

**Minutes of the Board of Commissioners
Multnomah Building, Board Room 100
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, Oregon
Thursday, April 4, 2017**

REGULAR MEETING

PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES AWARDS

Chair Kafoury: HELLO. ALL RIGHT. WE'RE GOING TO GET STARTED, IF PEOPLE WOULD JUST PAY ATTENTION TO WHEN I'M TALKING, I MEAN, THAT WOULD BE REALLY NICE. MY CHILDREN DON'T SO I DON'T KNOW WHY I'M EXPECTING ANYONE ELSE TO. [LAUGHTER] GOOD MORNING AND WELCOME TO MULTNOMAH COUNTY'S 17TH ANNUAL PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES CELEBRATION. TODAY IS A SPECIAL DAY WHERE WE ACKNOWLEDGE AND CELEBRATE THE UNIQUE CONTRIBUTIONS TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND HIGHLIGHT ISSUES THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO IMPROVING OUR COMMUNITY. BILL CLINTON PROCLAIMED THE FIRST FULL WEEK OF APRIL "NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK." WE CELEBRATE THIS WEEK BY SHARING STRATEGIES, HIGHLIGHTING THE POWER OF PREVENTION AND CHAMPIONING THE ROLE OF A STRONG PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM. OUR HEALTH DEPARTMENT IS DEDICATED TO MAKING MULTNOMAH COUNTY A BETTER, SAFER, HEALTHIER PLACE FOR EVERYONE, REGARDLESS OF RACE, GENDER, RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION.

IT PREVENTS THE SPREAD OF DISEASE, PROTECTS PEOPLE FROM ENVIRONMENTAL THREATS AND PROVIDES CARE TO THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST AND BREAKS DOWN BARRIERS TO HEALTH. SOME OF OUR RECENT PUBLIC HEALTH EFFORTS INCLUDE LICENSING NEARLY 800 BUSINESSES THAT SELL TOBACCO IN A NEW COMPREHENSIVE ATTEMPT TO LIMIT YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACCESS TO TOBACCO. I THINK THAT ONE DESERVES APPLAUSE. [APPLAUSE] LEADING A REGIONAL COALITION OF HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS TO CHANGE HOW THEY PRESCRIBE OPIOIDS AND SUPPORT TREATMENT IN RESPONSE TO THIS DEADLY EPIDEMIC. WORKING WITH OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN THE CREATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY HEALTH PLAN THAT FOCUSING ON ADDRESSING AND ELIMINATING UNFAIR HEALTH DISPARITIES. [APPLAUSE] TRACKING, INVESTIGATING AND RESPONDING TO DISEASE OUTBREAKS, LIKE THE RECENT OUTBREAK OF E. COLI IN A PRESCHOOL. [APPLAUSE] MONITORING THE COMMUNITY FOR ZIKA AND TREATING FOR DISEASE-CARRYING MOSQUITOES. [APPLAUSE] AND WORKING ALONGSIDE COMMUNITIES AND THEIR YOUNG PEOPLE TO ADDRESS DEVASTATING GUN VIOLENCE THAT IS CLAIMING TOO MANY VICTIMS. [APPLAUSE] BUT LUCKILY, WE AREN'T THE ONLY ONES IN THIS FIGHT.

OUR COMMUNITY IS FILLED WITH MANY LEADERS, ORGANIZATIONS AND BUSINESSES WORKING TO PROMOTE PUBLIC HEALTH. THEY HAVE SKILLS AND

PERSPECTIVES THAT ARE VITAL IN CREATING A COUNTY WHERE EVERYONE HAS A CHANCE TO BE HEALTHY, WHERE THEY LIVE, WORK, LEARN AND PLAY. OUR PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES AND NOMINEES HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO OUR COMMUNITY'S HEALTH BY PROVIDING AWARE AWARENESS AND CREATING INNOVATIVE WAYS, SUCH AS PROVIDING MENTAL HEALTH CARE, BREAKING THE CYCLE OF POVERTY AND ADDRESSING THE NEED FOR CULTURALLY CULTURALLY-COMPETENT HEALTHCARE FOR TRANSGENDER. MULTNOMAH COUNTY IS HONORED TO RECOGNIZE THESE INDIVIDUALS THAT WORK EVERY DAY TO PROMOTE HEALTH AND WELLNESS. EACH NOMINEE DESERVES A THANK YOU FOR DEVOTING TIME AND ENERGY. ONE OF THE THINGS THAT MAKES THIS EVENT TRULY SPECIAL IS THAT COMMUNITY MEMBERS, COLLEAGUES AND PEOPLE FROM ACROSS OUR REGION HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO IDENTIFY THESE PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES, WHOSE WORK MIGHT NOT OTHERWISE BE KNOWN. ALL OF OUR NOMINEES ARE LISTED ON THE BACK OF YOUR PROGRAM AND SOME OF THEM ARE WITH US TODAY. CAN I HAVE ALL THE NOMINEES IN THE AUDIENCE STAND UP SO THAT WE CAN GIVE YOU A ROUND OF APPLAUSE? BEFORE WE HONOR THESE PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES, MULTNOMAH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH, TRISHA TILLMAN, WILL INTRODUCE OUR GUEST SPEAKER. [APPLAUSE].

