

To: Chairs Valderrama & Campos, and Members of the Committee
From: Alina Bradbury, CODSN Board member, Special Education Teacher at Lake ESD
Re: Testimony in Support of Regional Family Networks—Specifically CODSN
Date: 04/02/2025

Regional Family Networks Change Lives—And Save Oregon Money

I am writing in strong support of Oregon’s Regional Family Networks and to highlight the life-changing impact of the **Central Oregon Disability Support Network (CODSN)**—the Regional Family Network serving Crook, Deschutes, Grant, Harney, Jefferson, Lake, Klamath, and Wheeler counties.

CODSN is a trusted, **family-led** organization supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families across Central and Eastern Oregon. From the Warm Springs Reservation to remote Harney County, CODSN ensures families receive not only information—but genuine connection, advocacy, and culturally responsive support.

In the 2023–2024 year alone, CODSN:

- Provided **resources and support to 3,655 families**
- Reached **16,257 attendees** through **228 trainings and events**
- Activated **109 community partners** to improve access and inclusion

In communities where families face deep systemic barriers—fragmented services, inaccessible education, and gaps in youth mental health—CODSN steps in to:

- Offer **culturally and linguistically relevant support**, including multiple Spanish-language groups
- Build inclusive, accessible spaces through **sensory-friendly movie nights, resource fairs**, and emergency preparedness events
- Provide **disability awareness education** to schools, healthcare providers, and local governments
- Deliver **family-driven advocacy** in over **150 statewide and regional committee meetings**

Regional Family Networks like CODSN create lasting change. They improve outcomes, reduce family isolation, and help Oregon save money by preventing crisis and reducing system strain. These networks are smart investments—and critical supports for thousands of Oregon families.

We urge you to continue and expand funding for Oregon’s Regional Family Networks. Our communities need them now more than ever.

How CODSN Has Impacted Me / My Family / My Organization:

CODSN has been a major resource for our rural families of children/adults with disabilities. They have supported our county by providing workshops specific to special education, hosted several functions for the community and advocate for school based needs. CODSN is a valuable resource to our community. I decided to be a board member to be a contact person for Lakeview and to help establish CODSN's presence in our community. We live in an area where recourses like CODSN is valued because our population usually has to travel to Klamath Falls or Bend to get services for our children who are disabled or need additional supports. This non profit group has been providing resources and services mostly through volunteers in all communities and go above and beyond to help communities. They have been well established and a trusted source for several years. It would be a loss to all communities if funding for this went away. The CODSN group met recently and brainstormed ways to replace federal/state funding should it disappear, but as a non profit, it relies on other sources. Please consider what a huge loss this would be for all of the counties CODSN covers. Many families will be directly affected.

Learn more at: www.codsn.org