

## **Derrick DeGroot, County Commissioner**

February 16, 2024

Oregon Senators Oregon Representatives Oregon Legislative Session Salem, Oregon

Re: 2024 Oregon Lottery Request: Klamath Crimson Rose (KCR) Construction Project

Oregon Legislators:

Klamath County's construction project is currently underway building a new residential treatment center for teenage clients from the Oregon Youth Authority. In order to complete the project, Klamath County is applying for \$3.6 million in Oregon Lottery funds. Please help.

Since 2015, KCR's mission has been residential rehabilitation treatment as an alternative to the correctional system. KCR's teen clients graduate to community placement instead of OYA Corrections. Construction currently underway will provide eight new residential treatment beds for initial client stabilization. These beds will be ready in mid-2025.

We need additional funding to build a planned eight bed home to provide transitional services. Often, clients who graduate KCR's initial stabilization program have no other placement options. The planned transitional home will provide support for clients continued behavioral and substance abuse treatment with the goal of integration into community-based services.

Oregon has an investment in this project. In the 2017 Session, SB 5530 provided the project with an initial grant of \$1 million in lottery funds. In the 2021 session, SB 5534 provided a \$12 million Oregon Lottery grant. Klamath County provided a \$1 million match in 2022. The 2023 Session, SB 5506 provided \$2 million to offset record high inflation. Construction is underway.

In Session 2024, Klamath County is applying for an Oregon Lottery grant of \$3.6 million to complete the transitional KCR residential treatment home. We ask that you champion the KCR project to complete the whole KCR residential treatment center for OYA teenagers.

The project is employing more than 100 workers in Klamath Falls. This ongoing project has enjoyed wide support from labor, The Klamath Tribes, Juvenile Court, the Oregon Youth Authority, and the Klamath County Board of County Commissioners. Your help is needed.

Thank you,

Derrick DeGroot Commissioner, Klamath County Board of Commissioners