Trisha Tillman: GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE. AND HAPPY PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK. I'M PLEASED TO INTRODUCE TO YOU A NEW FRIEND OF MINE, DR. DAVID BANGSBERG. I SAY FRIEND BECAUSE WE BOTH SHARE A DEEP LOVE AND COMMITMENT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH IN OUR COMMUNITY AND I JUST REALLY APPRECIATE HIS POSITIVE SPIRIT, CAN-DO ATTITUDE AND FORWARD-THINKING. SO IT'S REALLY A PLEASURE FOR ME TO INTRODUCE HIM TO YOU TODAY. SO, DR. DAVID BANGSBERG IS THE FOUNDING DEAN OF THE OHSU-PSU SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH. AND HE'S A FORMER PROFESSOR AT HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, WHICH IS DOWN THE STREET FROM WHERE I GOT MY MASTERS AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY. BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, DR. BANGSBERG IS A LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE SO HE'S COMING BACK HOME, TO HIS HOMETOWN OF PORTLAND. SO, WE HEARD ABOUT PRESIDENT CLINTON AND PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK. BILL CLINTON DESCRIBED DR. BANGSBERG'S WORK AS A NAIL IN THE COFFIN ON THE DEBATE AS TO WHETHER HIV-INFECTED PEOPLE IN AFRICA WOULD ADHERE TO MEDICATIONS AND NEUTRALIZED CRITICISM TO PROVIDING MULTI-NATIONAL FUNDING FOR GLOBAL HIV WORK. HIS WORK IS NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED.

WE'RE REALLY LUCKY TO HAVE HIM IN PORTLAND. HE BROUGHT TOGETHER EXPERTISE OF HARVARD AND MIT TO IMPROVE PHYSICAL, MENTAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMICAL HEALTH TO THE POOREST REGIONS, INCLUDING HIV CARE, WHICH WE KNOW IS SOMETHING WE CARE DEEPLY ABOUT HERE IN MCRIC. THE DISASTER RESPONSE, CANCER CARE AND MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION. HE RECEIVED THE CLIFFORD BARGER MENTORING AWARD,

GIVEN ANNUALLY TO FIVE OF THE 12,000 HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL FACULTY. AND HE'S RAISED OVER \$70 MILLION TO ADVANCE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WE'RE HOPING HE CAN DO THE SAME FOR PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE STATE OF OREGON. HE WAS THE SECOND-HIGHEST NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH HIV/AIDS RESEARCH-FUNDED INVESTIGATOR, WORLDWIDE IN 2008 SO WE ARE REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO HAVE YOU HERE. HE'S HELPED OVER 25 JUNIOR INVESTIGATORS SECURE HIRES FUNDING. GIVEN HIS COMMITMENT, I ASK THAT YOU JOIN ME IN WELCOMING OUR GUEST SPEAKER, DR. DAVID BANGSBERG. [APPLAUSE] .

David Bangsberg: THANK YOU, TRISHA. IT'S GREAT TO BE BACK HOME. I'VE BEEN ON THE JOB FOR SIX MONTHS. PARTICULAR HONOR TO LEAD THE OHSU-PSU SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, AS THE FIRST FORMAL SCHOOL BETWEEN OHSU AND PSU. MY VERY FIRST JOB WAS IN A RESEARCH LAB AT OHSU AND MY VERY FIRST COLLEGE CLASS WAS AT LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL AT PSU. AND I USED TO SPEND MY TIME STUDYING BETWEEN THE PSU LIBRARIES AND THE OHSU LIBRARIES, IMAGINE WHAT IT WOULD BE LIKE TO BE A PSU COLLEGE STUDENT OR AN OHSU MEDICAL STUDENT AND NOW, IT'S A REAL HONOR AND PLEASURE TO LEAD THE FIRST FORMAL SCHOOL BETWEEN THESE TWO UNIVERSITIES. IT'S ALSO AN HONOR TO BE HERE AT MULTNOMAH COUNTY TO CELEBRATE OUR PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES BECAUSE WE NEED OUR PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES MORE THAN EVER BEFORE. WE NEED OUR PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES TO FIGHT THE SAME BATTLES WE, IN PUBLIC HEALTH, HAVE BEEN FIGHTING FOR CENTURIES.

