

April 13, 2021

Joint Subcommittee on Human Services:

On behalf of the Association of Oregon Counties, representing all 36 County governments, I write in support of SB 5529, the Oregon Department of Human Services budget bill. In particular, as Counties are the funding authority for Community Developmental Disability Programs (CDDPs), we support funding for these invaluable County programs.

CDDPs are legally required to provide certain services to individuals with I/DD, as mandated by the state's K-Plan and waivers. These services include:

- Case Management (assisting clients to access housing, health care transportation, employment, and helping them navigate major life events and crisis)
- Medicaid/Service Eligibility Determination
- Abuse Investigation
- Family Support Requests (in-home assistance to families/individuals)
- Licensing of Adult Foster Homes, Child Foster Homes, and management of Personal Support Workers

The state funds I/DD case management with a “workload model.” This model estimates the FTE that will be required to carry out the work that the state must provide. The workload model was introduced in 2015, and it was fully funded in 2015-2017. However, in 2017-2019 and 2019-2021, state funding did not meet those case management needs. A decline in funding has resulted in caseloads that have been difficult to manage for case managers. For the 2021-2023 biennium, we have not yet received the results of the workload model, so do not yet have a specific funding request for case management, though we recommend keeping with the commitment of funding the need based on the workload model results.

Case managers protect the health and safety of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. They provide valuable support at critical moments in people’s lives.

A summary of funding levels for the last three biennia is included below.

- 2015-2017: \$90.8 million GF - full funding

- 2017-2019: \$107.95 million GF (85% of full funding) \$20 million below full funding
- 2019-2021: \$124 million GF (79% funding equity) \$29.5 million below full funding

The Association of Oregon Counties encourages you to honor the results of the workload model, and support the CDDPs and case managers doing this critical work to support individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

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