

**Minutes of the Board of Commissioners
Multnomah Building, Board Room 100
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, Oregon
Thursday, March 16, 2017**

REGULAR MEETING

Chair Deborah Kafoury called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m. with Vice-Chair Jessica Vega Pederson and Commissioners Loretta Smith and Lori Stegmann present. Commissioner Sharon Meieran arrived at 9:48 a.m.

Also attending were Jenny Madkour, County Attorney, and Marina Baker, Assistant Board Clerk.

Chair Kafoury: WELCOME TO MULTNOMAH COUNTY, THIS IS THE BOARD OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, OUR THURSDAY MEETING, COMMISSIONER MEIERAN IS STUCK IN TRAFFIC, SO SHE WILL BE A FEW MINUTES LATE BUT WE WILL GET STARTED WITHOUT HER.

CONSENT AGENDA

- C.1 Proclamation Declaring April 30-May 6, 2017 as Construction Safety Week in Multnomah County, Oregon.
- C.2 Notice of Intent to Apply for Research and Evaluation on Violence Against Women: Teen Dating Violence, Sexual Violence and Intimate Partner Violence Grant.
- C.3 Budget Modification DCA-25-17: FPM – Reclass Position 704512 from Manager 1 to Manager Senior.
- C.4 Budget Modification DCA-26-17: FPM Reclass Position 705385 from Project Manager (NR) to Manager 1.
- C.5 Authorizing the County Chair to Execute an Intergovernmental Agreement with the State of Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services, Building Codes Division to Administer Portions of the Manufactured Structure Ownership Records Program in Multnomah County.

Chair Kafoury: MAY I HAVE A MOTION ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR? COMMISSIONER SMITH MOVES AND COMMISSIONER STEGMANN SECONDS APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR VOTE AYE. [UNANIMOUS AYES] THE CONSENT CALENDAR IS APPROVED.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Opportunity for Public Comment on non-agenda matters. Testimony limited to three minutes per person. This is a time for the Board to hear public testimony, not for Board deliberation

Chair Kafoury: DO WE HAVE PUBLIC COMMENT?

Board Clerk: YES, MADAM CHAIR. [READS NAMES]

Mr. Pissedoff: INJURED AND PISSEDOFF IS MY REAL NAME, AND I PHOTOBOMBED JOE WALSH, HE MADE THE FRONT PAGE. THE SUBJECT IS STATE NEWS. OF COURSE WITH DIGITAL CAMERAS THEY COULD HAVE CROPPED JUST JOE'S PICTURE AND MADE IT BIGGER FOR HIM. HE'S A BETTER LOOKING MAN THAN I AM. OR AT LEAST MORE HONEST. LOUD SPOKEN. IF ANYBODY HAS THE GUTS TO GO TO CITY HALL AND SIT BESIDE JOE AND JUST FOR RAISING MY HANDS, WELL I WAS LABELED AS A PROTEST EXPECTED AS MAYOR SEEKS CRACKDOWN ON DISRUPTIONS. ALL I WAS DOING WAS HOLDING MY THUMBS UP. ANOTHER THING IS I WOULD LIKE TO COMPLIMENT A WORKER FOR THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, SHE WAS SAYING THAT, AS I WAS CHECKING MY MAIL ON FRIDAY, THAT I WAS UNLOCKING MY MAILBOX, AND SHE SAYS ARE YOU INJURED AND PISSED OFF, AND I GO YEAH, AND SHE BURSTS OUT LAUGHING AND SAID WELL, THE POST OFFICE HAD CONTACTED DMV TO SEE IF THAT WAS MY REAL NAME, AND SHE WAS LAUGHING, YOU ARE REALLY INJURED AND PISSED OFF, AREN'T YOU? AND I GO YEAH. AND WHEN I PAID MY ELECTRIC BILL AT PG&E, WELL THEY GO, WE HAVE HEARD OF YOU, AND IN FACT, THE WOMAN THAT WAS ACCEPTING MY PAYMENT FROM A DEBIT CARD, ALSO INJURED AND PISSED OFF, SHE SAID THEY HAD A FRIEND IN OREGON, AND THEY WERE LAUGHING AND I AM KNOWN DOWN THERE AS INJURED AND PISSED OFF.

I MET PAUL MYERS YESTERDAY. HE WAS INJURED 4.5 YEARS AGO, AND NOW HE'S PARALYZED IN A WHEELCHAIR, AND THAT WAS 4.5 YEARS AGO WHEN HE SAID, AND HE DID NOT SEEM TO REMEMBER THE EXACT DATE FOR SOME REASON. I WAS INJURED IN DECEMBER, OR IN NOVEMBER 15TH, 2010, AND AFTER THE SIXTH DOG ATTACK I HAD A VALID COURT RESTRAINING ORDER, AND THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE SAID THAT ALL SHE REALLY DIDN'T MEAN IT. .

Mr. Walsh: GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS JOE WALSH. I REPRESENT INDIVIDUALS FOR JUSTICE. WE'RE ON DAY 36, ACTUALLY, FOR YOU. THIS IS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL YESTERDAY. WE ASKED YOU FOR A PLAN THAT YOU COULD REFER TO THAT WHEN THE TEMPERATURE DROPPED BELOW FREEZING, THAT WE WILL NOT LOSE PEOPLE ON OUR STREETS ANY MORE. NOW MARK HAS PROMISED TO SEND IT TO ME. WE HAVE NOT GOTTEN IT, SO WE'RE GOING TO KEEP TRACK JUST LIKE WE DID WITH ROGAN AND STANTON

AND EVERYBODY ELSE AND WHEN WE ASKED THEM TO RESIGN, AND EVERY WEEK YOU WILL SEE THIS GO UP SEVEN DAYS, I AM GOING TO LEAVE THIS AT 35 BECAUSE IT'S EASIER FOR ME IN MATH. I WAS TERRIBLE IN MATH IN COLLEGE. I WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE MYSELF TO YOU, I AM PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE, ACCORDING TO THE MAYOR OF PORTLAND. I AM THE ENEMY OF THE REPUBLIC. I AM THE ENEMY OF THE DEMOCRACY. YOU KNOW WHY? BECAUSE WE INSIST THAT YOU DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE PEOPLE ON YOUR STREETS. THAT MAKES US PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE. IF YOU ASKED ME, WE WOULD PROBABLY TELL YOU, I DID THAT. BECAUSE HE'S BLAMING US FOR EVERYTHING. THE DISRUPTION IN CITY COUNCIL IS ON THE MAYOR'S OFFICE HEAD, NOT OURS.

