



May 7th, 2025

Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital Construction
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Letter of Support for antkwak Early Learning Center in Hillsboro

Dear Co-Chairs Girod and Nosse and Members of the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital Construction,

On behalf of Adelante Mujeres, I am writing to urge your consideration of the \$2 million capital project request for the antkwak Early Learning Center project, led by the Northwest Regional Education Service District.

Since our founding in 2002, Adelante Mujeres has been dedicated to serving and empowering Latine women and their families. We currently operate 11 public, early childhood classrooms to support over 100 immigrant children to address prevailing educational disparities in Washington County. Our bilingual program teaches early literacy skills and builds kindergarten readiness.

Latine families, and particularly immigrant mothers, often face systemic barriers to accessing child care, special education services, and early learning environments where they feel safe, welcomed, and seen. This new center is designed specifically to break down those barriers by integrating preschool, child care, early intervention, and family coaching under one roof. It will allow us to expand our culturally and linguistically appropriate programming in a way we simply cannot do in our current spaces.

We know firsthand how early learning transforms lives—not just for children, but for whole families and communities. When children have access to safe, high-quality early education, and when their parents are supported and engaged, the ripple effects last a lifetime.

Adelante Mujeres is proud to be a part of this vision, and we hope the State of Oregon will stand with us by investing in this project's final phase. We believe that funding this capital request is not only fiscally responsible—given the project's status as 90% funded—it is morally urgent. It represents a commitment to equity, to children, and to Oregon's future.

Thank you for your time, and for your service to our communities.

Sincerely,

Bridget Cooke
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bridget Cooke". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Adelante Mujeres
bcooke@adelantemujeres.org
(503)992-0078