#2025 CHILDREN'S



February 26, 2025

TO: Senate Committee On Early Childhood and Behavioral Health FROM: Ali King, on behalf of Our Children Oregon's Children's Agenda SUBJECT: Support for SB 1033

Chair Reynolds, Vice-Chair Anderson, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Ali King and I am the Policy and Advocacy Director for Our Children Oregon (OCO), a statewide organization that advances equitable policies, data and research, and whole-child advocacy. The Children's Agenda, convened annually by OCO, brings together more than 135 organizations statewide to create a holistic legislative agenda dedicated to improving the wellbeing of Oregon's children, youth, and families. **SB 1033 is included in the 2025 Children's Agenda and has strong and broad support from our partner organizations across Oregon.**

As a coalition of child and family advocates and policy experts, we have seen firsthand how nurse home visiting programs benefit children and families in Oregon. With the support of a Nurse-Family Partnership nurse, families experience better pregnancy outcomes, improved child health and development, and greater economic self-sufficiency. Parents, babies, families, and communities all benefit from these proven services.

NFP has operated in Oregon since 1999 and has served over 7,900 families. Requiring counties to match funding for Medicaid precludes many counties that are unable to put forward these dollars. Families in many parts of Oregon are therefore unable to access NFP services. Enabling the state to provide match funding to draw down Medicaid dollars for NFP home visiting services would allow for greater equity in access to beneficial home visiting services for families across Oregon. **Every \$1 invested in NFP saves \$6.10 in future costs for the highest-risk families served.**¹

We appreciate your commitment and dedication to the children and families of Oregon and **we urge you to support SB 1033.**

Sincerely,

Our Children Oregon

Nurse-Family Partnership

Black Parent Initiative

Children's Institute

Coalition of Local Health Officials

Next Up Action Fund

Oregon Association of Relief Nurseries

Oregon Association of Student Councils

Oregon Primary Care Association

Oregon School Nurses' Association

Oregon Sexual Assault Task Force

Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon

Prevent Child Abuse Oregon

Reach Out and Read NW

Southern Oregon Success

Urban League of Portland

Vision To Learn

View the 2025 Children's Agenda

¹ Miller, Ted R. PhD. Societal Return on Investment in Nurse-Family Partnership Services in Oregon. PIRE 2019.