

February 12, 2024

To the House Interim Committee on Early Childhood and Human Services

We are writing in support of HB4086.

For over fifty years Parrott Creek Child & Family Services has supported some of our most vulnerable community members: low-income children and families involved in juvenile justice, child welfare, substance misuse and behavioral health systems from across Oregon.

The State's "systems of care" continue to be plagued by bureaucratic inefficiencies, service silos and wrongfully-interpreted and poorly-implemented administrative rules. While intended to protect and meet the needs of children and youth, this often leads to more systemic traumatization, not less.

We have faith that this bill will encourage consideration of a system that is more responsive to the needs of children, works to achieve better outcomes and which will incentivize caring, committed staff to stay with our agency longer. Well-supported, equitable and safe professional relationships are foundational to trauma-informed and culturally responsive delivery of care to young people.

This bill will support one of key values: the practice of unconditional positive regard.

Please support this important legislation today. Parrott Creek is committed to providing whatever expertise and input we can to make it successful.

Sincerely,



Simon Fulford
Executive Director

PS: Should you have any direct questions, please contact me on sfulford@pcreek.org or 971-280-6793.