



March 28, 2025

Senator Kate Lieber, Co-Chair
Representative Tawna Sanchez, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Oregon Legislative Assembly
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

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

Co-Chair Lieber, Co-Chair Sanchez and Members of the Joint Committee:

The PacificSource companies are independent, not-for-profit health insurance providers based in Springfield, Oregon. We serve over 600,000 commercial, Medicaid, and Medicare Advantage members. PacificSource Community Solutions is the contracted coordinated care organization (CCO) in Central Oregon, the Columbia River Gorge, Marion & Polk Counties, and Lane County. Our mission is to provide better health, better care, and better value to the people and communities we serve.

We write to ask the committee support Lane County's 2025-2027 Capital Project Funding request for the Lane County Behavioral Health Stabilization Center. This center, currently under development in a location in Springfield, is a unique public-private partnership addressing one of Oregon's most pressing issues – the persistent lack of bed capacity for individuals in need of behavioral health treatment. In June 2024, the Oregon Health Authority estimated that the state needed up to 3,700 adult mental health and substance use treatment beds to close existing gaps in capacity. The planned stabilization center will have the added effect of offsetting demand for existing inpatient services in the region, thus increasing overall capacity.

We understand that the stabilization center team remains committed to collaborating with partners and community members that has brought the project this far and is looking forward to resuming meaningful engagement with partners to guide next steps of the project.

Thank you again for the opportunity to offer our support for this project. Please do not hesitate to contact me at richard.blackwell@pacificsource.com or (541) 284-7736 if you have questions or need any follow-up information.

Sincerely,

/s

Richard Y. Blackwell
Director, Oregon Government Relations