

April 10, 2021

Board of Directors

John Marchel
Board Chair
Cari Maes
Incoming Chair

Mary Bentley
Past Chair
Kathy Feser

Secretary
Rebecca Camden

Treasurer

Mamta Chowdhury

Diane Davis

Amanda Grolemund

Jim Luebke

Candy Pierson-

Charlton

Jenny Sheldon

Kayla Steindorf

Kate Caldwell Executive Director

P.O. Box 914 Corvallis, OR 97339 (541) 758-0219

Crisis & Support Line: (541) 754-0110

www.cardv.org

Co-Chairs Johnson, Steiner-Hayward, Rayfield, and Members of the Public Safety/Judiciary Subcommittee, overseeing the CVSSD Budget and ODSVS

RE: General Budget House Bill #5555

Gentlepeople:

I am writing to ask for your support for a \$10 million increase in funding for the Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence Services fund (ODSVS) within the Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division of the Department of Justice.

The ODSVS fund is the only General Fund source of dollars for confidential shelter, support, and safety planning services for survivors and their children. ODSVS is the fund that provides stability to keep the doors open at the confidential emergency shelters, run and staff the 24-hour hotlines, and maintain advocacy services. These dollars go to culturally-specific programs, Oregon Tribes, and community-based domestic and sexual violence programs, and serve survivors in every corner of our state.

CARDV, the Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence is the 24/7 crisis hotline support and the only Emergency Shelter for Survivors of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence or Stalking in Linn and Benton Counties. Survivors need financial support to ensure they can safely remove themselves (and their children, often) from traumatic crisis situations. Whether that is safe escape, safe short term or long term housing, or transitional housing, the need is far greater than we can sustain on our own. We need your support.

Please support ODSVS and Survivor Housing funds to your greatest capacity, to ensure that survivors in your communities have access to emergency shelter, expert safety-planning, housing stability, and wrap-around support services. These services help victims identify and explore real options to escape violence. These services save lives.

Thank you for your time and for your service to the State of Oregon.

Regards,

Kate Caldwell Executive Director