



**Support Senate Bill 1033**  
**Senate Committee on Early Childhood and Behavioral Health**  
**February 26th, 2025**

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

My name is Arielle Hacker and I am the Strategic Initiatives Coordinator at Prevent Child Abuse Oregon—a statewide nonprofit dedicated to the prevention of child abuse and neglect through upstream, comprehensive, community-based prevention strategies. I respectfully submit this testimony in support of SB 1033, which would direct the state to provide the non-federal match funding necessary for Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) programs to receive the Medicaid funding they need to serve families.

Home visiting programs like NFP provide parents and caregivers with the critical tools, support, and knowledge to create safe home environments and establish a secure bond with their babies.<sup>1</sup> Research shows that high-quality home visiting programs like NFP lead to decreases in child maltreatment. A 15-year study of NFP found a **48% reduction in rates of substantiated reports of child abuse and neglect**<sup>2</sup> and a **56% reduction in ER visits due to accidents and poisonings**.<sup>3</sup> NFP has also resulted in children being 67% less likely to experience behavioral and intellectual challenges at age 6.<sup>4</sup>

NFP supports families by having registered nurses regularly visit first-time moms, beginning early during pregnancy and continuing until the child's second birthday.<sup>5</sup> Home visiting is a critical strategy to get families the support they need early, helping to avoid costly interventions later in life. Considering wider cost savings in areas like health care, child welfare, special education, and criminal justice, the anticipated return on investment in Oregon is \$6.10 for every dollar spent on NFP.<sup>6</sup>

NFP in Oregon depends on Medicaid to pay for services to families. Medicaid requires a non-federal match that has historically been covered by Oregon counties—unlike other evidence-based home visiting programs funded by state dollars without requiring a county match. Requiring counties to pay the Medicaid match threatens the sustainability of NFP, as the future of NFP in each county is dependent on local political will and resources. Counties that

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.casey.org/home-visiting-programs/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.casey.org/home-visiting-programs/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.nursefamilypartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Nurse-Family-Partnership-Overview-2.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.nursefamilypartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Nurse-Family-Partnership-Overview-2.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.nursefamilypartnership.org/about/>

<sup>6</sup> [https://www.nursefamilypartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/OR\\_2023State-Profile.pdf](https://www.nursefamilypartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/OR_2023State-Profile.pdf)

cannot pay the match funding are unable to implement an NFP program, creating health inequities throughout Oregon.

SB 1033 will allow NFP programs in Oregon greater sustainability in service provision and would lay the foundation for expanding to counties that do not currently have NFP, ultimately benefiting families, communities, and the state as a whole.

Further, PCA Oregon recognizes the importance of providing a menu of home visiting options for families. In addition to supporting SB 1033, we are also supporting legislation that funds a variety of evidence-based home visiting programs in our state. By supporting an array of options, we seek to ensure all families have access to these important resources when they need them and where they want to receive them.

PCA Oregon partners with over 40 community-based organizations, state agencies, and advocacy coalitions to actualize our vision for an Oregon where all kids and families are living happy and purposeful lives with hope for the future. **We urge you to join us in the important work of making this vision a reality by advancing SB 1033.**

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to Oregon's children and families.

Sincerely,

*Arielle Hacker*

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