



February 16, 2024

Support for Childcare at Marylhurst Campus

My name is Dani Rushing and I am the Director of Family and Community Connections at Clackamas County Children's Commission – also known as ClackCoKids.

We have an important opportunity to utilize the Mayer Arts Building located at the old Marylhurst Campus in Lake Oswego. Mercy Housing recently built a 100-unit affordable housing complex right behind this building. A second housing project is planned for 2025 and a third is the beginning phases of consideration, which shows the needs in this zip code are changing.

ClackCoKids is requesting one time funding of \$1,437,058 to make necessary renovations to create a licensable space for childcare in this building. At least 110 children could be served through Head Start/Early Head Start/OPK funds, ERDC subsidies, and fee-for-service care for families who do not qualify for subsidies but still need affordable childcare.

We would utilize the space as a “one stop shop location” for families to access WIC, SNAP, medical and dental care. The space could also provide a receiving home for children who are entering foster care and awaiting placements. Currently, these children are taken by DHS workers to local hotels, and we seek to create a more trauma-informed, home-like experience. We could also care for these vulnerable children during the day in our classrooms by reserving slots for these exact situations which could also help expedite foster care placements given that quality childcare would already be in place for a new resource family.

The building is owned by The Sisters of the Holy Names and they support these plans with a lease to ClackCoKids. They have funded an architect and have confirmed the design, timeline, and cost estimate but cannot fund the renovations. The timeline is 6 months to prepare the building to open its doors. This one-time funds request is needed immediately to impact the childcare and foster care crises. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Danielle S. Rushing

Danielle Rushing, Director of Family & Community Connections, danieller@clackcokids.org

16518 SE River Road
Milwaukie, OR 97267

Direct: (503) 675-4565
Fax: (503) 659-1559

www.clackcokids.org
Check us out!   



365 Warner Milne Rd, Suite 202
Oregon City, OR 97045
(503) 657-6644
www.clackamasworkforce.org

February 5, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

Clackamas Workforce Partnership (CWP) writes in strong support of the project to establish an early childhood center at the Mayer Arts Building in Marylhurst. This project addresses a critical need in our community and aligns perfectly with CWP's mission to foster a robust and skilled workforce for the future.

Investing in early childhood education offers a proven return on investment by:

- **Building a strong foundation for lifelong learning:** Studies consistently show that high-quality early childhood programs promote positive cognitive, social, and emotional development, leading to better academic performance, higher graduation rates, and increased career potential later in life.
- **Addressing workforce disparities:** Affordable, accessible childcare options are essential for parents seeking employment or pursuing education. This project would directly support Marylhurst Commons residents and the anticipated influx of families from nearby affordable housing developments, enabling parents to actively participate in the workforce.
- **Enhancing community well-being:** Early childhood education programs generate ripple effects throughout the community, fostering healthy families, reducing costs associated with crime and social services, and strengthening the overall economic well-being of the region.

This project's unique strengths further bolster its value:

- **Repurposing existing infrastructure:** Utilizing the Mayer Arts Building reduces construction costs and provides a sustainable approach to meeting community needs.
- **Comprehensive service delivery:** The proposed center serves a diverse range of children, encompassing Head Start programs, infant and toddler care, subsidized childcare, and potentially fostering connections with essential family support services.
- **Timely impact:** With classroom space being a major barrier for local Head Start programs, this project could offer immediate positive impact as early as this fall.

Given the compelling needs this project addresses and the long-term benefits it ensures, the CCWP urges you to provide necessary funding to realize this valuable initiative. Investing in our youngest residents is not just a moral imperative; it's a strategic investment in a brighter future for Clackamas County and its workforce.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Bridget Dazey, Executive Director, CWP



February 5, 2024

To the Members of the Oregon Legislative Assembly:

I am writing in support of a request for state investment in critically needed infrastructure to expand early learning opportunities in Clackamas County. The Clackamas County Children's Commission (ClackCoKids) is currently working with the Sisters of the Holy Names to transform the Mayer Arts Building, located on the former Marylhurst University campus, into a new early childhood center. Clackamas Education Service District strongly supports this effort as an opportunity to increase regional capacity to serve early learners.

The Sisters own the land, have already engaged with an architect, and a contractor to create plans and designs for the project. They are invested in using this building as an early childhood center. ClackCoKids has operational funding to provide services to at least 36 children ages 3-5 to participate in an Oregon Head Start program, as well as funding for an additional 16 infants and toddlers through an Early Head Start program. The space could serve an additional 110 children through either subsidized child care, preschool programs, or fee for service. The space could also serve as a place to house foster children awaiting foster care, and could serve as a central space for WIC, DHS, and other critical programs to families in need.