Mr. Walsh: WE ASKED HIM FOR THREE SIMPLE THINGS. HE WON'T GIVE THEM TO US. SO LOOK AT IT THIS WAY, DISRUPTING THE MEETING? PEOPLE DYING ON THE STREET. POLICE SHOOTING PEOPLE IN THE BACK. POLICE SHOOTING AT 17-YEAR-OLD KID. WHICH ONE WOULD YOU PICK? IF YOU HAD TO GO AFTER ONE OF THEM? I WOULD PICK THIS ONE. I DON'T CARE ABOUT THEIR MEETING. I REALLY DON'T. I CARE ABOUT LIFE. I CARE ABOUT LIFE! I DON'T GIVE A DAMN ABOUT HIS MEETINGS. IF HE WILL NOT COME AND MEET WITH US AND RESOLVE THE QUESTIONS, WE HAVE PLANS FOR EARTHQUAKES. YOU CAN GO TO AND PULL IT OFF THE SHELVES. WHY DON'T YOU HAVE A PLAN THAT YOU CAN PULL OFF THE SHELF WHEN PEOPLE FREEZE IT ON THE STREETS. THERE IS NONE. NONE. WHAT YOU DO IS YOU REACT. AND THEN IT'S TOO LATE. PEOPLE DIE. IF YOU WAIT UNTIL THE TEMPERATURE DROPS, YOU WILL KILL PEOPLE. MURDER! YOU KNOW IT'S GOING TO HAPPEN. SO I AM PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE! AND AS LONG AS TED WHEELER IS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THAT EQUATION, I AM VERY PROUD TO BE PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE.

Mr. Lightning: GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS LIGHTNING AND I REPRESENT LIGHTNING SUPER WATCHDOG. AGAIN WHEN MAYOR WHEELER WANTS TO TRY TO TRAMPLE ON PEOPLE'S FREEDOM OF SPEECH, THE FIRST AMENDMENT, HE JUST PASSED AN ORDINANCE YESTERDAY WHICH IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL. AGAIN PER A FEDERAL JUDGE MICHAEL SIMON, WHEN SOMEONE IS DISRUPTIVE IN A MEETING, WARN THEM -- WARN THEM ONCE, IF THEY ARE DISRUPTIVE, YOU WILL BE EXCLUDED, FOR 24 HOURS AND BE ESCORTED OUT BY SECURITY, PLAIN AND SIMPLY. IT'S VERY EASY. YOU DO NOT EXCLUDE THAT PERSON FOR 30 DAYS BECAUSE THAT WOULD BE A BRIDGING THEIR FREEDOM OF SPEECH AT THESE MEETINGS FOR THE NEXT THREE MEETINGS, AS I STATED TO MAYOR TED WHEELER, N ACLU, YOU GUYS HAVE MISCALCULATED HIM BEING A STATE TREASURER. YOU MISCALCULATED MAYOR WHEELER.

WHEN YOU DO THAT THESE PEOPLE CAN COME BACK WITH THEIR ATTORNEYS AND SUE YOU FOR BEING UNCONSTITUTIONAL, SUE YOU FOR BEING IN VIOLATION OF THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW, AND BY THE WAY, MAYOR

WHEELER, SO YOU WILL LEARN THIS FAST AND UNDERSTAND YOU ARE UNDERESTIMATING THE PEOPLE THAT COME UP HERE AND DO PUBLIC COMMUNICATION, BUT YOU WILL LEARN THIS REAL FAST THEY WILL ALSO HAVE THE ABILITY TO SAY THAT I HAVE BEEN DENIED THE RIGHT TO SIT IN THIS MEETING FOR ALL THOSE ITEMS ON THE AGENDAS FOR THE LAST SIX MONTHS AND GUESS WHAT, MAYOR WHEELER WILL HAPPEN, A GOOD JUDGE WILL OVERTURN EVERY DECISION THAT IS MADE WHEN YOU VIOLATE THE LAW, WHEN YOU ARE UNCONSTITUTIONAL, AND GUESS WHAT, YOU WILL GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS THE MAYOR THAT WILL BE RECALLED. YOU WILL GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS THE MAYOR THAT WILL NOT HAVE A POLITICAL CAREER ANY MORE, AND YOU, I SAY THIS TO YOU MAYOR WHEELER ON THAT DISRUPTIVE EXCLUSION ORDINANCE YOU JUST PASSED, AND ENJOY YOUR RETIREMENT WHEN YOU GET UP IN FRONT OF FEDERAL JUDGE MICHAEL SIMON AND HE TRAMPLES ON YOU!

Mr. Lightning: HE WILL TRAMPLE ON YOU AND REMOVE YOU OUT OF THE COURTROOM, EXCLUDE YOU OUT OF THE COURTROOM, FOR BEING FOOLISH. FOOLISH. AGAIN, IF YOU DO NOT CHANGE THAT EXCLUSION, FOR THE DISRUPTERS, YOUR POLITICAL CAREER IS OVER. ENJOY YOUR RETIREMENT WITH MAYOR HALES. HE LEARNED YOU ARE GOING TO LEARN, AND FEDERAL JUDGE MICHAEL SIMON AS I SAID, TO THE MAYOR HALES, WILL BE VICTORIOUS, GET READY TO RETIRE, IN DISGRACE, AND GO OUT ON THE SAILBOAT AND WE DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU ANY MORE. HASTA LA VISTA MAYOR WHEELER, BYE.

Mr. Johnson: GOOD MORNING, I AM CHARLES BRIDGECRANE. IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT THE AMBIENCE OR AURORA OF THE CHAMBERS IS SO POSITIVE THAT IT MAY BE GUIDED TED WHEELER INTO SALEM IN THE MAYOR'S OFFICE SEAT. LET'S FOCUS ON SOMETHING MORE POSITIVE. YESTERDAY ALL THAT DRAMA WAS JUST A BIG CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTHDAY, THE BIRTHDAY OF THE NOTORIOUS RBG. RUTH BADER GINSBURG, HOPEFULLY THE NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY IS GIVING HER A FEED HERE AND SHE CAN SEE THAT THINGS ARE GOING THE WAY THAT THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO. FIVE COMMISSIONERS ARE WOMEN, CLERK, AND ATTORNEY, HOPEFULLY BEFORE THE END OF THE LIFETIMES, THE SUPREME COURT WILL LOOK JUST LIKE THAT. HOPEFULLY YOU WILL ONLY HAVE TO DEAL WITH CROTCHETY WHITE GUYS THAT HAVE THEIR CRAP HALF WAY TOGETHER AND TOUCH ON A FEW IMPORTANT POINTS ABOUT CIVIL RIGHTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS BECAUSE THAT'S REALLY WHY WE ARE HERE.

