



TO: OHA & Community Review Board for 039-OHSU-Legacy HMCO Transaction  
From: Family Forward Oregon  
Date: March 28, 2025

Dear OHA & Members of the Community Review Board,

We are writing to express our support for the Community First Campaign's initiative to ensure that the charitable assets from the proposed combination of Legacy Health and OHSU are governed in a way that is truly community-led and equity-centered.

Family Forward Oregon is an organization that fights for racial, gender, and economic justice in Oregon. We have been actively working to pass health equity and care equity policies since the 2015 legislative session through our sister organization, Family Forward Action.

Family Forward Oregon opposes Legacy's [current proposal](#). We perceive them as not adequately addressing the needs of marginalized communities and as perpetuating systemic inequalities. We wholeheartedly believe the proposed plan would ignore the unique challenges faced by BIPOC families, & fail to address the root causes of health disparities.

As an organization, Family Forward Oregon is committed to advancing equity and addressing the systemic issues and policies that affect entire communities. We believe that any foundation (or foundations) that receives these resources must address the historical and contemporary injustices that have led to health inequities in our region.

We support the Community First Campaign's recommendations for a community-led governance structure, a commitment to equity, accountability, transparency, and time for community feedback. We also agree that the State of Oregon should keep a steady watch on any foundation that gets these resources for the first 3-5 years to ensure they don't stray from their promises.

We believe that this initiative is a crucial moment to establish a transparent, accountable process that prioritizes the voices of those most impacted by health disparities. We hope that you will join us in taking concrete steps to ensure that this historic opportunity can be a transformative force to advance health in Oregon.

Sincerely,

Candice R. Vickers, MEd, MSSE  
Executive Director,  
Family Forward Oregon  
Family Forward Action  
and The Mother PAC