IN 2007, OREGON HAD 26 SYPHILIS CASES. IN 2016, WE HAD 571, A 200% INCREASE. MULTNOMAH COUNTY SYPHILIS RATE IS 35 OUT OF 70. OREGON'S RATE OF TUBERCULOSIS WAS HIGH. MULTNOMAH COUNTY'S RISK IS ALMOST TWO-FOLD THE RISK OF ANY OTHER PLACE IN OREGON. WE NEED OUR PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES TO FIGHT THESE CHALLENGES, BUT WE NEED OUR PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES TO FIGHT NEWER AND EMERGING CHALLENGES IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY AND OREGON, AT LARGE. WE ARE SEEING UNPRECEDENTED NUMBER OF PEOPLE DYING OF OPIATE OVERDOSES. MORE PEOPLE DYING THAN TRAFFIC INCIDENTS. WE HAVE HIGH RATES OF SUICIDE. RISING RENTS, STAGNANT WAGES, A TOXIC STRESS OF POVERTY HAS LED TO AN EPIDEMIC OF HOMELESSNESS THAT WE SEE EVERY DAY ON OUR STREETS IN OREGON AND AN EPIDEMIC IN MANY OTHER RURAL COUNTIES IN OREGON. THERE ARE 168,000 CHILDREN, IN OREGON, WITHOUT ACCESS TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND BASIC HEALTH SERVICES. WITHOUT THESE SERVICES, THESE CHILDREN ARE LESS LIKELY TO GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL, BECOME ECONOMICALLY INDEPENDENT.

RACISM AND IMPLICIT BIAS OR AGE-OLD PROBLEMS THAT WE NEED NEW APPROACHES AND SOLUTIONS. AND THERE ARE ONGOING PROMISES AND SOME SAY, THREATS, TO REFORMING HOW HEALTHCARE IS FINANCED IN THIS NATION. IN MY OPINION, OREGON HAS ONE OF THE MOST EQUITABLE AND

RATIONAL APPROACHES TO HEALTHCARE FINANCING FOR THE POOR. IF WE CHANGE THIS FINANCING, WE NEED OUR PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES TO BE ON TOP OF THIS IN REALTIME TO DESCRIBE HOW THESE CHANGES IMPACT THE LIVES OF OREGONIANS. FOR THESE REASONS, WE NEED OUR PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES, TODAY, MORE THAN EVER BEFORE AND I JOIN TRISHA TILLMAN AND THE ENTIRE MULTNOMAH COUNTY IN CELEBRATING OUR PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES TODAY. THE ONLY THING WE NEED MORE THAN OUR PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES, OF TODAY, WILL BE OUR PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES OF TOMORROW. AND I AM THRILLED, AS THE OHSU-PSU SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEAN TO PARTNER WITH MULTNOMAH COUNTY TO CREATE A STEADY PIPELINE TO MAKE SURE THEY HAVE THE SKILLS AND EXPERIENCES THEY NEED TO TACKLE TODAY'S CHALLENGES AND TOMORROW'S. THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH HAS 1,500, 1,300 UNDERGRADUATES AND 300 GRADUATE STUDENTS.

David Bangsberg: WE COMBINE BIO MEDICINE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TO TRAIN TOMORROW'S PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES. WE HOPE TO BE THE PREMIER DESTINATION IN OREGON FOR LEARNERS WHO WANT TO MAKE OREGON AND THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE. AND I THINK THERE IS NO BETTER TIME TO PURSUE A CAREER IN HEALTH. WE HAVE THE -- AT THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, WE HAVE THE MOST ROBUST PIPELINE TO HEALTH-RELATED CAREERS AND PROFESSIONS, PHYSICIANS, NURSES, DENTISTS, PHARMACISTS. WE ARE ALSO WORKING WITH OREGON COLLEGE OF ORIENTAL MEDICINE TO TRAIN PEOPLE IN INTEGRATIVE AND COMPLIMENTARY MEDICINE SO THEY CAN ALSO BE OUR PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES. WE ARE TRAINING PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES IN AREAS THAT ARE LESS KNOWN. WE ARE TRAINING HEALTH ECONOMISTS.

