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On Behalf Of:	DynamicChanges LLC
Committee:	Senate Committee On Human Services
Measure:	SB1557

SB 1557 with amendments -4 and -5 is a substantial step forward for improving accessibility, long-term individual wellness and personal growth effects, and long-term state cost savings when providing mental health services for youth and their families in need. The Community First Choice Option will apply to all qualifying for medical assistance without individual needs and means tests being applied. SB 1557 breaks down rigid bureaucratic barriers and simplifies the movement of funding dollars from funder to services. It invests services funds where returns are greatest -- developing resilience earlier in human development, and preempting destructive long-term potentials of severe early life challenges.

Oregon's creative potentials sometimes break through the public system inertia to achieve progress. This can be one of those times.

Please pass SB 1557 with -4 and -5.