

To: Joint Subcommittee on Public Safety

Date: March 2, 2023

RE: Support for SB 5514

Dear Committee Members,

On behalf of Parrott Creek Child & Family Services, we urge you to support funding in the Department of Justice Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division Budget (SB 5514) of \$10 million to the Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence Services (ODSVS) Fund for confidential safety planning and support services for survivors, and \$6 million to the Survivor Housing Fund (SHF) for housing assistance for survivors.

ODSVS and SHF are each essential funding sources that allow Oregon's network of nonprofit, community-based, Tribal, and culturally-specific domestic and sexual violence service providers across the state to ensure that survivors have access to confidential, culturally-specific and trauma-informed assistance as they seek safety from abuse.

ODSVS and SHF distributes funds to more than 60 community and Tribal programs across the state of Oregon to provide confidential trauma-informed services for victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, and human trafficking as well as safe and stable housing. These services support children and adult survivors with crisis intervention and long-term supportive services such as emergency shelter, 24/7 crisis line, legal advocacy, emergency and long-term safety-planning, counseling, support groups and children's programs. These programs also provide prevention education in schools as well as training and education throughout the community. Community-based domestic and sexual violence programs intersect with many state systems, including the public health and public safety systems. These programs have built collaborations with law enforcement, healthcare providers, schools, the criminal justice system, social services agencies, and many other community partners.

\$16 million in long-term stable funding for ODSVS (\$10 million) and SHF (\$6 million) funding, administered by DOJ's Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division (CVSSD), will provide programs with the resources to further develop capacity and build a statewide infrastructure designed for sustainability and equity in meeting the needs of survivors. Continuation of this one-time funding is necessary to stabilize programs, meet the rising need for safety services, and offer wages designed to recruit and retain skilled workers and administrators.

Full funding of these services is essential to support crime victims and survivors in Oregon and the organizations and providers who serve them every single day of the year.

Sincerely,



Simon Fulford
Executive Director