



March 3, 2025

To: Chair Nosse, and Members of the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care

I am writing on behalf of Shangri-La to express our strong support for Oregon House Bill 3229. HB 3229 will streamline systems and allow quicker access to services for people experiencing mental illness.

Shangri-La provides behavioral health services through two outpatient mental health clinics and 8 (soon to be 10) Residential Treatment Homes (RTH) for individuals with Serious and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI) in Marion, Linn, Benton and Lane Counties. We serve hundreds of Oregonians with mental illness every year.

HB 3229 addresses several system barriers that behavioral health providers face by making changes to the Oregon Health Plan enrollment process. Specifically, HB 3229 will reduce barriers for providers to start new residential treatment homes and expand clinical capacity with licensed and unlicensed behavioral health professionals receiving credentials quicker. These improvements will result in RTHs opening their doors to Oregonians with SPMI faster, and licensed and unlicensed clinicians being able to start seeing clients sooner. Additionally, behavioral health providers will have less barriers to financial sustainability if we are able to actualize the revenue from these services sooner. All of this will help ensure that individuals who need mental health services can access them quickly and without unnecessary delays.

Please support House Bill 3229 and advocate for its passage. Thank you for your continued dedication to our state.

Sincerely,
Janet Yousey, CEO
Shangri-La

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