

**To: Chairs Valderrama & Campos, and Members of the Committee**  
**From: Dianna Hansen, Central Oregon Disability Support Network (CODSN)**  
**Re: Testimony in Support of Oregon's Regional Family Networks**  
**Date: April 3, 2025**

## **Regional Family Networks Change Lives—And Save Oregon Money**

On behalf of the Central Oregon Disability Support Network (CODSN), we are honored to submit testimony in strong support of Oregon's Regional Family Networks.

CODSN began as a **grassroots movement in 2004**, founded **by families, for families**. In 2012, we became one of the **first officially funded Family Networks in Oregon**—a designation that allowed us to expand and deepen the critical support we offer to families across our region.

We proudly serve Crook, Deschutes, Grant, Harney, Jefferson, Lake, Klamath, and Wheeler counties—including the Warm Springs Reservation and many rural and frontier communities. We are a **trusted, family-led organization** supporting individuals with **disabilities** and their families—many of whom would otherwise have nowhere to turn.

We meet families where they are—and **we never turn anyone away based on diagnosis or location. If a family or individual needs support, we show up for them. Period.** Whether families are facing a new diagnosis, navigating school systems, experiencing isolation, or working through a crisis, CODSN provides what they need most: **hope, connection, and a clear path forward.**

In communities where no other services exist, CODSN fills the gaps. We:

- Offer **culturally and linguistically relevant support**, including multiple Spanish-language support groups
- Create **inclusive spaces** for families through sensory-friendly events, **resource fairs**, and emergency preparedness trainings
- Provide **disability awareness and education** to schools, healthcare staff, and local government
- Amplify **family voice** in over 150 statewide and regional meetings each year

### **2023–2024 Impact:**

- **3,655 families** received direct support
- **16,257 individuals** attended 228 trainings and events
- **109 community partners** were activated to support change

Families in our region are incredibly resilient—but they should not have to do this alone. Regional Family Networks like CODSN are often the **only** consistent, accessible support system in under-resourced areas. The return on investment is clear: we reduce crises, strengthen families, and build healthier communities—while helping the state avoid more costly interventions.

We respectfully urge you to protect and expand funding for Oregon's Regional Family Networks. Our families—and the future of inclusive communities—depend on it.

Sincerely,

*Dianna J. Hansen*

Dianna J. Hansen, Co-founder and Executive Director  
**Central Oregon Disability Support Network (CODSN)**

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