

Department of County Human Services



April 6, 2023

Senator Steiner, Co-Chair
Representative Sanchez, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
900 Court Street, NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Fully funding the Community Developmental Disabilities portion of the ODHS proposed budget.

Good afternoon, Co-Chair Campos, Co-Chair Valderrama, and Members of the Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to add testimony in support of the ODHS Community Developmental Disabilities Programs (CDDPS) portion of the budget.

I am Alexis Alberti, the Division Director of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities of County Human Services in Multnomah County. Community Developmental Disability Programs (CDDPs) provide case management services to individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) in all 36 counties of Oregon. In Multnomah County we provide services to 1/5th of the state's total population of eligible individuals, and we are in support of fully funding CDDPS. This will promote an increase in our ability to adequately support vulnerable individuals who experience intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. When Case Management Entities are fully funded:

- Client services are greatly improved.
- Case managers ability to monitor health and safety, services, connect individuals with appropriate supports, and community resources increases.
- There are expanded opportunities for clients to engage in community integration opportunities
- CDDPs are better able to connect individuals with (at times life saving) interventions like housing, in-home care services, and access to other critical services.
- The CDDPs ability to focus on prevention, rather than crisis management, and institutionalization is enhanced.
- Turnover is reduced when we can create greater workload balance and shows we're listening, being responsive and staying true to our commitment to client/families requests to improve customer services and continuity of relationships with case managers.
- CDDP's ability to provide culturally specific services (service equity plans, Knowledge Specific Assignments, and translation of forms etc..) is expanded as well.

Case Management Entities (Brokerage and Community Developmental Disabilities) provide essential case management services to individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and their families, in order to support choice, inclusion and full community access.

In their Agency Request Budget (ARB), ODHS included a Policy Option Package to fully fund these programs, recognizing the important role that CDDPs play in local communities. While this POP was not

included in the Governor's Budget, full funding for these programs remains critical. Full funding will allow us to better serve those with an Intellectual or Developmental Disability (I/DD). Thank you for your careful consideration of fully funding this budget. These decisions have real implications for client outcomes.

Thank you,

Alexis Alberti, Director of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Division
Multnomah County Department of County Human Services