The need exists, as a 100-unit affordable housing complex - Marylhurst Commons - was recently constructed behind the Mayer Arts Building and two other affordable housing projects are anticipated nearby. Families could simply walk across the grass to the new early childhood center if this project is funded and completed.

Investing in these critical projects would not only provide classroom space for children this fall, but also for future generations. Facilities funding and classroom space is the most pressing need local Head Start programs face. We are excited with the development of this project and would greatly appreciate a state investment to make this dream a reality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Larry Didway". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "D".

Larry Didway
Superintendent

Lead, serve and innovate for learning.

(503) 675-4000

clackesd.org

13455 SE 97th Avenue, Clackamas, OR 97015

2/5/2024

To Whom It May Concern:

The Clackamas County Children's Commission (ClackCoKids) is working with the Sisters of the Holy Names to turn the Mayer Arts Building, located at the old Marylhurst University, into an early childhood center. The Sisters own the land, have already engaged with an architect, and a contractor to create plans and designs for the project. They are invested in using this building as an early childhood center. ClackCoKids has operational funding to provide services to at least 36 children ages 3-5 to participate in an Oregon Head Start program, as well as funding for an additional 16 infants and toddlers through an Early Head Start program. The space could serve an additional 110 children through either subsidized child care, preschool programs, or fee for service. The space could also serve as a place to house foster children awaiting foster care, and could serve as a central space for WIC, DHS, and other critical programs to families in need.

The need for early childhood and family support programming is high in Clackamas County. This area specifically has growing needs, as a 100-unit affordable housing complex - Marylhurst Commons, was recently constructed behind the Mayer Arts Building, and two other affordable housing projects are anticipated nearby. With many barriers to access removed, as families could simply walk across the grass to the new early childhood center if this project is funded and completed, I support this ask and encourage you to as well.

Investing in these critical projects could provide classroom space for children this fall, but also for future generations. Facilities funding and classroom space is the most pressing need local Head Start programs face. These investments are one-time investments and will have a significant impact that benefits communities and children. We are excited about the development of this project and would greatly appreciate a state investment to make this dream a reality.

Sincerely,



Dani Stamm Thomas
Director, ELHCC
dstammthomas@clackamas.us
(971) 288-8264



To Whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of the Lake Oswego School District to express our enthusiastic support for the legislative request made by the Clackamas County Children's Commission (ClackCoKids) to fund the renovation of the Mayer Arts Building at Marylhurst University. The proposal to transform this facility into an early childhood center for children and families aligns with our shared commitment to providing high-quality education and support to the youth and families in our community.

The collaboration between ClackCoKids and the Sisters of the Holy Names to repurpose the Mayer Arts Building is a visionary initiative that we wholeheartedly endorse. We believe that repurposing this building into an early childhood center holds immense potential to positively impact the lives of children and families in Clackamas County. ClackCoKids' operational funding to provide services for Oregon Head Start and Early Head Start programs, as well as the potential to serve additional children through various programs, is commendable. Moreover, the prospect of offering a safe haven for foster children awaiting foster care and serving as a central hub for vital programs such as WIC and DHS is of significant value to our community.

The timing of this initiative is particularly opportune, given the recent construction of the Marylhurst Commons affordable housing complex and the anticipation of more affordable housing projects in the vicinity. The proximity of the early childhood center to these housing developments would be a game-changer, allowing families easy access to high-quality childcare and early education services.

We recognize the pressing need for classroom space, especially for local Head Start programs. Investing in projects of this nature, which provide long-term benefits to both our communities and future generations, is a worthy cause. These one-time investments can pave the way for a brighter future for our children and families, ultimately strengthening our community as a whole.

We are genuinely excited about the potential of this project and sincerely hope that the state will consider the merits of supporting it. The creation of the early childhood center at the Mayer Arts Building would be a significant step towards improving the lives of children and families in Clackamas County.

Thank you for your dedication to this endeavor, and we look forward to witnessing the positive impact it will have on our community. If there is any further information or support needed from the Lake Oswego School District, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jennifer Schiele
Superintendent
Lake Oswego School District

February 5, 2024

Office of Representative Daniel Nguyen
House District 38
900 Court Street NE, H-488
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Letter of Support for Clackamas County Children's Commission

The Clackamas County Children's Commission (ClackCoKids) is working with the Sisters of the Holy Names to turn the Mayer Arts Building, located at the old Marylhurst University, into an early childhood center. The Sisters own the land, have already engaged with an architect, and a contractor to create plans and designs for the project. They are invested in using this building as an early childhood center. ClackCoKids has operational funding to provide services to at least 36 children ages 3-5 to participate in an Oregon Head Start program, as well as funding for an additional 16 infants and toddlers through an Early Head Start program. The space could serve an additional 110 children through either subsidized childcare, preschool programs, or fee for service. The space could also serve as a place to house foster children awaiting foster care, and could serve as a central space for WIC, DHS, and other critical programs to families in need.

