

Submitter: Jessy Powell  
On Behalf Of: Children's Public Private Partnership  
Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB33

Hello, my name is Jessy Powell, and I am a parent mentor with Morrison and Child Family Services. I have been working alongside CP3 for the past two and a half years on the Keeping Families Together (KFT) pilot project here in Marion County. This project provides a model of supportive housing for individuals involved in the child welfare system.

The KFT model we are implementing in our community aims to support individuals at the onset of their involvement with child welfare, ensuring that their basic needs are met. Notably, this model is the first of its kind to include individuals with lived experience as part of the Advisory Committee that steers the Core Committee in decision-making.

Our Core Committee comprises several community partners, including Salem Housing, Marion County Housing, Marion County Behavioral Health, Archers Mid-Valley, Willamette Community Action, Catholic Community Services, Marion County Sheriff's Probation and Parole, and ODHS Child Welfare.

Over the past two years, CP3 has been a vital community partner, allowing us, with our lived experience, to align meaningfully with child welfare. One of the most significant impacts recently has been CP3 stepping up to provide stipends for individuals with lived experience, enabling us to continue our work in this space through their organization. They have taken on the responsibility of coordinating meetings, facilitating the Advisory Committee and Core Committee, and have even designated a strategic individual to assist us whenever needed. Without their support, our two years of work could have lost momentum in providing supportive housing to people involved with child welfare.

Additionally, CP3 does much more than just provide support for the KFT project. I have also worked with fathers and their children who have benefited from their transportation services, which provide free rides for parents to visit their children. This service has significantly impacted many families, allowing children to have safe and consistent interactions with their parents.

Sincerely Jessy Powell