Lucero Hugarte ^{Current Student}

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7 February 2025

Public Hearing Oregon State Legislature

Dear Legislative Body,

I always dreamed of pursuing an education but it was out of reach. I graduated High School, and never attended college. In fact, I did not attend because neither my family nor I could afford it. At 26 years old I have been lucky enough to have this opportunity.

The lovely people over at Mid-Willamete Valley Community Action made my dream, and that of many others come true. Their efforts, and time are often not praised enough. The work we all do as coaches, administrators, and students have been arduous. Our voices are echoing in the hearts of the children we get to teach, and who teach us in return because of this program.

The people and I in this group are diverse. We are the first of many who will bring great things to Early Childhood Education. We have great teachers, a College gracious enough to partner with MWCA, and a determination that will move our community into the next great steps. I would not be the Teacher I am today without all of these combined efforts.

I urge you to continue helping my community grow, and giving this gift of Education to as many people as possible. In true Teacher fashion, you never know when you'll be teaching the next Maria Montesorri, or Jean Piaget, or really anyone who goes beyond the greatest influences in our field. Our children's future deserve all the bright minds that could grace this program.

Sincerely,

Lucero Hugarte