

Support for Senate Bill 1015

I have volunteered my time and experience alongside law enforcement and organizations who provide local and often lived experience workers who get out into the community in various types of programs, such as those that support youth with mentoring and guidance through to municipal groups and faith-based groups that meet people in hospitals and where they are to advocate for physical and mental health and well-being and grief support.

The bonds that are created, must be continued. The bonds include the ability to de-escalate, to talk the talk and on to walking along with those who have victimized themselves or were victimized is valuable for funding. Keeping youth out of harm's way and out of the jail and prison system is essential for our communities. Helping those recently released from prison matters.

The beneficial impact grants for violence prevention services provides for communities of color is worth prioritizing right now. We need to continue doing what we see is working. We need to dig into what we care about – strong, resilience Oregon neighborhoods and people who need services to belong well.

Please support Senate Bill 1015 in this 2025 legislative session. We must look forward toward structure and practice that keeps funds for violence prevention services.

~Maripat Hensel, 97070