



Oregon
Community
Brokerages

April 3, 2025

To: Chair Campos, Chair Valderrama, Joint Committee Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Services

From: Katie Rose, Executive Director, Oregon Community Brokerages

Re: Support for IDD Case Management Funding in the SB 5526 Oregon Department of Human Services Budget Bill

Chair Campos, Chair Valderrama, and members of the committee,

My name is Katie Rose, and I am the Executive Director of Oregon Community Brokerages. We are a statewide organization comprised of the 14 Support Service Brokerages across Oregon. Brokerages provide case management services to adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities living in their own or family homes in every community throughout the state. We connect people to what matters to them and support them to make the important decisions and choices that shape lives.

Oregon Community Brokerages is also a member of the Oregon Developmental Disabilities Coalition, a collection of advocate organizations and individuals that come together to further our shared values of self-determination for all Oregonians with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

Each of these collective organizations supports increased funding for Case Management services for people with IDD. Nearly 8,000 adult Oregonians receive case management from Support Services Brokerages. People in services depend on Brokerage staff to navigate alongside them to find resources and direct support needed to help when they lose housing or need medical care, to build their lives by finding jobs and meeting new people, and to provide an extra layer of support to interact successfully with law enforcement, hospitals, and other community resources.

Brokerage staff have over 20 years of experience supporting thousands of Personal Support Workers (PSWs) statewide to solve payment issues and get what they need to do their jobs. We also work directly with provider agency staff, called Direct Support Professionals, to ensure that the work they are doing is meeting the needs and goals of the people we serve. The ecosystem of IDD services relies on the continuous support of the case management workforce.

Our agencies and staff work and often live in the same communities as the people we serve. This first-hand knowledge of resources and connections benefits people with disabilities, and it can only be accomplished by paying our 400 staff a living wage statewide.

Cost of living is rising all over, but the percentage that Brokerages and CDDPs are funded to provide case management services has remained largely the same over the past few biennia. Based on the numbers included in the Agency Request Budget for the 2025-2027 biennium, we anticipate that approximately \$38 million GF would bring these programs to full funding when combined with the estimated \$50-55 million in federal Medicaid match. Final budgetary numbers will be presented to the Legislature by ODDS in the coming weeks with updates from the Spring caseload forecast.

We ask you to commit additional funding to IDD case management services, to protect and strengthen these agencies that mean so much to so many Oregonians.

Thank you for your time and consideration.