AS YOU HEARD, EVEN BEFORE THE TIME, WE CAN TRY AND CHASE THE BLAME ALL THE WAY BACK TO RONNIE REAGAN, BUT THE TRUTH IS THAT LOCALLY WE HAD A RESPONSIBILITY TO LOOK AT WHAT WAS HAPPENING TO OUR NEIGHBORS IN THE HOMELESS SITUATION, AND WE NEVER QUITE GOT IT TOGETHER WHICH NOW LEAVES A HUGE STEAMING PILE ON MARK JOLIN'S PLATE, AND HE'S NOT THE SOLE FIXER OF THE HOUSING PROBLEM BUT WE

REALLY NEED TO ALWAYS LOOK AT, CAN WE CONSIDER OUR SOCIETY A SUCCESS AND HUMANE WHEN WE KNOW THAT THE SOCIETY, WHEN WE KNOW THAT THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE ARE SLEEPING, ESSENTIALLY, UNSHELTERED BY TENTS AND BRIDGES AND CHASED AROUND BY THE POLICE AND SOMETIMES ARRESTED AND PUT ON THE WORK CREW TO GO AND TEAR UP THE STUFF WHERE THEY USED TO SLEEP.

Mr. Johnson: I HAVEN'T HEARD TOO MUCH ABOUT THAT BUT I HOPE THAT YOU FEEL THAT YOU ARE HAVING CONSTRUCTIVE INTERACTION WITH NEWISH SHERIFF MIKE REESE AND THAT WE'RE CLEAR, YOU KNOW, AS WE'RE TALKING ABOUT LATER WELCOMING COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES, AND THAT EVEN THOUGH YOU HAVE LESS DIRECT CONTROL, WE'LL HAVE BETTER, LESS VIOLENT LAW ENFORCEMENT THROUGH THE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT AND MANY THINK THAT WE ARE GETTING THROUGH THE PORTLAND POLICE BUREAU. DID I MISS THIS DURING THE CONSENT AGENDA? I THINK SINCE WE'RE TALKING ABOUT RBG AND GENDER I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT THAT THERE ARE RESOURCES UNTIL THE NEW PRESIDENT'S BUDGET KICKS IN TO TRY AND STOP MALE VIOLENCE PARTICULARLY AGAINST WOMEN. SO A LOT OF, YOU KNOW, THIS IS A CITY, I WOULD SAY WE SHOULD TAKE IT OFF CONSENT AND TALK ABOUT IT MORE BECAUSE IT'S A VERY REAL AND SERIOUS PROBLEM, A DYSFUNCTION WE LEARNED AS YOUTH THAT LEADS TO BONDS AND EXPLOITATION OF WOMEN SO HOPEFULLY WE GET SOME GOOD RESULTS FROM THAT GRANT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU.

REGULAR AGENDA

R.1 Board Briefing on School Attendance Starts Before the Bell. Presenters: Liesl Wendt, Director, County Human Services; Peggy Samolinski, Co-Director, Youth & Family Services Div.; and Shawnda Sewell, Principal at Highland Elementary in Gresham Barlow.

Chair Kafoury: GOOD MORNING.

Ms. Wendt: GOOD MORNING CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS. LIESL WENDT, DIRECTOR OF DCHS. THANKS FOR HAVING US HERE TODAY, WE ARE HERE FOR A BRIEFING ON OUR WORK AROUND ATTENDANCE, AND I AM PLEASED TO HAVE PEGGY SAMOLINSKI OUR CO-DIRECTOR FOR THE YOUTH AND FAMILY DIVISION AND SHAWNDA SEWELL, A PRINCIPAL DOING THE WORK ON THE GROUND SO WE'LL LAUNCH IN AND YOU CAN HEAR FROM THEM LATER. WE'RE HERE TO TELL YOU ABOUT HOW THE COMMUNITY IS COMING TOGETHER TO ADDRESS THE KEY INDICATORS FOR STUDENTS' SUCCESS, SCHOOL ATTENDANCE. AS A COUNTY, IT'S OUR JOB TO ENSURE THAT THE FUTURE IS IN GOOD HANDS AND THAT MEANS MAKING SURE THAT YOUNG

PEOPLE HAVE ACCESS TO A FULL RANGE OF OPPORTUNITIES THROUGHOUT THEIR CHILDHOOD.

Ms. Wendt: THE COUNTY AND OUR PARTNERS, MANY OF WHOM ARE HERE TODAY, PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN MAKING SURE THAT KIDS GET TO SCHOOL READY TO LEARN BECAUSE AS YOU WILL SEE ATTENDANCE AND YOU WILL HEAR IN THE PRESENTATION, STARTS BEFORE THE SCHOOL BELL EVER RINGS. SO WHY FOCUS ON ATTENDANCE? THERE ARE A NUMBER OF REASONS WHY ATTENDANCE, WHICH MEANS INSURING STUDENTS ARE IN THEIR SEATS EVERY DAY, IS IMPORTANT TO US AND THE COMMUNITY.

FIRST, ATTENDANCE IS THE REASONABLE MARKER FOR STUDENT ENGAGEMENT OVERALL. STUDENTS SHOW UP, THEY PARTICIPATE, AND THEY LEARN. IN THIS COMMUNITY THERE IS NOT A MAJOR FOR STUDENT ENGAGEMENT, SO ATTENDANCE REALLY HEADS US IN THAT DIRECTION TO LET US KNOW HOW ENGAGED STUDENTS ARE. SECOND ATTENDANCE HAS BEEN SHOWN TO BE A CRITICAL PREDICTOR OF THE FUTURE OF ACADEMIC SUCCESS. STARTING AS EARLY AS PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN, CHRONIC ABSENCE OR MISSING 10% OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR CAN LEAVE THIRD GRADERS UNABLE TO READ, SIXTH GRADERS STRUGGLERS WITH COURSEWORK. THIS IS A REPRESENTATION OF WHAT WE'LL BE TALKING ABOUT TODAY. REALLY ILLUSTRATES THAT STUDENTS SOMETIMES COME TO SCHOOL WITH MANY ISSUES ON THEIR SHOULDERS. WE KNOW THAT CHILDREN BRING BAGGAGE WITH THEM, THEIR FAMILY'S HOUSING SITUATION, THEY MIGHT BE HUNGRY. THEY MIGHT NOT HAVE HAD HEAT IN THEIR HOME. ALL OF THESE IMPACT THEIR LIVES IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL. IF WE CAN REMOVE SOME OF THAT BAGGAGE STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO FOCUS IN THE CLASSROOM.