The need exists, as a 100-unit affordable housing complex - Marylhurst Commons - was recently constructed behind the Mayer Arts Building and two other affordable housing projects are anticipated nearby. Families could simply walk across the grass to the new early childhood center if this project is funded and completed.

Investing in these critical projects could provide classroom space for children this fall, but also for future generations. Facilities funding and classroom space is the most pressing need local Head Start programs face. These investments are one-time investments and will have a significant impact that benefits communities and children. We are excited about the development of this project and would greatly appreciate a state investment to make this dream a reality.

Regards,



Philip Mason-Joyner
Director, Clackamas County Public Health Division

February 5, 2024

Dear Community Colleague,

Clackamas Community College and The Clackamas County Children's Commission (ClackCoKids) have a long, productive collaborative history together. ClackCoKids has several early learning classrooms on our Oregon City campus and they also host our Early Childhood Education (ECE) practicum students at their sites across Clackamas County. They help guide the continued development of our ECE program as their Executive Director, Darcee Kilsdonk, serves on our Advisory Committee.

ClackCoKids is working with the Sisters of the Holy Names to turn the Mayer Arts Building, located at the old Marylhurst University, into an early childhood center. The Sisters own the land, have already engaged with an architect, and a contractor to create plans and designs for the project. ClackCoKids has operational funding to provide services to at least 36 children ages 3-5 to participate in an Oregon Head Start program, as well as funding for an additional 16 infants and toddlers through and Early Head Start program. The space could serve an additional 110 children through either subsidized child care, preschool programs, or fee for service.

The need exists, as a 100-unit affordable housing complex - Marylhurst Commons - was recently constructed behind the Mayer Arts Building and two other affordable housing projects are anticipated nearby. Families could simply walk across the grass to the new early childhood center if this project is funded and completed. What a great opportunity to support the connection between affordable housing and quality, community early learning!

Investing in these critical projects could provide classroom space for children this fall, but also for future generations. Facilities funding and classroom space is the most pressing need local Head Start programs face. These investments are one-time investments and will have a significant impact that benefits communities and children.

We are excited to offer support to ClackCoKids to pursue this opportunity to expand services to our county's children and families.

Best regards,

Dawn Hendricks

Dr. Dawn Hendricks
Faculty, Early Childhood Education and Family Studies
Dawn.hendricks@clackamas.edu
503.679.0731

2023-25 CAPITAL FUNDING REQUEST

PROJECT INFORMATION FORM

Legislative Fiscal Office
900 Court St. NE, H-178
Salem, OR 97301



CONTACT INFORMATION FOR RECIPIENT ORGANIZATION

Legal Name _____

Organization Type _____ Federal Tax ID Number _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Contact Person _____

Contact Phone _____ Contact Email _____

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name _____

Project Description

Project Location _____

Project Schedule (Please describe the project's readiness, including planned start and end dates and any remaining permits, approvals, or other steps that must be completed prior to beginning.)

PROJECT BUDGET

Estimated Project Cost

Construction/Renovation	_____
Site Improvements	_____
Land Acquisition	_____
Architectural and Engineering Fees	_____
Equipment	_____
Contingencies	_____
Other Costs (specify) _____	_____
Other Costs (specify) _____	_____
Estimated Total Project Costs	_____

Amount Requested _____ **Percent of Total Project Cost** _____

Type of Funding Requested _____

Matching Funds

State Funds (source) _____	_____
Federal Funds (source) _____	_____
Private/Other Grants	_____
Donations/Gifts	_____
Other Revenues/Financing (source) _____	_____
Other Revenues/Financing (source) _____	_____
Total Matching Funds	_____

OTHER INFORMATION

Grants financed through the issuance of bonds are not available until bonds are sold. Multiple factors impact the timing of sales; however, many sales often occur during the last six months of the biennium (Oregon's biennial budget begins on July 1 of odd-numbered years and runs through June 30 of the next odd-numbered year). Significant decreases in revenues or changes in financial conditions subsequent to authorization may also delay or prevent the issuance of bonds, which means that the approved projects or grants would also be delayed or not funded.

Public works projects, including any project that uses \$750,000 or more of public funds for constructing, reconstructing, painting or performing a major renovation on a road, highway, building, structure or improvement of any type, may be subject prevailing wage requirements. Grant recipients must comply with prevailing wage rate laws and should consult the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries to determine whether a project is subject to prevailing wage.

Please return the completed form and any supporting documentation to:

Walt Campbell, Principal Legislative (Bonds) Analyst

walt.campbell@oregonlegislature.gov