

Dear Members of the Joint Ways and Means Committee,

My name is Lisa Li and I live in Beaverton.

**I urge you to renew Oregon's \$15 million Community Violence Intervention fund, administered by DOJ's Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division, in the budget.**

**Uplifting our most vulnerable and under-served with youth employment and job training programs lifts the whole community and makes us all safer from violence. Let's give our youth hope and skills!**

Last year, Oregon appropriated \$15 million to these services for the very first time, and we know there is already more demand than funding available. Funding is set to expire in 2024. If we want to reduce gun violence over the long term, we can't make a one-time investment; we have to make a sustained commitment to strategies we know work to reduce violence.

Grants support evidence-informed programs across the state of Oregon that address many different types of gun violence, from street-based outreach to reduce homicides in Multnomah County to veteran suicide prevention programs in Eastern and Southern Oregon.

Thank you for supporting these live-saving programs in the state budget.

Lisa Li, Beaverton