



McKenzie-Willamette
MEDICAL CENTER

To Whom It May Concern:

McKenzie-Willamette Medical Center is committed to providing comprehensive healthcare services to Lane County and surrounding communities. Our hospital offers critical care and specialized services in cardiology, pulmonology, vascular medicine, neurology, orthopedics, wound care, and more.

Oregon is currently facing an unprecedented behavioral health crisis. Nearly one in three adults experience mental illness, and the state ranks 51st nationally for both prevalence of mental illness and access to care. Lane County reports some of the highest rates of psychiatric needs within Oregon.

As a hospital that frequently cares for individuals presenting for behavioral health treatment and refers adult and adolescent patients presenting to our emergency department for inpatient psychiatric care to other facilities, we strongly recognize the urgent need for additional adult and adolescent inpatient psychiatric beds in our region.

The co-location of Timber Springs Behavioral Health Hospital alongside the Lane County Crisis Stabilization Center in Springfield, Oregon will provide significant benefits, including:

- Reducing emergency department boarding for adults, youth and adolescents
- Relieving strain on hospital capacity by supporting first responders with reliable, clinical alternatives for individuals in crisis
- Offering 24/7 access to outpatient and inpatient behavioral health services currently unavailable in our area
- Allowing individuals to remain closer to home for treatment and recovery
- Lowering system-wide costs

The development of Timber Springs inpatient psychiatric hospital and the Lane County Crisis Stabilization Center represents a critical step toward creating a coordinated and sustainable behavioral health system. This campus model will deliver care with dignity, respect, and timeliness—ultimately improving access and saving lives.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this recommendation and express our strong support for this initiative.

Sincerely,

Greg Brentano

Interim CEO
McKenzie-Willamette Medical Center