OUR EXPERIENCE BEARS THIS OUT, HERE IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY WE HEAR FROM FAMILY THAT ILLNESS, HEALTH ISSUES, MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES, HOMELESSNESS, TRANSPORTATION CHALLENGES, CAUSE CHILDREN TO NOT GET UP AND GET TO SCHOOL. MOST OF THESE FACTORS ARE NOT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SCHOOLS. THEY ARE REALLY THE COLLECTIVE COMMUNITY'S RESPONSIBILITY. A RECENT EXAMPLE, MANY OF YOU GOT TO HEAR MATTHEW DESMOND AT THE EVERYBODY READS EVENT, AND THERE WAS A POIGNANT PIECE IN THE STORY THAT TOUCHED UPON THE INNER SECTIONALITY BETWEEN HOUSING INSTABILITY AND KIDS GETTING TO SCHOOL. MATTHEW TALKED ABOUT ARLENE AND HER TWO BOYS IN HIS PRESENTATIONS. ONE OF THE QUOTES IN THE BOOK IS, WRITING ABOUT JOY, THE HE ELDEST SON, THEY WOULD HAVE TO SWITCH SCHOOLS.

HE DID NOT CARE, HE SWITCHED SCHOOLS ALL THE TIME. BETWEEN SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADES HE ATTENDED FIVE DIFFERENT SCHOOLS, WHEN HE WENT AT ALL. AT THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER HE HAD RACKED UP 17 CONSECUTIVE ABSENCES. ARLENE SAW SCHOOL AS A

HIGHER ORDER NEED. SOMETHING TO WORRY ABOUT AFTER SHE FOUND A HOUSE. I THINK THAT WE HEAR MANY OF THOSE STORIES IN OUR COMMUNITY AS WELL. SO TODAY WE'RE GOING TO SHARE THE EFFORTS IN THE COMMUNITY AND REALLY FOCUS ON THE ROLE THAT MULTNOMAH COUNTY IS PLAYING, AND I THINK THAT I WILL TURN IT OVER TO PEGGY.

Ms. Samolinski: GOOD MORNING COMMISSIONERS. PEGGY SAMOLINSKI WITH COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES. I AM REALLY EXCITED TO BE HERE. IT'S MY FIRST TIME PRESENTING IN FRONT OF THIS NEW BOARD AND IT'S A LOVELY EXPERIENCE I MAY ADD. BEFORE WE GET TOO FAR WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT WE'RE CLEAR ON WHAT WE KNOW WHEN WE SAY CHRONIC ABSENCE. MOST PEOPLE WOULD AGREE THAT ATTENDING SCHOOL IS IMPORTANT, BUT NOT MANY FOLKS ARE AWARE OF HOW ABSENCES CAN ADD UP. CHRONIC ABSENCE IS MISSING 10% OR MORE OF THE SCHOOL YEAR FOR ANY REASON. THIS EQUATES TO 18 DAYS A YEAR OR TWO ABSENCES A MONTH. IT DOES NOT MATTER IF THE ABSENCES ARE EXCUSED OR UNEXCUSED OR WHETHER THEY ARE ALL IN A ROW OR ONCE IN A WHILE. THE EFFECT IS THE SAME. AS LIESL MENTIONED EARLY CHRONIC ABSENCE HAS A PARTICULARLY GREAT AND LASTING EFFECT IMPACTING CHILDREN'S ABILITY TO READ BY THIRD GRADE AND TO CAUSE THEM TO BE ENOUGH BEHIND THEIR PEERS THAT THEY ARE CHALLENGED TO CATCH UP EVEN IF THEIR ATTENDANCE IMPROVES LATER IN LIFE.

SO HERE IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY WHAT IS THE SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM? NEARLY ONE OUT OF FIVE CHILDREN ARE CHRONICALLY ABSENT IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY. THAT'S ALMOST 17,000 STUDENTS ON ANY GIVEN DAY. WHO ARE THE KIDS IN OUR COMMUNITY? WE KNOW THAT CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM, DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTS STUDENTS OF COLOR AND IN CERTAIN COMMUNITIES OF COLOR CHRONIC ABSENCE RATES ARE OVER 25%. THIS MEANS AS YOU CAN SEE FROM THIS CHART, THIS MEANS THAT OUT OF A 180-DAY SCHOOL YEAR SOME STUDENTS ARE MISSING 45 DAYS OF SCHOOL OR MORE. CHRONIC ABSENCE IS PROBLEMATIC AMONGST STUDENTS LIVING IN POVERTY MOST LIKELY TO HAVE POOR ATTENDANCE OVER MULTIPLE YEARS AND LEAST LIKELY TO HAVE THE RESOURCES TO MAKE UP FOR THE LOST TIME IN THE CLASSROOM. AMONG POOR CHILDREN CHRONIC ABSENCE IN KINDERGARTEN PREDICTS THE LOWEST LEVELS OF EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AT THE END OF FIFTH GRADE SO RESEARCH SHOWS THAT CHILDREN REGARDLESS OF GENDER AND SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS OR ETHNICITY LOSE OUT WHEN THEY ARE CHRONICALLY ABSENT. AS THIS CHART SHOWS THIS ISSUE IS PERSISTENT AND DEEP IN OUR COMMUNITY.

NEXT I AM GOING TO TALK A BIT ABOUT THE HISTORY OF HOW WE GOT TO WHERE WE ARE TODAY BECAUSE WE THINK THAT IT REALLY UNDERSCORES THE IMPORTANCE OF THE WORK WE'RE DOING AND THE PARTNERS AT THE TABLE. THE GENESIS OF OUR WORK REALLY BEGAN IN 2010 IN THE FALL

WHEN THE SYSTEM HOSTED THE FIRST OF ITS KIND SESSION FOR THE SIX LARGEST SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN THE COUNTY SHOWING CHRONIC ABSENCE RATES BY SCHOOL, BY GRADE, IN THIS COMMUNITY. AND THE SESSION REALLY WAS THE INTRODUCTION OF CHRONIC ABSENCE AS AN ISSUE IN THE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS. THE DATA AT THAT TIME WAS SO COMPELLING THAT THE DAVID DOUGLAS SCHOOL DISTRICT IN PARTICULAR WENT BACK AND DEVELOPED DISTRICT WIDE PROTOCOLS AS THEY WANTED TO EMPLOY IN THEIR SCHOOLS. THEY WANTED THE STAFF TO FOLLOW STEPS IN SEQUENCE TO ENSURE KIDS WERE COMING TO SCHOOL REGULARLY.

