To: Chairs Valderrama & Campos, and Members of the Committee

From: Victoria Hansen, Tumalo, Oregon

Re: Support for Oregon's Regional Family Networks—Especially CODSN

**Date: April 2, 2025** 

Dear Chairs Valderrama & Campos and Members of the Committee,

My name is Victoria Hansen, and I am writing today to share my support for Oregon's Regional Family Networks—especially Central Oregon Disability Support Network (CODSN).

As a young adult with a Down syndrome, CODSN has played a huge role in my life. They have provided me with learning opportunities, connections, and resources as I've navigated the transition to adulthood. From helping me build confidence to making sure I have access to information that matters, CODSN has always been there.

I'm proud to share that I'm now in my second year of culinary school at Central Oregon Community College. When I graduate, I will be a chef, and one day I hope to own my own restaurant. CODSN has been a big part of helping me work toward those goals—by encouraging me, supporting my dreams, and making sure I know that living a full, independent life is possible.

They didn't just give me resources—they believed in me.

That's why I now volunteer my time back to CODSN, helping other youth and families who are walking a similar path. Giving back to an organization that gave me so much feels like the right thing to do, and I'm proud to be part of something that makes such a difference in our community.

CODSN doesn't turn people away. They support anyone who needs help, no matter their diagnosis or where they live in our region. For people like me and families like mine, that makes all the difference. They give us hope when we need it most.

Please continue to fund and support Regional Family Networks like CODSN. Young people like me are counting on it—and thanks to them, we have a future full of possibility.

Sincerely,

Victoria Hansen, Tumalo, Oregon

VICTORIA HASSEN

Culinary Student, COCC

Youth Participant & Volunteer, CODSN Family Network