

TO: Oregon Legislative House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care  
RE: HB 4151  
FROM: 4D Recovery  
DATE: February 5th, 2024

Dear Chair Nosse, Vice Chairs Nelson and Goodwin, and committee members,

4D Recovery supports House Bill 4151. We are well-positioned to see how a lack of youth expertise and service capacity limits the effectiveness of Oregon's behavioral health system.

4D Recovery currently employs 9 adolescent recovery mentors (peers) and 43 young adult recovery mentors. Collectively, our programs served 1100 clients last year in the tri-county area. Our clients report a lack of access to youth-centric services, with some of our adolescent clients being sent out of state for certain services.

To address gaps in our system, we are working with CareOregon and other partners to open substance use treatment services for adolescents and young adults. These services will include adolescent residential, outpatient, and co-occurring treatments, and outpatient substance use treatment and housing for young adults. We are also requesting capital funds from the Legislature.

While this is an exciting time for us, we are extremely worried about several barriers to success, including a high-quality workforce for our youth.

Our single recommendation is that activities of the bill coordinate with other legislative and state efforts to improve youth behavioral health services.

We sincerely appreciate the Legislature's service to our community and stand ready to help ensure Oregon's youth receive the care needed to thrive.

Respectfully,

Sara Barger  
Executive Manager and Policy Liaison  
4D Recovery