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HB 5006 Testimony

Co-Chairs Senator Lieber and Representative Sanchez, as well as members of the Ways and Means Committee, my name is Michael Rivera. I represent Transformations Wellness Center, a non-profit, 25-bed residential substance abuse treatment facility here in Klamath County. We fully support HB 5006.

We are more than just a local program. While we're based in southern Oregon, our impact reaches far beyond our county lines. We serve individuals from all over the state—from urban centers to rural communities—because the need is dire in Oregon.

Unfortunately, Oregon consistently ranks among the worst in the nation when it comes to access to addiction treatment. People are suffering. Families are being torn apart. And the demand for residential treatment continues to outpace the resources available. Every week, we receive calls from people desperate for help, but too often, we have to tell them we don't have the space. Even more troubling, we currently have no on-site detox services, which means many individuals never even get to step through our doors.

That's why we're building a new facility that will double our capacity and, for the first time, add a medically managed detoxification program to our services. This new center will be a turning point—not just for Transformations Wellness Center but for many Oregonians each year who need a safe, supportive path to recovery.

We are seeking **3.5 million dollars in state support** to help complete the construction and launch of this new facility. This investment will directly expand access to critical, life-saving care. With your help, we will be able to serve more people, offer a full continuum of care, and reduce the burden on emergency rooms, law enforcement, and the justice system.

Our program changes lives. We see clients who come to us at rock bottom — addicted, broken, and without hope — and we watch them leave with tools, confidence, and a future. This is more than about recovery. It's about restoring lives, reuniting families, and rebuilding communities across Oregon.

We would be honored to have your support in making this project a reality. This isn't just a building—it's a second chance. With your support, we can open the door for hundreds more Oregonians who are ready to walk through it. We welcome the opportunity to provide additional details or connect with your staff on the next steps. Thank you again for your leadership and for standing with us in the fight to bring real recovery to the people of Oregon.

Respectfully, Michael Rivera

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