

September 12, 2011

To the Board of Commissioners, Multnomah County:

Thank you for giving the CBACs the opportunity to make recommendations on the Budget Rebalance. The DCHS CBAC strongly recommends that the Board adopt Chair Cogen's proposal for the mitigation of five crucial cuts to the Department of County Human Services. These five program offers that the Chair is recommending for mitigation are as follows:

DCHS 25020A ADS Access & Early Intervention Services(OPI)  
DCHS 25023 ADS Long Term Care (14 Case Managers)  
DCHS 25024A-B ADS Adult Protective Services(3 Abuse Investigators)  
DCHS 25050 Behavioral Health Crisis Services (Crisis Line)  
DCHS 25063 Mental Health Treatment & Medications for the Uninsured

If these programs aren't funded at their current levels, grievous harm would likely occur to many people who receive the services that each program provides.

Ideally, we would like to see all of the Chair's mitigations to DCHS programs adopted by the Board. However, we're singling out these five program offers because we regard their mitigation as an absolute necessity.

We want to thank the Board for the work it has done in the past to protect and preserve human services in the county. We hope that you can continue that tradition in the difficult years to come and that we will eventually see the day when human services can be expanded and enhanced for all those who need them.

The DCHS CBAC  
Steve Weiss, Chair  
Patricia Backlar  
William Barnes  
Mark Lewinsohn  
Shalonda Menefee  
John Richmond  
Bill Summers  
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