

Submitter: Kevin Campbell  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Early Childhood and Behavioral Health  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB420

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

My name is Kevin Campbell and prior to my retirement, I had the honor of serving for 18 years as the CEO of Greater Oregon Behavioral Health, Inc. and 7 years as CEO of the Eastern Oregon CCO. Since that time, I have served as a volunteer Board Member of Prevent Child Abuse, Oregon. and as a Board Member of Dual Diagnosis Anonymous.

It is from these perspectives that I support passage of SB 420 and offer the following personal observations:

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the conducting of the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) study. The study demonstrated the lifelong consequences of childhood trauma, adversely impacting educational achievement, health and emotional status, and employment. [https://www.childhealthdata.org/docs/default-source/cahmi/aces-resource-packet\\_all-pages\\_12\\_06-16112336f3c0266255aab2ff00001023b1.pdf](https://www.childhealthdata.org/docs/default-source/cahmi/aces-resource-packet_all-pages_12_06-16112336f3c0266255aab2ff00001023b1.pdf)

We know that services are more effective when we meet people where they are, build on the strengths of the individual, their family, and their community, and develop trusting relationships to create community based Ecosystems of Care rather than focusing on deficits. Community based home visiting programs are a cost effective way to establish these trusting relationships and should be considered to be a foundational element to establishing ecosystems of care throughout Oregon.

<https://camdenhealth.org/what-are-ecosystems-of-care/>

Social Determinants of Health are threatened and becoming less affordable throughout Oregon, yet they are essential to our wellbeing.

[https://www.who.int/health-topics/social-determinants-of-health#tab=tab\\_1](https://www.who.int/health-topics/social-determinants-of-health#tab=tab_1)

With increased uncertainty of commitment to the future of Medicaid and other federal funding, We currently sit at a crossroads. Oregon has much to be proud of since the creation of the CCO's in 2012. We can not allow this work to be threatened by loss of funding from the top down when the strength and success of the CCO and other efforts to solve complex challenges has largely been from the local level up.

Continued and expanded investments in community based organizations such as Healthy Families Oregon is essential to demonstrating confidence in local prevention focused efforts to strengthen families, prevent childhood trauma, and establish resilience through trusting relationships.

Now is the time for Oregon to build on its strengths, focus on individuals, families, and communities to chart a path forward that funds prevention first and rewards communities for their innovative ways of assuring the better health and welfare of future generations of Oregonians and the communities in which they thrive. During times of uncertainty, it is best to invest in a journey to a better place than to sit and wait for the inevitable. This new Oregon Trail can be one that, in 30 years, demonstrates that Benjamin Franklin was correct when he said that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. If we have learned anything in the past 30 years, it is that paying for cure, through complex systems which usually are designed to resolving crises first, are very expensive. In this paradigm, we often find ourselves using only what is left after trying to respond to emergent need for prevention. If we indeed have less money than we are accustomed to working with, let us make a conscious effort to mobilize our communities, build on their pride and creativity, and challenge them to define, develop, and own a better place in thirty years which is built on the principles listed above.

Thank you for your time considering this very important matter and your service to all Oregonians.