DATE: August 14, 2018
TO: Legislative Assembly
FROM: Ashley Carson Cottingham, Director
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Department of Human Services
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The Department of Human Services is pleased to submit this report on capacity of residential care facilities and adult foster homes under ORS 443.424.

The Department has concluded that access to community based care is at its greatest risk since 2007. Since the last report, the number of individuals served in community based care is relatively flat. However, serious signs of trouble are appearing that may require intervention.

Adult foster home utilization is down by 5.8%. Additionally, the number of adult foster homes in the Aging and People with Disabilities program has decreased by approximately 100 homes.

The reasons identified include:

- A preference to serve individuals in the Intellectual/ Developmental Disabilities program and the Addictions and Mental Health program.
- Inadequacy of the rates in the Aging and People with Disabilities program.
- Adult foster homes providers are retiring and are not being replaced by younger owners.
- Housing has become less affordable.

The Department will be working on potential solutions to these challenges with the Governor, Legislators and stakeholders in the 2019 Legislative Session.
Access to other community based care settings such as residential care, assisted living and memory care is mixed and showing signs of pressure. The Department is currently working collaboratively with providers industry to create opportunities to collect financial information that will allow the Department to evaluate the adequacy of its existing rate structure. The care provider industry has supported these efforts and are cooperating fully.

In summary, continued strong access to community based care is critical for the overall success of Oregon’s long term care system. We are monitoring the situation closely and are working with government and private partners to move toward a collaborative solution.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

cc: Ken Rocco Gina Rumbaugh Daron Hill Rick Berkobien
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