

LISA REYNOLDS, MD
STATE SENATOR
District 17



OREGON STATE SENATE

Joint Ways & Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction
May 9th, 2025
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301
Hearing Room F

Co-Chairs Girod and Nosse and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong support of the Dougy Center West request for \$2.1 million dollars to fund 17% of the total project cost of opening a new center serving grieving children & families on Portland's west side and in Washington County.

Dougy Center does critical work supporting children and families who are experiencing the death of a loved one and need help navigating the grief that follows. As a pediatrician, I know how important it is for our youngest Oregonians to have access to mental health and counseling services – and I also know that children are not simply little adults. Their brains are different, their needs are different, and the counseling and grief support services they receive must be tailored to those needs. The Dougy Center has been meeting those needs for over 40 years, but are working to be able to serve more families in a wider geographic area.

The Dougy Center has already acquired a 14,000 square foot facility in Beaverton to expand to the west side, and is in the middle of a capital campaign to complete the necessary improvements and renovations to both the east and westside facilities. They anticipate matching a \$2.1 million investment from the State with \$2.5 million in other grants and over \$7.9 million in donations and gifts for a total match of \$10.47 million.

I urge your support of this critical investment – investing in our children, our families, and our communities. Navigating death and grief is difficult for anyone – but especially for children. Let's give them the best resources available to support them. Let's be a light in dark times.

Sincerely,

Senator Lisa Reynolds, MD
Senate District 17

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