



January 23, 2025

Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Co-Chair Lieber and Co-Chair Sanchez

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

Dear Co-Chair Lieber and Co-Chair Sanchez,

Trillium Community Health Plan (Trillium) is pleased to provide this letter of support for Lane County's request to reappropriate funds in the 2025 early session rebalance bill to close the capital gap for the Lane County Behavioral Health Stabilization Center.

As a coordinated care organization serving over 100,000 Oregon Health Plan members in Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington, Lane and Western Douglas counties, Trillium partners with an extensive group of physical, behavioral, and oral healthcare providers and community-based organizations to connect our members to culturally responsive care, advance health equity, and transform the health of the communities we serve. The Behavioral Health Stabilization Center is a critical initiative that will address critical community needs. The facility will provide 24-hour urgent care for individuals experiencing acute-level behavioral health crises, with dedicated units for adult and youth behavioral health supervision, intensive substance abuse treatment, and post-acute care services. This comprehensive approach will reduce strain on emergency departments and offer life-changing support to adults and youth in need.

Based on data from stabilization centers across the country, we know that this is a highly effective way to deliver crisis assessment and walk-in services to community members in need of immediate support. Crisis stabilization centers offer a community alternative to those delivered in busy emergency departments that must constantly triage a myriad of patient needs. Not only does receiving services through crisis stabilization increase patient satisfaction, but evidence suggests that crisis stabilization centers decrease related avoidable costs to communities.

Lane County has engaged in a private/public partnership with PeaceHealth to co-locate the Stabilization Center with their planned behavioral health unit, Timber Springs. Timber Springs Behavioral Health Hospital will feature a 96-bed inpatient unit providing comprehensive services for adolescent, adult, and geriatric patients, as well as intensive outpatient treatment. These co-located facilities will provide convenient access to individuals experiencing a behavioral health emergency.

The project has secured half of the necessary capital funds through Lane County funds, federal HRSA grants, Oregon Lottery Bond allocations, and community partner grants, like the one provided by Trillium in 2023. Reappropriating funding in the 2025 Rebalance Legislation will allow the

Stabilization Center to meet building and stand-up timelines for the co-located facilities, as well as allow the community to expedite the implementation of this critical public service to help address the growing crises of homelessness, addiction, and mental health challenges.

Please give this request full and fair consideration, which will enable the Lane County Behavioral Health Stabilization Center to provide vital services to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah K. B" followed by a horizontal line.

Sarah Brewer
Plan President and CEO