WE'RE TRAINING LACTATION COACHES TO HELP MOTHERS AND BABIES BREAST-FEED, WHICH IS GOOD FOR BABIES, MOMS AND PUBLIC HEALTH. WE ARE LOOKING TO MANAGE THE EXPLODING AMOUNT OF ELECTRONIC MEDICAL DATA, TO HARNESS THAT TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF OREGONIANS. WE HAVE COMBINED DEGREES IN SOCIAL WORK AND PUBLIC HEALTH, URBAN PLANNING AND PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TO PROTECT OUR AIR AND WATER IN A TIME OF DEREGULATION AND DISMANTLING OF THE EPA. AND FINALLY, WE ARE WORKING WITH LEWIS AND CLARK COLLEGE TO DEVELOP A COMBINED PROGRAM IN PUBLIC HEALTH LAW BECAUSE OUR LAWYERS AND JUDGES ARE MORE IMPORTANT IN SAFEGUARDING OUR PUBLIC HEALTH THAN EVER BEFORE. WE ARE PROUD TO TRAIN THESE PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES BY EMBEDDING OUR STUDENTS IN THE COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES SO THEY SEE, FIRST-HAND, REAL-WORLD PROBLEMS. THERE IS NO BETTER PLACE THAN BETWEEN THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND MULTNOMAH COUNTY TO LEARN HOW TO BECOME A PUBLIC HEALTH HERO.

BUT THE PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES OF TOMORROW WILL NEED MORE THAN JUST TECHNICAL EXPERTISE BECAUSE THE PROBLEMS ARE COMPLICATED

AND MULTI-DISCIPLINARY MULTI-DISCIPLINARY. THEY'LL NEED MANAGEMENT SKILLS, LEADERSHIP SKILLS. THEY'LL NEED TO BUILD COALITIONS AND ENGAGE COMMUNITIES TO MOVE COMMUNITIES FORWARD. THEY WILL NEED TO UNDERSTAND PUBLIC HEALTH, NOT AS A SINGLE DISCIPLINE, BUT AS A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY EFFORT. WHAT OUR PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES WILL ALSO NEED TO COME FROM THE COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE THE GREATEST HEALTH DISPARITIES AND WE WELCOME ALL STUDENTS AT THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH, BUT WE WELCOME STUDENTS WHO ARE GROWN UP UNDER CHALLENGING CIRCUMSTANCES. LET ME GIVE YOU AN EXAMPLE OF ONE SUCH STUDENT. THIS IS WILLA WALLACE. ONE OF THE FIRST STUDENTS I MET AT SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH. WILLOW LIVED IN A DOZEN IS ZIP CODES BECAUSE HER MOM HAD A HARD TIME MAKING RENT. HER MOTHER JOINED THE U.S. ARMY AND SERVED TWO TOURS OF DUTY IN IRAQ. WHEN SHE RETURNED FROM HER SECOND TOUR OF DUTY, SHE HAS DISABLING PTSD AND WILLOW HAD TO GO OUT ON HER OWN AT 15. WORKED AT JAMBA JUICE AND MADE \$600 A MONTH. SO WILLOW FOLLOWED THE ONLY THING THAT SHE KNEW, SHE WENT INTO THE MILITARY.

David Bangsberg: SHE THOUGHT OF HER GRANDMA TO THE RIGHT, SHE'S A CERTIFIED NURSE ASSISTANT. SHE WANTED TO BE LIKE HER GRANDMA. MAYBE I CAN JOIN THE MILITARY AND CARE FOR PEOPLE LIKE MY GRANDMA. WILLOW TOOK THE VOCATIONAL APTITUDE TEST FOR THE MILITARY. SCORED IN THE 99TH PERCENTILE AND SAID, WOW, I'M SMART. [LAUGHTER] MAYBE I SHOULD GO BACK TO SCHOOL? SO, SHE MOVED IN WITH HER GRANDMA AND FINISHED HER GED AND ENROLLED IN PORTLAND STATE PART-TIME. SHE GOT A FULL-TIME SCHOLARSHIP. I'VE LOOKED AT HER TRANSCRIPT, 3.6GPA AND SHE WANTS TO BE A PHYSICIAN SCIENTIST AND SHE IS GOING TO ACE IT AND HAVE HER CHOICE OF MEDICAL SCHOOLS TO GO TO. BECAUSE SHE'S GOING TO BE A GREAT CLINICIAN SCIENTIST NOT BECAUSE SHE'S SMART AND HARD-WORKING BUT SHE HAS SEEN SUFFERING AND UNDERSTANDS EMPATHY AND WILL BE ABLE TO CARE FOR HER PATIENTS IN A VERY SPECIAL WAY. SHE ALSO HAS SEEN DIFFICULT TIMES AND HAS GRIT AND CAN SEE A TOUGH PROBLEM THROUGH, SUCH THAT AS SHE LEARNS HOW TO BE A PHYSICIAN SCIENTIST, SHE WILL SEE THE TOUGHEST PROBLEMS THROUGH, AND MAYBE SOMEDAY CURE A DISEASE. WILLOW HAD HER LIFE CHANGED BY THE OPPORTUNITY FOR EDUCATION.

