



March 28, 2025

Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Co-Chair Lieber and Co-Chair Sanchez

Re: Support for Reappropriation Request for the Lane County Behavioral Health
Stabilization Center

Dear Co-Chair Lieber and Co-Chair Sanchez,

I am writing, on behalf of Oregon Family Support Network, which is the statewide Family Run Organization (FRO) in Oregon and the state chapter of the National Federation of Families. Our mission is to support families raising children/youth experiencing mental health, behavioral health or other complex health needs through family peer support, training and advocacy.

On behalf of the 9000 families that we serve each year, we support Lane County's 25-27 Capital Project Funding request for the Lane County Behavioral Health Stabilization Center.

The Behavioral Health Stabilization Center is a critical initiative that will address urgent community needs and give support to families that have no other place to take their youth but to the emergency room where they are often 'housed' for long period of time or simply turned away. The facility will provide 24-hour urgent care for individuals experiencing acute-level behavioral health crises, with dedicated units for adult and youth behavioral health supervision, intensive substance abuse treatment, and post-acute care services.

This comprehensive approach will reduce strain on emergency departments and offer life-saving support for youth and their families.

Additionally, Lane County has engaged in a private/public partnership with PeaceHealth to co-locate the Stabilization Center with their planned behavioral health unit, Timber Springs.



Timber Springs Behavioral Health Hospital will feature a 96-bed inpatient unit providing comprehensive services for adolescent, adult, and geriatric patients, as well as intensive outpatient treatment. These co-located facilities will provide convenient access to individuals experiencing a behavioral health emergency.

Our Lane County families need you to expedite the implementation of this critical service, addressing the growing crises of youth homelessness, addiction, death by suicide and mental health challenges.

Sincerely,

Tammi S. Paul
Executive Director