Dear Co Chairs Sanchez and Lieber, Vice Chairs and Members of Joint Ways and Means:

It is my pleasure to write this letter on behalf of the Mano a Mano Family Center in support of a $20
million capital construction allocation for the Greater Woodburn Opportunity Center (GWOC) .
Mano a Mano Family Center (Mano a Mano) works to promote Hope (resilience) and reduce toxic
stress, as a method of helping the families we serve to remain strong. We are based in Salem, but serve
about 3,000 families throughout Marion and Polk Counties. About 100 families a year are from the
Woodburn area.

Mano a Mano is pleased to support the GWOC, a multicultural and intergenerational community
gathering space hosting a family stability resource center, public and private events, and spiritual
renewal, to be located on eight acres of land in Woodburn.

Mano a Mano has been aware of the development of GWOC, for the last few years. Safe and welcoming
community spaces are sorely needed everywhere in Oregon, and particularly in rural and growing
communities, such as Woodburn. The recent growth of in the area where this project will be located
makes it reasonable to create such as space, right in an area with so many growing families.
We are particularly thankful for the work of Immanuel Lutheran Church, and others involved in the
development stage, in listening to representatives of the grassroots community about the needs, and
components that may be useful to serve the families in that area.

Mano a Mano is looking forward to help neighborhood families by coordinating, or assisting other
partners with, wraparound supportive services that may include, food assistance,

information and
referral, navigation assistance to access concrete supports in times of need, family programming, and
cultural and community celebrations.

Thank you for considering support of this exciting project for the Woodburn community.