OPPORTUNITY TO ENTER A HEALTH-RELATED CAREER. THIS -- WILLOW IS JUST ONE OF MANY STUDENTS IN OUR SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH WITH A SIMILAR STORY AND THIS HAS EMBOLDENED ME TO RE-DOUBLE-DOWN ON THE OPPORTUNITIES TO CREATE PATHWAYS IN PUBLIC HEALTH FOR OUR STUDENTS, SUCH THAT MY WIFE AND I HAVE DONATED \$100,000 IN STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS AND WE HAVE RAISED \$1.35 MILLION TO OFFER SCHOLARSHIPS TO OUR STUDENTS. [APPLAUSE] WE ARE PUTTING OUR MONEY WHERE OUR MOUTH IS AND WE ARE SERIOUS. [LAUGHTER] AND THESE SCHOLARSHIP WILL GO TO FIRST-GENERATION SCALL STUDENTS,

MINORITIES, IMMIGRANTS AND THE RURAL POOR. PEOPLE WHO HAVE GROWN UP WITH THE COMMUNITIES WITH THE HEALTH DISPARITIES THAT WE NEED TO TACKLE. AND THIS IS HOW WE START A SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND THIS IS HOW WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OREGON. WE NEED 1,000 WILLOWS TO HELP ONE MILLION OREGONIANS. AND THIS IS WHERE I NEED YOUR HELP. I NEED YOUR HELP TO ENGAGE AND PARTICIPATE IN ONE OF OUR EVENTS TO TACKLE A NEGLECTED PUBLIC HEALTH EPIDEMIC. WE HAVE A SERIES CALLED PUBLIC HEALTH PORTLAND STYLE WHERE WE PUT THE PUBLIC IN PUBLIC HEALTH. THIS IS THE THIRD THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT LUCKY LAB. WE TACKLE TRUMP CARE TO OBAMACARE AND THIS NEXT THURSDAY, APRIL 20, WE'LL TALK ABOUT SKIN CANCER, THE SILENT KILLER IN RURAL OREGON. JUST TWO DAYS LATER, ON SATURDAY, APRIL 22, WE WILL HAVE -- [APPLAUSE]. [LAUGHTER] -- AN EVENT CALLED TRANSLATING PAIN INTO POWER, WHERE WE WILL ADDRESS THE PAIN OF GUN VIOLENCE THROUGH PERSONAL STORIES, THROUGH A PUBLIC HEALTH LENS, TO BUILD COMMUNITY ON HOW TO ADDRESS THIS VERY IMPORTANT ISSUE. JOIN ME, WITH MY CONTACT INFORMATION, IF YOU WANT TO SEE ANY OF OUR -- PARTICIPATE IN ANY OF OUR EVENTS. JOIN ME IF YOU WANT TO MAKE A DONATION TO HELP OUR STUDENTS PURSUE THEIR PATHWAY OR JOIN ME IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO DOES. JOIN ME IF YOU HAVE AN INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR ONE OF OUR STUDENTS SO THEY CAN LEARN ABOUT REAL-WORLD PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEMS. AND FINALLY, JOIN ME IF YOU WANT TO HELP US MAKE THE OHSU-PSU SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH THE PREMIER DESTINATION FOR TOMORROW'S PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. [APPLAUSE]

Chair Kafoury: SO, I WANT TO PRESENT THIS LITTLE TOKEN OF OUR APPRECIATION TO DR. DAVID BANGSBERG FOR HIS INSPIRING COMMENTS TODAY.

David Bangsberg: NEVER LOSE AN OPPORTUNITY AROUND PUBLIC HEALTH. [LAUGHTER] SOMEONE HAD THEIR EYES CLOSED IN THE BACK. [LAUGHTER] ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

Chair Kafoury: NOT ONLY DOES HE HAVE ALL THOSE FANCY DEGREES AFTER HIS NAME, BUT HE TWEETS, AS WELL. I'M IMPRESSED. SO I AM HERE TO PRESENT THE FIRST OF OUR AWARDS. I'M HAPPY TO BE JOINED BY MY COLLEAGUES ON THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY COMMISSION. THE FIRST ONE IS THE SOCIAL JUSTICE AND HEALTH EQUITY. IT IS PRESENTED TO A LEADER OR ORGANIZATION THAT IS DEDICATED TO FIGHTING FOR HELP. A CAREER OF COMMUNITY SERVICE SHOULD BE CELEBRATED, BUT A LIFE DEDICATED TO SERVING MULTNOMAH COUNTY'S MOST MARGINALIZED INDIVIDUALS SHOULD BE HONORED. FOR 25 YEARS, ED BLACKBURN HAS POURED HIS ENERGY AND HIS HEART INTO CENTRAL CITY CONCERN, A NONPROFIT AGENCY IN PORTLAND, DEDICATED TO ENDING HOMELESSNESS. [APPLAUSE] WHEN I HEARD THE STORY OF WILLOW, I THOUGHT, YOU KNOW, THIS IS PERFECT