Ms. Samolinski: THIS WORK REALLY BECAME AN ANCHOR FOR OUR FUTURE COLLECTIVE ACTION. INTEREST IN ATTENTION TO 24 TOPIC CONTINUE TO PERCOLATE, SO THAT A COUPLE OF YEARS LATER ALL HANDS RAISED STEP FORWARD AS A LEADER, AND FOCUSED ON KEY MILESTONES, THEY CREATED A COLLABORATIVE STRUCTURE THAT ALLOWED PLACE FOR PEOPLE TO GET TOGETHER, MULTIPLE PARTNERS COME UP WITH A SOLUTION.

MANY OF THE PARTNERS INCLUDED FOLKS SUCH AS UPSTREAM HEALTH, HOME FORWARD, THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS, LIBRARIES, THE OREGON DEPARTMENT 6 HUMAN SERVICES, AND SCHOOL-BASED CLINICS, AND NONPROFIT PROVIDERS AND THE LIST REALLY DOES GO ON SO THERE IS A WHOLE RANGE OF FOLKS, TOGETHER THIS GROUP DEVELOPED A SCHOOL-BASED ATTENDANCE MODEL TO BE USED IN SCHOOLS TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE. A YEAR LATER, SIX SCHOOL-BASED DEMONSTRATION SITES BEGAN IN SUN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS. THEY USE THIS MODEL WHICH CALLED FOR HAVING A SCHOOL ATTENDANCE RESOURCE TEAM, AND AN OVERT FOCUS ON DATA LOOKING AT ATTENDANCE DATA DAILY FOR KIDS ABSENT AND CREATING A SCHOOL-WIDE CULTURE FOR ATTENDANCE IN SCHOOLS.

THROUGH THIS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT WE QUICKLY REALIZED THAT WE NEEDED MORE PEOPLE ON THE GROUND TO CONNECT WITH FAMILIES WHOSE BARRIERS TO CONSISTENT ATTENDANCE WERE BEYOND THE CAPACITY OF EXISTING PERSONNEL OR SCHOOL STAFF. THAT'S WHY MULTNOMAH COUNTY AND THE OREGON DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AGREED TO FUND OR RECITE STAFF TO BE LOCATED IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS, TO PROVIDE INTENSIVE SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE CHRONICALLY ABSENT, AND THEIR FAMILIES. SO IN THE YEAR 2014, THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES PLACED SIX SELF SUFFICIENCY CASEWORKERS THAT WE CALL FAMILY COACHES, IN SIX SCHOOLS IN THE COMMUNITY, AND MULTNOMAH COUNTY INVESTED AN INITIAL 200,000 TO MATCH WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO PLACE ATTENDANCE CASEWORKERS IN THE SCHOOLS. SO TODAY THIS WORK CONTINUES. TWO YEARS LATER THE ORIGINAL COUNTY FUNDING HAS BEEN INCREASED WITH ONE-TIME ONLY FUNDING SO THAT EACH OF THE SIX SCHOOL DISTRICTS HAS AN

INVESTMENT WITH AN ATTENDANCE CASEWORKER, AND THROUGHOUT THE PAST YEARS ALSO ALL PARTNERS HAVE CONTINUED TO JOIN IN.

Ms. Samolinski: WE LAUGHED WHEN WE PUT THIS TOGETHER BECAUSE IT COULD HAVE BEEN A WHOLE PAGE OF LOGOS, THERE IS SO MANY FOLKS INVOLVED, SO IT'S NOT US ALONE. WE ARE TALKING ABOUT THIS ISSUE, BUT IT'S REALLY ALL ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIPS. IT REPRESENTS THE COLLECTIVE IMPACT APPROACH AND OUR WORK TOGETHER ON THE GROUND CREATING CHANGE AND TRULY HARD TO PULL OUT ANY ONE ELEMENT WITHOUT IT TOPPLING. SOUNDS DRAMATIC BUT IT'S REALLY TRUE, AND I AM GOING TO LIST A FEW HERE AND WE COULD GO ON AND ON. ALL HANDS RAISED AS I MENTIONED STEPPED IN EARLY TO CONVENE THE COMMUNITY AROUND A SET OF INDICATORS AND THEY HAVE CONTINUED TO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP, DATA ANALYSIS, AND VISIBILITY TO THIS AND OTHER ISSUES. THEIR EFFORTS IN THE SCHOOLS CONTINUES TO UNCOVER EFFECTIVE PRACTICES AND THEY SHARE THESE FOR REPLICATION. THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES DOES CONTINUE THEIR ON-SITE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SIX SELF SUFFICIENCY CASEWORKERS AND THEY HAVE FOUND THIS APPROACH TO BE PARTICULARLY EFFECTIVE FOR THEM AND ENGAGING FAMILIES IN WAYS THAT WE WERE UNABLE TO DO SO SITTING IN THEIR OFFICE SO WE HEAR THAT THEY LOVE BEING IN THE FIELD AND HERE TODAY TO SHOW THAT SUPPORT FOR THIS WORK.

HOME FORWARD, I LIKE TO CALL THEM AN UNINTENTIONAL PARTNER OR UNEXPECTED PARTNER. THEY CAME TO THE TABLE HAVING LEARNED THE IMPORTANCE OF ATTENDANCE THROUGH THE REGISTER FOR KINDERGARTEN CAMPAIGN WE STARTED SEVERAL YEARS AGO. THEY REALLY WANTED TO UNDERSTAND THE CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM FOR THOSE WHO ARE RECEIVING ANY ONE OF THE SUBSIDIES. SO THEY WENT THROUGH AN EXHAUSTIVE PROCESS TO LEARN THAT THE RATES FOR KIDS LIVING, OR RECEIVING HOME FORWARD SUBSIDIES WAS 35%. SO THEY HAVE JOINED IN OUR COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION EFFORT TO BRING INFORMATION TO THE RESIDENT STAFF AND FAMILIES ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF ATTENDANCE. CAMPUS COMPACT IS BRINGING AMERICORPS MEMBERS TO THE SCHOOLS TO HELP BOLSTER THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE ON THE GROUND ENGAGED IN THIS ISSUE, AND THE LIBRARY IS INVOLVED DISSEMINATING INFORMATION AND SHARING MANY OF THE MATERIALS THAT WE HAVE DEVELOPED WITH FAMILIES, AND MANY OF OUR NONPROFIT AGENCIES SUCH AS LATINO NETWORK, IMPACT NORTHWEST ARE ESSENTIAL TO THIS WORK ON THE GROUND. SO WITH ALL THESE PARTNERS WHO IS OUR ROLE?

