



March 20, 2025

Oregon State Legislature
Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Human Services
900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301
Submitted electronically via OLIS

RE: Senate Bill 5526

Co-Chair Campos, Co-Chair Valderrama and members of the Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Human Services:

My name is Adam Rodakowski, Director of Foster Care at Greater Oregon Behavioral Health, Inc. (GOBHI). GOBHI is a nonprofit behavioral health and social services organization serving the Eastern Oregon region and beyond. We manage the Oregon Health Plan Behavioral health and non-emergent medical transportation benefits on behalf of Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization (EOCCO) and facilitate community engagement through twelve Local Community Health Partnerships and one Community Advisory Council. We also deliver various services statewide, including Treatment Foster Care (TFC) supporting children in Child Welfare custody. For more information, visit: gobhi.org

Additionally, GOBHI facilitates the Foster Plus collaborative (www.fosterplus.org) and oversaw the implementation of Behavioral Health Treatment Foster Care (BH-TFC) Pilot funded by Senate Bill 1 (2019), which included providers of Treatment Foster Care Oregon (TFCO). I am writing today to request your support for increased investment in TFCO, an evidence-based program that transforms the lives of youth with complex needs. This model has been delivering exceptional outcomes for over 30 years.

Since the investment by the legislature in 2019, TFCO has served 156 high-acuity children and trained 58 treatment resource families. Since 2023, TFCO has successfully expanded from one provider to three:

- Youth Unlimited – serving youth of color and families in the Portland Metro Region.
- Family Solutions – serving rural and semi-rural communities in Jackson & Josephine Counties. and

Greater Oregon Behavioral Health, Inc.

- Oregon Community Programs – serving Lane & Douglas Counties, including the QUEST team specializing in LGBTQIA2+ youth.

An additional \$2.06 million investment will:

- **Expand the number of TFCO providers in Oregon.**
- **Increase the number of youth served by adding 15 additional treatment foster homes.**
- **Offer training and consultation to agencies implementing TFCO.**
- **Ensure youth receive individualized, culturally responsive, and trauma-informed care in family settings.**

Investing in TFCO means:

- More children served in stable, loving homes.
- Stronger recruitment and retention of treatment foster families.
- Community-based organizations can grow their impact and support under-resourced communities.

By funding this expansion, you are ensuring that more Oregon youth in crisis have the opportunity to heal and thrive in a supportive family environment.

Respectfully,



Adam Rodakowski, MSW

Director of Foster Care

Greater Oregon Behavioral Health, Inc. (GOBHI)

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