BECAUSE ED AND THE BURKE THAT HE HAS DONE AT CENTRAL CITY CONCERN AND ALL THE STAFF, HAVE MADE -- CHANGED THOUSANDS OF LIVES, JUST LIKE THE STORY WE HEARD OF WILLOW, SO THIS IS VERY APPROPRIATE. CENTRAL CITY CONCERN BEGAN IN OLD TOWN PORTLAND IN 1979 TO HELP PEOPLE INTO RECOVERY FROM ALCOHOL AND ADDICTION. IN 1992, ED JOINED THEM. IN 1997, HE MOVED INTO A DEPUTY DIRECTOR ROLE AND BECAME CCC'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IN 2008. UNDER ED'S LEADERSHIP, CENTRAL CITY CONCERN HAS GROWN TO NEARLY 900 EMPLOYEES. CENTRAL CITY CONCERN OVERSEES 11 FEDERALLY-QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS THAT PROVIDE PRIMARY HEALTH AND 1,700 UNITS OF SUPPORTIVE HOUSING, SOON TO BE INCREASED. CENTRAL CITY CONCERN'S ANNUAL BUDGET IS MORE THAN \$70 MILLION AND SERVES 13,000 PEOPLE, INCLUDING PREGNANT MOTHERS, INFANTS, THE CHRONICALLY HOMELESS, FAMILIES, VETERANS, THOSE EXITING INCARCERATION AND INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE SEVERELY ADDICTED, SERIOUSLY MENTALLY ILL OR MEDICALLY FRAGILE. HE WANTS TO HELP CENTRAL CITY CONCERN BECOME MORE INTEGRATED.

Chair Kafoury: HE PUT PEOPLE TO WORK FOR THE COMMUNITY WHILE LEARNING EMPLOYMENT SKILLS. PARTNERS SUCH AS PORTLAND PARKS AND REC, SUNSHINE DIVISION, OREGON FOOD BANK AND THE OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD INVOLVEMENT BENEFIT AND PARTICIPANTS GAIN POWERFUL SKILLS. THEY HAVE HAD 1,000 GRADUATES FINISH THE PROGRAM WITH NEWLY-FOUND CONFIDENCE. IN THE FALL OF 2016, THEY CELEBRATED 100,000 HOURS OF SERVICE TO THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY COMMUNITY. [APPLAUSE] ED HAS MADE THE STUDY AND PRACTICE OF COMPASSION HIS LIFE'S WORK. ED WAS ONE OF 49 PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD AWARDED AN UNSUNG HEROES OF COMPASSION AWARD BY THE DALAI LAMA AND THE WISDOM AND ACTION FOUNDATION FOR HIS WORK. HIS LEADERSHIP AND INNOVATION HAS PROVIDED HOPE FOR COUNTLESS PEOPLE AND ELEVATED OUR COMMUNITY TO A LEVEL OF CARING TO WHICH WE CAN ALL BE PROUD. ACCEPTING THE SOCIAL JUSTICE AND HEALTH EQUITY AWARD, AS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL CITY CONCERN, ED BLACKBURN. [APPLAUSE] NEXT, WE WILL HAVE COMMISSIONER SHARON MEIERAN PRESENT THE SECOND SOCIAL JUSTICE AND HEALTH EQUITY AWARD.

Commissioner Meieran: NORTH BY NORTHEAST COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER IS THE ONLY MEDICAL CLINIC IN OREGON FOCUSED ON AFRICAN-AMERICAN HEALTH. THEY EXIST TO IMPROVE HEALTH OUTCOMES AND ADVANCE HEALTH EQUITY BY OFFERING HEALTHCARE SERVICES. NORTH BY NORTHEAST COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER PROVIDES BASIC PRIMARY CARE SERVICES AND HELPS PATIENTS TO MANAGEMENT THEIR OWN HEALTH ISSUES, THIS INCLUDES GYNECOLOGICAL APPOINTMENTS AND DIABETES AND HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE. IN 2010, SHARETTA BUTCHER STARTED OUT BY NORTH BY NORTHEAST COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER AS THE OFFICE OF VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR. SHE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT, PATIENT DUTIES AND OFFICE MANAGE. MENT. SHE TOOK ON PATIENT CARE

DUTIES. IN THE SUMMER OF 2013, SHARETTA WAS A COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER AND IN 2016, SHE BECAME NORTH BY NORTHEAST COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER FIRST COMMUNITY CARE DIRECTOR. SHARETTA SERVES AS A COMMUNITY WORKING AND IS ONE OF THE PROMINENT FACES OF NORTH BY NORTHEAST COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER IN THE COMMUNITY. A NATIVE OREGONIAN, SHARETTA USES HER STRENGTHS TO MOBILIZE INDIVIDUALS AND NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERS TO MAKE A SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE WE SERVE. EXCEPTING THE SOCIAL JUSTICE AND HEALTH EQUITY AWARD IS COMMUNITY CARE DIRECTOR OF NORTH BY NORTHEAST COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER, SHARETTA BUTCHER. [APPLAUSE] COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON WILL PRESENT THE KATIE JEANS-GAIL AWARD FOR YOUNG HEROES.