WE SEE OURSELVES AS PLAYING THREE PRIMARY ROLES IN THIS EFFORT. WE HAVE INVESTED TOOLS, FUNDING, AND EVALUATION SUPPORTED TO SHOW THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE APPROACHES. IN TERMS OF THE TOOLS WE HAVE DEVELOPED WITH OUR PARTNERS AN ATTENDANCE TOOL KIT WHICH WAS REALLY BUILDING OFF THE WORK THAT DAVID DOUGLAS HAD

PIONEERED AROUND SHOWING FORMS AND SAMPLE LETTERS AND DIFFERENT KINDS OF MESSAGING THAT PEOPLE COULD USE SO THAT AS FOLKS WERE DOING THIS IN DIFFERENT SCHOOL BUILDINGS THEY DID NOT HAVE TO START FROM SCRATCH. WE DEVELOPED MOST RECENTLY WE'VE BEEN WORKING ON A MORE BROAD COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION SUPPORT WE CALL IT. WE HAVE FLYERS, AND POST-CARDS AND DOOR HANGERS AND OTHER MESSAGING THAT FOLKS CAN USE, FOR EXAMPLE, HOME FORWARD, TO CARRY THE MESSAGE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF ATTENDANCE. WE ALSO CONVENE A LEARNING COMMUNITY OF THE SCHOOL-BASED ATTENDANCE CASEWORKERS SO THEY CAN SHARE THE PRACTICES AND HAVE PEER NETWORKING. THE SECOND AREA THAT WE'RE INVOLVED IN IS FUNDING.

Ms. Samolinski: WE FUND THE YOUTH AND STABILITY CASEWORKERS WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICTS, AND THEY CONDUCT HOME VISITS AND ENGAGE IN FAMILIES MORE DIRECTLY. OUR LOCAL MODEL IS THAT THESE ARE SCHOOL DISTRICT EMPLOYEES, AND THEY HAVE ACCESS TO DATA AND INFORMATION UNDER FERPA AND THE ON-SITE AND PART OF THE DISTRICT PROCESSES FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER PROTOCOLS. SO FOR EXAMPLE OUR RESOURCES SUPPORT SIX FTE ACROSS THE DISTRICTS AND INVESTMENTS ADD ANOTHER SEVEN, SO OUR MONEY IS OUTMATCHED BY THE DISTRICTS AT THIS POINT.

THE THIRD AREA THAT WE PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR THE INITIATIVE IS THROUGH DATA ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION. THE YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICE EVALUATORS RECENTLY LOOKED AT TYPES OF INTERVENTIONS THAT ARE SHOWING THE MOST PROMISE, AND WE SHARED THESE WITH PRACTITIONERS AND WE LEARNED THAT THE IMPACT OF POSITIVE PHONE CALLS HOME, ESPECIALLY BY A TEACHER, HAD THE GREATEST IMPACT ON KIDS COMING BACK TO SCHOOL, SO GETTING THAT ONE-ON-ONE PHONE CALL THAT THIS HEY WE MISS YOU, WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE YOU IN SCHOOL TOMORROW. THAT MADE A DIFFERENCE.

ALONG WITH STUDENT MEETINGS, MEETING WITH KIDS ONE-ON-ONE AND HOME VISITS AS LONG AS THEY WERE PART OF INTERVENTIONS. THE LAST SLIDE IS MORE DETAIL ABOUT THE STRATEGIES PART OF THE MODEL, AND THESE FALL INTO TWO CATEGORIES. UNIVERSAL AND TARGETED. THIS IMAGE SAYS THE PANTHERS' ATTENDANCE IS ACTUALLY FROM THE PICTURE OF PARK LANE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL THAT WE HAD THE CHANCE TO VISIT A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO, AND THIS IS ONE EXAMPLE OF HOW, OF A SCHOOL-WIDE APPROACH TO MAKE SURE THAT THE BROADCASTING, BOTH THE RATES OF ATTENDANCE, GOALS, 95%, THE WEEK PRIOR, AT 91.5, AND TO MAKE THAT VISIBLE TO FOLKS, TO PARENTS COMING IN EVERY DAY, TO VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL, AND TO THE STAFF, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY TO THE KIDS.

Ms. Samolinski: SO PART OF WHAT THIS DOES IS HELP TO CREATE A CLIMATE OF ATTENDANCE, WHERE THEY ARE GREETING KIDS BY NAME AS THEY WALKED IN, WHERE THEY HOST ASSEMBLIES AND HONOR KIDS FOR COMING TO SCHOOL AND BEING THERE AND THEY CHEER AND CLAP FOR THE GOOD ATTENDANCE. AND THEY RECOGNIZE GOOD ATTENDANCE IN A VARIETY OF WAYS. AND THOSE ARE MORE TARGETED STRATEGIES, AS YOU SEE ON THE RIGHT WE HAVE A POST-CARD FROM HIGHLAND ELEMENTARY AND THEY ARE GOING TO SPEAK TO THIS. THIS IS A TARGETED APPROACH WHERE YOU RECOGNIZE INDIVIDUAL KIDS, KNOWING WHICH ONES NEED ATTENDANCE AND SUPPORTS, AND SUPPORTING THEM IN A VARIETY OF WAYS, ONE OF WHICH IS A POST-CARD HOME, THAT SAID YOUR ATTENDANCE IS IMPROVING. AND GREAT JOB. WHAT WE'RE LEARNING IN SOME DEGREE FOR SOME KIDS IS THE LITTLE THINGS THAT REALLY DO MATTER. ANOTHER EXAMPLE IS THE STUDENT ATTENDANCE RESPONSE TEAM.

