

02.24.2021 CareOregon Testimony to House Human Services Committee

Chair Williams & Members of the House Human Services Committee:

CareOregon is a nonprofit that has served Oregon Health Plan members for over 25 years and is a founding member of Health Share of Oregon, one of the CCOs that contracts to manage Medicaid benefits in the Portland Metro area. CareOregon manages the behavioral health benefits for all of Health Share's 300,000 members, the physical health benefits for 200,000 of those members, and dental health benefits for 70,000 Health Share Members. Additionally, CareOregon manages OHP benefits for 45,000 members in Jackson County through ownership of Jackson Care Connect, and 30,000 members in Clatsop, Columbia and Tillamook counties through ownership of Columbia Pacific CCO.

CareOregon works with community-based organization partners to deliver health-related services to our OHP members. Most requests for these services are for social needs such as housing and food access and are integral to reducing health disparities. Given many of our community-based organization partners are not located within the health care system, we are challenged to ensure these services are in alignment and coordinated with the medical treatment plan, care plan, and immediate social need.

Just as we continue to break down the siloes within the health care system, also need to break down the siloes between the health care system and community-based organizations as we look towards those upstream interventions that help keep OHP members healthier in the first place. **CareOregon is in support of HB 3039 and an eager partner in this work.** We look forward to engaging with stakeholders as we collectively work to design a more efficient system that better addresses our members' social determinants of health and eliminates health inequities.

Sincerely,



Stefan Shearer, MPA:HA
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CareOregon