

May 1, 2023

Dear Co-Chairs Girod and Holvey:

We are writing to express our support for Cascade AIDS Project's request of capital funding for their LGBTQ+ health center, Prism Health. As Prism partners and/or LGBTQ+ health advocates, we know that since the health center opened its doors in 2017, it has made a marked, positive impact on the local LGBTQ+ health landscape. Where once, many LGBTQ+ patients struggled to find an affirming provider, now, Prism provides over 1,500 patients with a safe, welcoming, and knowledgeable healthcare home. By rebuilding patients' trust in the healthcare system, the clinic is helping address the many health inequities LGBTQ+ Oregonians experience.

The funding that Cascade AIDS Project has requested will allow this good work to continue, by supporting the expansion of Prism Health to a second location in North Portland. The new location will enable Prism to serve up to 3,000 more patients—a significant increase in our community's capacity for LGBTQ+ culturally specific healthcare. Oregon prides itself on being LGBTQ-friendly, but to be truly supportive of its LGBTQ+ residents, the state must do more than wave the Pride flag; it needs to invest in LGBTQ+ equity. This project represents an opportunity to do just that, and we encourage you and your colleagues to support it.

Sincerely,



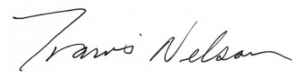
Sen. Kate Lieber



Rep. Rob Nosse



Rep. Dacia Grayber



Rep. Travis Nelson



Rep. Ben Bowman



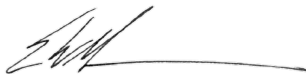
Rep. Farrah Chaichi



Multnomah County Chair Jessica Vega Pederson



Multnomah County Commissioner Susheela Jayapal



Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler

