**County Commissioners** Danielle Bethell, Chair Colm Willis, Vice Chair Kevin Cameron



**Chief Administrative Officer** Jan Fritz

Administrator Ryan Matthews

## MARION COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Co-Chair Leiber, Co-Chair Sanchez, and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

My name is Karin Perkins, and I am the Intellectual and Developmental Disability (I/DD) Program Manager at Marion County CDDP. One of the primary responsibilities of my organization is to provide case management services to individuals who experience an Intellectual or Developmental Disability.

Case managers for an individual with an I/DD are a lifeline - they help connect people to vital services like housing, healthcare, and transportation. And in the event of an emergency, case managers ensure individuals are able to evacuate and find a safe place to go.

Our programs are funded through the Oregon Department of Human Services. Over the past few years, our funding level has remained flat at roughly 86% of what would be considered full funding. This is less than what APD has historically received. It would be beneficial for us to reach the same levels of funding that their division has been appropriated. Unfortunately, our underfunding combined with a significant increase in enrollment has led to high caseloads and rapid turnover of Case Management staff at Marion County CDDP. With caseloads reaching as high as 1:75 we have struggled to provide the high-quality case management services that individuals within our community need and deserve.

We are partnering with the Brokerages this session to restore these programs to 100% of full funding. Such investment would draw down significant federal match and will help solve many of the staffing issues that our programs are experiencing across the state.

We urge you to support this request!

Sincerely, Laning Pering

Karin Perkins, Program Manager Marion County CDDP **County Commissioners** Danielle Bethell, Chair Colm Willis, Vice Chair Kevin Cameron



**Chief Administrative Officer** Jan Fritz

Administrator Ryan Matthews