



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

March 13, 2006

The Honorable Peter Courtney, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Karen Minnis, Co-Chair  
State Emergency Board  
900 Court St, NE  
H-178 State Capitol  
Salem, OR 97301-4048

## Department of Human Services

Office of the Director  
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Salem, OR 97301-1097  
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RE: Strengthening Treatment Access and Retention – State Implementation  
Cooperative Agreements (STAR-SI)

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

### NATURE OF THE REQUEST

The Department of Human Services (DHS), Health Cluster, Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS), is requesting retroactive approval to apply for funds up to \$325,000 per year for up to three years. The Emergency Board was alerted on February 16, 2006, of our intent to seek approval for this grant entitled “Strengthening Treatment Access and Retention – State Implementation Cooperative Agreements (STAR-SI)”. The grant application is due on March 24, 2006. The expected start date of the grant is September 30, 2006, subject to Emergency Board approval. This grant requires no state matching funds.

The grant will be used to improve state and treatment agency level organizational processes that impact client access to and retention in outpatient substance abuse treatment services; implement process improvement methods through peer-to-peer learning networks; and implement performance management tracking systems to track progress and provide feedback to participating treatment providers. The department is requesting approval to apply for federal grant funds.

### AGENCY ACTION

This grant supports the department’s mission by assisting people to be healthy. The department, through the Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services, administers addiction treatment services throughout Oregon. This grant provides an opportunity for OMHAS to enhance technical assistance, process and service

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An Equal Opportunity Employer



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improvement efforts that lead to better treatment outcomes. The purpose of this grant is to assist treatment providers in implementing process improvements that result in more effective business and clinical practices. Approximately 20% of the grant, or \$65,000, will be used to evaluate the project. The grant is not designed to support direct client services. Objective measures to be analyzed as part of this project include improved access and retention in substance abuse treatment. The department will carry out the activities associated with this project through contracts with independent consultants and an outside evaluator. Existing department employees will be assigned to oversee implementation and coordinate the project.

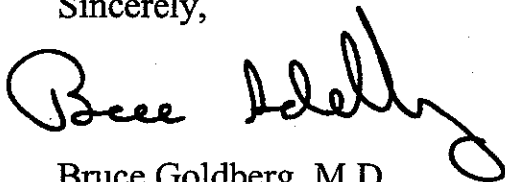
### **ACTION REQUESTED**

The Department of Human Services, Health Cluster, Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services is requesting retroactive approval to submit a proposal and accept grant funds that may be awarded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment. Cost sharing is not required in this program. If awarded this grant, the department will return to the Emergency Board for any necessary expenditure limitation.

### **LEGISLATION AFFECTED**

None.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Goldberg", written in a cursive style.

Bruce Goldberg, M.D.  
Director