

Testimony on 2021-23 I/DD Case Management Funding:

I am an I/DD Case Manager for Multnomah County with a Specialized Children's Foster Home Caseload. I am very busy. When we receive an email from Management stating the State needs us to contact our entire caseload and put the information collected into a Spreadsheet with a short turn around it can be very challenging to do.

My calendar is typically very full- at least a month in advance or more. I am not allowed overtime to do this extra task. I must find a way to fit it in. This is a very big challenge.

These data requests can take days to complete, and then other things must be put on pause to complete the State ask/task. This extra task means I will call my entire caseload about whatever the states want me to find out, but I cannot assist anyone since I must call everyone before I can then assist them. This is time consuming and a real barrier to providing the resources and support my clients need.

During the Wildfires for example I was impacted and displaced from my home and was not able to work. Therefore, when the State sent an email asking for all of us to complete the spreadsheet with the requested data this task had to be completed by one of my colleagues.

Funding the case management is so important - case managers are lifelines for the people we serve, and if we do not have the funding to do our job well, I worry that the services we provide will suffer.

Thank you for your time and please fund the case management budget.