



The Northwest Hub
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13 February 2024

Senator Fred Girod, Co Chair
Representative Paul Holvey, Co Chair
Joint Committee on Ways & Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction
900 Court Street NE
Salem OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Girod and Holvey and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Northwest Hub, I would like to voice my support for the funding of the Greater Woodburn Opportunity Center. This resource will bring 50 low-income housing units to the City of Woodburn, as well as wrap-around services to provide holistic answers to presenting needs for many in the Woodburn community and delivered through the Integrated Services Delivery Model.

Our nonprofit has had the privilege of working with the farmworking community over the past few years and we see both a determination to work and thrive, but also a need for the resources Woodburn Opportunity Center would provide.

Specifically, both housing and support services are critical for the greater Woodburn area: 13.7% of residents live in poverty. Per capita income in Woodburn is \$22,311, compared to \$35,393 statewide. Children under age 5 comprise 6.9% of the population, compared to 5.4% statewide. 54% of Woodburn residents speak a language other than English in their home, compared to 15% statewide. 70% of adults in Woodburn are high school graduates, compared to the 91% statewide.

In sum, I respectfully request that you approve funding for the Greater Woodburn Opportunity Center.

Kirk Seyfert
Executive Director
The Northwest Hub