THESE ARE AT SCHOOLS, THEY MEET BIWEEKLY AND INCLUDE THE PRINCIPAL, OFTENTIMES THE ATTENDANCE SECRETARY, AND COUNCILOR, SUN COMMUNITY SCHOOL MANAGER, AND ANY ONE OF THE CASE MANAGERS THAT THEY MIGHT HAVE ON-SITE INCLUDING DHS. AND LITERALLY THEY ARE LOOKING AT THE DATA WHICH KIDS HAVE MISSED SCHOOL WHO HAS HAD A CONNECTION WITH THAT FAMILY AND IF NO ONE HAS AND WHO WANTS TO REACH OUT, AND ONCE THEY GO THROUGH THE PROTOCOLS, THEY WILL ENGAGE THAT CASEWORKER WHO MAY END UP GOING ON A HOME VISIT AND ENGAGING WITH THAT FAMILY MORE. SO WITH THAT BROAD OVERVIEW I AM PLEASED TO TURN OVER TO SHAWNDA SEWELL TO TALK ABOUT LIFE IN HIGHLAND.

Ms. Sewell: ANY TIME I HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK ABOUT MY KIDDOS AT HIGHLAND I AM EXCITED AND ALWAYS WILLING TO DO THAT, SO I AM SHAWNDA SEWELL, THE PRINCIPAL THERE, AND I WANT TO PAINT A PICTURE OF WHAT HIGHLAND IS. WE RANGE IN ATTENDANCE ANYWHERE BETWEEN 490 AND 550 STUDENTS, AND THAT RANGE IS BECAUSE WE HAVE A HIGH MOBILE RATE. HIGH MOBILITY MEANING THAT KIDS MOVE IN AND OUT OR EVEN WITHIN OUR DISTRICT. WE ARE 100% FREE AND REDUCED BREAKFAST AND LUNCH, 63% OF THE STUDENTS ARE OF COLOR. 43% OF THAT 63 ARE LATINO. OUR AREA AT HIGHLAND, THERE ARE FOUR LARGE APARTMENT COMPLEXES. WE DO NOT HAVE MANY WALKERS TO SCHOOL SO MANY OF THE FAMILIES ARE LOCATED ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF MAJOR BOULEVARDS, ONLY 3% OF OUR POPULATION ARE WALKERS TO AND FROM SCHOOL.

I BRING THAT PIECE UP BECAUSE AROUND ATTENDANCE AND HOW KIDS GET TO AND FROM. EARLY ON IN THE WORK IT WAS REALLY EVIDENT THAT ATTENDANCE IS REALLY A SYMPTOM OF SOMETHING BIGGER. ESPECIALLY WHEN WE GET TO OUR CHRONIC ABSENTEE KIDS. AND IN ORDER TO FIGURE OUT WHAT THAT BIGGER THING IS, WE HAVE TO DEVELOP THOSE RELATIONSHIPS AND WORK FROM OUR HEART, AND SO EVERYTHING THAT

WE DO, IF YOU CAN KEEP THAT IN MIND, THAT WE ARE WORKING WITH RELATIONSHIPS, AND THAT'S WHERE THE SUCCESS IS, IN ADDITION TO THE PARTNERSHIPS THAT WE HAVE, I, TOO, AT HIGHLAND AM A LUCKY RECIPIENT OF THE SUPPORT OF ALL OF THE PARTNERS THAT YOU SAW ON THAT PREVIOUS SLIDE, AND WE REALLY COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT ALL OF THOSE PARTNERS.

Ms. Sewell: IT HAS BEEN OVER THE LAST FOUR YEARS THAT WE'VE BEEN IMPLEMENTING THIS ATTENDANCE MODEL, AND WE WERE ABLE TO JOINTLY DEVELOP THAT, AND WE ARE A SENIOR SIGHT WHICH MEANS WE'VE BEEN THROUGH ALL THESE PROCESSES AND DEVELOPMENTS. IT IS A LOT OF WORK, AND IT DOES REALLY HAVE A GREAT IMPACT ON OUR POPULATION AT HIGHLAND. WE HAVE SEEN GREAT IMPROVEMENTS IN OUR RATE, WE WERE ONE OF THE SCHOOLS THAT STARTED OUT WITH HIGHER THAN 20% OF THE STUDENTS IN THE CHRONIC ABSENTEE CATEGORY. SO SOME OF THE THINGS THAT WE DO FOR OUR TEAM IS WE DO USE BOTH THE UNIVERSAL AND TARGETED STRATEGIES. ATTENDANCE IS PART OF OUR CULTURE AT HIGHLAND, EVERYTHING WE DO, EVERY OPPORTUNITY THAT WE HAVE TO TALK ABOUT ATTENDANCE, I TALK ABOUT ATTENDANCE. KIDS REALLY RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF THEM BEING THERE EACH DAY, AND SOME OF OUR UNIVERSAL STRATEGIES IS WHEN YOU PULL UP OUTSIDE OF HIGHLAND IN THE MORNING, YOU WILL SEE THE AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE FROM THE DAY BEFORE. AND SO IT WILL SAY 94% OF KIDDOS WERE HERE YESTERDAY. OR WHATEVER IT IS FOR THAT PREVIOUS DAY, AND WE ALSO DO HAVE ASSEMBLIES WHERE WE GIVE OUT TROPHIES FOR CLASSES WITH THE HIGHEST ATTENDANCE. AND WE HAVE 100% BANNERS,

SO IF YOU COME TO HIGHLAND AND I WELCOME YOU TO STOP BY, IN THE MORNING WHEN A CLASSROOM TEACHER DOES ATTENDANCE AND THEY HAVE 100% ATTENDANCE THEY SEND A STUDENT DOWN AND HANG A BANNER ON THEIR DOOR THAT DAY THAT SAYS THAT WE HAVE 100% ATTENDANCE AND ANYONE THAT WALKS BY CAN STOP IN AND SAY GREAT JOB. I AM GLAD THAT YOU ARE HERE TODAY. SO I AM STARTING TO SEE THAT INVESTMENT WITH STUDENTS AROUND ATTENDANCE AND OUR DATA SHOWS THAT WE HAVE BEEN PLUS, 20 PLUS, AND WE HAVE DROPPED 14 IN THIS LAST YEAR 11%. SO WITH THAT, WE DO TARGETED STRATEGIES FOR INDIVIDUAL KIDDOS AND OUR SART MEETINGS, WE HAVE ALL OF THOSE PLAYERS AT THE TABLE. MYSELF AND MY COUNCILOR AND MY ATTENDANCE SECRETARY, SITE MANAGER, AND WE HAVE STRUGGLED WITH WHAT ARE THE NAMES THAT WE CALL THIS PERSON THAT COMES IN, IS IT AN ATTENDANCE CASE MANAGER? REALLY THAT PERSON IS THERE, AND HELPS US TO PROVIDE FAMILY STABILITY, AND SO WHEN WE'RE SITTING AT THESE MEETINGS AND TRYING TO DECIDE WHAT INTERVENTION, IT'S NOT AS SIMPLE AS OH, THEY MISSED FIVE DAYS SO WE'RE GOING TO SEND OUT A POST-CARD OR A LETTER.

