it was not unusual for participants to thank the judge and others for helping them change their lives through the 1-2 year program (depending on setbacks).

One participant while learning to remain clean and sober, was able to have her child returned to her care, find safe and sober housing, a job in which she moved quickly up to management position. She found the strength and was taught tools to leave her abusive boyfriend, and become a support to others with addiction issues.

As Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) providing best-interest advocacy on behalf of abused and neglected children in foster care who need safe and permanent homes, we understand the long-term societal value of reuniting children with their parents whenever possible. We strongly support HB 3366 and the positive impact we know it will have on family reunification.

Sincerely,



Robin Christian  
Executive Director