Commissioner Vega Pederson: WE HEARD DR. BANGSBERG TALK ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NEXT GENERATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES. I'M HONORED TO PRESENT THE KATIE JEANS-GAIL YOUTH HERO AWARD. THIS YEAR, THE KATIE JEANS-GAIL AWARD FOR YOUNG HEROES GOES TO HIGHLAND HAVEN YOUTH GROUP, A PORTLAND-BASED YOUTH GROUP. [APPLAUSE] THEY EDUCATE AND EMPOWER, HELPING YOUTH REACH THEIR POTENTIAL TO BECOME SELF-DIRECTING ADULTS. THE TARGET POPULATION IS YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN IN THE DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES OF NORTHEAST AND NORTH PORTLAND. THEY HAVE ATTRACTED AND PROVIDES SERVICES TO YOUTHS DISPLACED IN ADJACENT COMMUNITIES. THE HAVEN HAS ONE VOLUNTEER ADMINISTRATOR, FOUR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM MANAGERS AND A PLETHORA OF PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS WHO ENJOY WORKING WITH YOUTH. ACTIVITIES DEVELOPED AND IMPLEMENTED SERVE 225 YOUTHS ANNUALLY. THESE OBJECTIVE-BASED ARE SUMMER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES, COUNSELING TO MARKETING BUSINESS SKILLS DEVELOPMENT. EACH PROGRAM IS ALIGNED TO MEET THE OVERALL MISSION TO EDUCATE AND EMPOWER. HIRES'S YOUTH GROUP CONTINUES TO PROMOTE HEALTH TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND TO POLICY MEMBERS. HAVEN'S YOUTH ENGAGE IN SPREADING THE WORD ABOUT HEALTHY EATING AND PARTICIPATING IN COMMUNITY OUTREACH TO TESTIFYING ON COUNTY TOBACCO POLICIES, SUCH AS TOBACCO RETAIL LICENSING. HAVEN'S YOUTH HAD A CHANCE TO PERFORM IN AN OPERA CALLED THE NIGHT HARRY QUIT SMOKING. REVEREND W. G. HARVEY JUNIOR. [APPLAUSE] .

Reverend W.G Harvey Jr.: I'D JUST LIKE TO SAY ON BEHALF OF HIGHLAND HAVEN YOUTH GROUP, WE ARE HONORED. AS WE TEACH THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN HIRES, YOU'VE BEEN ENDOWED WITH A BEAUTIFUL MIND. ARM IT, AIM IT AND USE IT. SO THEY CHOSE TO BE IN SCHOOL TODAY RATHER THAN TO COME HERE. [LAUGHTER] THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE] NEXT, COMMISSIONER STEGMANN WILL PRESENT THE PUBLIC HEALTH AWARD.

Commissioner Stegmann: GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE. IT'S SUCH AN HONOR TO BE HERE TODAY TO ACKNOWLEDGE INCREDIBLE PEOPLE AND

ORGANIZATIONS WHO HAVE POSITIVELY SHAPED AND IMPACTED HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR OUR COMMUNITY. I HAVE THE DISTINCT PLEASURE TO PRESENT THIS YEAR'S PUBLIC HEALTH AWARD TO THE CITY OF GRESHAM. [APPLAUSE] THIS AWARD IS GIVEN TO AN OUTSTANDING ORGANIZATION, WHOSE PARTNERSHIP WITH MULTNOMAH COUNTY'S HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAS INFLUENCED POSITIVE POLICY SOLUTIONS THAT HAVE IMPROVED THE HEALTH ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR COMMUNITY. AS A PAST CITY COUNCILOR, I CAN ATTEST TO GRESHAM'S REPUTATION AS A WELCOMING COMMUNITY OF HARD-WORKING PEOPLE WHERE CREATIVITY, INNOVATION AND A CAN-DO ATTITUDE RULE THE DAY. NO ONE BETTER THAN GRESHAM EXEMPLIFIES THIS. IN SPITE OF OPERATING ON THE LOWEST TAX RATE IN THE STATE, THEY HAVE INNOVATIVE LEADERSHIP WITH THE RECENT HIRING OF CORY TO HEAD UP THERE 21ST CENTURY POLICING STRATEGY. UNDER THE MAYOR, THE CITY COUNCIL AND ERIK VIDSTRAND AND JOSH, OUR GRESHAM REDEVELOPMENT EX EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THEY HAVE CREATED AND PROMOTED A CULTURE THAT IS CLAB ERATIVE, PRACTICAL AND NIMABLE. THEY ARE MAKING GREAT STRIDES TO IMPROVE WALKING AND BIKING ACCESS IN GRESHAM. WITH FUNDING FROM MULTNOMAH COUNTY'S R.E.A.C.H. PROGRAM, THEY HAVE FOCUSED ON IMPROVING ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD STORES AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES. R.E.A.C.H. STANDS FOR RACIAL AND ETHNIC APPROACHES TO COMMUNITY HEALTH, THIS IS A THREE-YEAR GRANT THAT MULTNOMAH COUNTY EARNED FROM THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION. THE GOAL OF R.E.A.C.H. IS TO IMPROVE HEALTH EQUITY AND CHRONIC DISEASE FOR 75% OF LOCAL AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITIES.

Commissioner Stegmann: GRESHAM'S ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN CONTAIN STRATEGIES THAT RESULTED IN MORE EQUITABLE INVESTMENTS BOTH NOW AND INTO THE FUTURE. THEY USE AN EQUITY LENS THAT WAS INTENTIONAL AND THOUGHTFUL, TO LISTEN AND HEAR FROM TRADITIONALLY UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES. THEY RECEIVED TRAINING AND EMPOWERED TO ENGAGE NEIGHBORS. THROUGH R.E.A.C.H.'S EQUITY APPROACH, WE WERE ABLE TO PARTNER WITH THE GRESHAM REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION ON THE ROCKWOOD RISING REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT. THIS REDEVELOPMENT WILL BUILD A SIGNIFICANT COMMUNITY ACCESS TO CONTINUE THE TRANSFORMATION OF ONE OF THE MOST ECONOMICALLY CHALLENGED NEIGHBORHOODS IN OREGON. THE SOON TO BE ECONOMIC ENGINE WILL PROVIDE FAMILIES WITH THE SUPPORT THEY NEED TO LEARN, EARN AND GROW. OUR PARTNERSHIP HAS RESULTED IN A NETWORK OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESSES WHO ARE ENGAGED AND INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING. WITH A FOCUS ON ACCESS TO HEALTHY AND DIVERSE FOOD OPTIONS, WE KNOW THAT THE LACK OF HEALTHY FOOD ACCESS IS A BARRIER TO LIVING A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE.

EASY FOOD OPTIONS ARE OFTEN UNHEALTHY AND NEARBY CONVENIENCE AND RETAIL STORES DON'T CARRY SUSTAINABLE FOODS AND MORE

NUTRITIOUS OPTIONS ARE OFTEN FURTHER AWAY. THE EFFORT TO ADDRESS THE FOOD DESERT IN THE ROCKWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD IS A CRITICAL COMPONENT OF THE PROJECT. GROUNDBREAKING IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR THIS SUMMER. THEY WILL BE WORKING ON TENANT RECRUITMENT FOR THIS MIXED-USE PROJECT THAT WILL FOCUS ON A FOOD MARKET HALL THAT WILL MAKE UP THE COMPONENTS OF A GROCERY STORE AND A FARMERS MARKET. THEY WILL BE HOME TO A DIGITAL INNOVATION HUB AND A TECH SHOP MAKER SPACE, SPECIALIZES IN MANUFACTURING, ALONG WITH MEDICAL ASSISTANT TRAINING, RETAIL AND RESTAURANT. SO, IT IS MY GREAT HONOR TO PRESENT THE PUBLIC HEALTH PARTNER AWARD TO THE CITY OF GRESHAM TO EMILY BOWER. CAN WE HAVE THE ENTIRE GRESHAM TEAM COME UP? [APPLAUSE]

Chair Kafoury: EVERYONE IS WEARING ORANGE AND RED AND PINK. THERE WAS SOME MEMO THAT, OBVIOUSLY, I DIDN'T GET. [LAUGHTER] I WANT TO THANK YOU, ALL, AGAIN, FOR COMING AGAIN AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE 2017 PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES. YOUR WORK IS INSPIRATIONAL FOR ALL OF US FOR HEALTHY PEOPLE IN HEALTHY COMMUNITIES. AT THIS TIME, WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ALL THE PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES TO COME UP AND JOIN US FOR A RECEPTION IN THE BACK. AND, THANK YOU, AGAIN, FOR ATTENDING THE 17TH ANNUAL PUBLIC HEALTH HEROES CELEBRATION.

[CAPTIONS PROVIDED BY LNS CAPTIONING AND MAY INCLUDE INACCURATE WORDS OR PHRASES DUE TO SOUND QUALITY, OTHER TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES AND/OR SOFTWARE ERRORS.]

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Submitted by:
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