Ms. Sewell: WE ALL HAVE PIECES OF THE PUZZLE THAT ARE ESSENTIAL SO WHEN A STUDENT'S NAME COMES UP, MY COUNCILOR MIGHT HAVE JUST MET WITH THAT FAMILY AND SHE CAN GIVE US SOME INFORMATION, THE STUDENT MAY HAVE HAD SOME DISCIPLINARY ISSUES THAT WEEK, AND I CAN GIVE THAT INFORMATION, SO AGAIN IT'S THAT RELATIONSHIP IN HEART THAT HELPS US TO MOVE FORWARD. IN THE MOST MEANINGFUL WAY WITH THESE KIDDOS AND THEIR FAMILIES. I REALLY WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU THE HEART OF ALL OF THIS AND WHY WE DO THIS. WHEN YOU GET DOWN TO YOUR 60 KIDDOS THAT ARE CHRONICALLY ABSENT, THAT'S WHEN THE TOUGH WORK BEGINS, AND IN ORDER TO GET TO THOSE BIGGER ISSUES, WE HAVE TO HAVE DEVELOPED THOSE RELATIONSHIPS. SO IF I COULD ASK YOU TO JUST VISUALIZE A KIDDO IN YOUR PERSONAL LIFE THAT IS SUPER IMPORTANT TO YOU, AND I WILL SHARE A STORY AND A LETTER FROM ONE OF THOSE STUDENTS. SORRY THIS IS TOUGH. WHEN I START TALKING ABOUT THE INDIVIDUAL KIDDO. A STUDENT WROTE US A LETTER.

I AM GOING TO USE HER NAME BECAUSE SHE SAID THAT IT WAS OK TO DO SO. HI. MY NAME IS JANETSA. I AM IN FIFTH GRADE. HIGHLAND ELEMENTARY HELPED ME SO MUCH BY SUPPORTING ME TO DO MY BEST TO COME TO SCHOOL. I HAVE A PROBLEM. MY PROBLEM IS THAT I CAN'T CONTROL MY BLADDER AT NIGHT. THEY HELPED ME WITH THIS. THEY PROVIDED ME THE NECESSARY TOOLS THAT I NEEDED. SCHOOL IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE I SEE ALL THE STAFF, TEACHERS, FRIENDS, AND MY TWO HAPPY, HAPPY SISTERS. I CAN'T DO ANYTHING WITHOUT THIS SCHOOL. THE REASON THAT I SHARE THAT IS SHE IS AN AMAZING YOUNG LADY WHO DOESN'T HAVE THE FAMILY SUPPORT IN THE SENSE THAT THE FAMILY STRUGGLES WITH SUBSTANCE ABUSE ISSUES, AND MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES.

THIS IS A YOUNG LADY WHO LOVES SCHOOL, ABSOLUTELY WANTS TO BE AT SCHOOL EVERY DAY, BUT IF YOU WET THE BED EVERY NIGHT AND YOU DON'T HAVE CLEAN LAUNDRY, OR YOU HAVE AN ODOR THAT YOU KNOW THAT YOUR PEERS ARE GOING TO RECOGNIZE THAT KEEPS YOU FROM SCHOOL. THIS IS A FIFTH GRADER WHO WAS ABLE TO OPEN UP TO US AND SAY, THIS IS WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON. THAT WAS THROUGH THE RELATIONSHIP, NOT OF MY SCHOOL COUNCILOR, NOT OF MYSELF, OF COURSE, WE PLAY A ROLE IN THAT, AND OF THE SUPPORT THAT WE HAVE THROUGH OUR ATTENDANCE CASE MANAGER. THAT IS BRENDA, AND SHE IS HERE TODAY AND PLAYS A SUPER IMPORTANT ROLE IN OUR SCHOOL.

SHE HAS ENGAGED THIS FAMILY, WE WERE ABLE TO PROVIDE THESE THINGS, AND THAT STUDENT AND HER TWO SISTERS ARE AT OUR SCHOOL EVERY DAY. WE DO HAVE TO GO ABOVE AND BEYOND TO GET THEM THERE. WE OFTEN PICK THEM UP FOR SCHOOL IF THEY ARE NOT THERE AT A CERTAIN TIME, WE KNOW THAT THE FAMILY HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO GET THEM UP ON-TIME AND WE SHOW UP AND WE GET THEM TO SCHOOL. WE PROVIDED CLEAN LAUNDRIES SERVICES AND, FOR THEM, AND THE

NECESSARY, YOU KNOW, NIGHT-TIME SUPPLIES, AND SO THAT'S ONE OF OUR FAMILIES, AND IN THIS CASE HOMELESSNESS IS NOT, DOES NOT PLAY AN ISSUE. THERE ARE MANY FACTORS. SO THIS IS THREE GIRLS. WE HAVE ANOTHER FAMILY WHO IS HOMELESS. THE THREE GIRLS, TWO WHICH ARE SCHOOL AGED FIRST IN KINDER AND ONE THAT IS FOUR, AND THEY LIVE IN A CAR, AND WE LOCATE THEM, THEY, RIGHT NOW THEY ARE IN ONE SPOT THAT THEY HAVE MOVED FROM PLACE TO PLACE, AND THESE GIRLS ABSOLUTELY LOVE SCHOOL, FOR THEM HOMELESSNESS PLAYS A FACTOR, SUBSTANCE ABUSE PLAYS A FACTOR, BUT WHAT'S HARD IS WHEN THE FAMILIES STRUGGLE, WE STILL WANT THOSE KIDDOS IN SCHOOL AND THEY WANT TO BE IN SCHOOL.

Ms. Sewell: THE HARDEST PART ABOUT THIS WORK IS RECOGNIZING THAT WE ONLY HAVE THEM FOR SEVEN HOURS A DAY, SO WE GOT TO MAKE THE BEST OF THOSE SEVEN HOURS. WHEN WE THINK ABOUT THESE KIDS WE KNOW THAT WE CAN PROVIDE THEM FOOD AND PROVIDE THEM A SAFE PLACE, AND WITH THESE KIDDOS WE GET THEM AS WELL, ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE'RE LEARNING IS FAMILIES EASILY FEEL SO OVERWHELMED THAT THE SMALLEST TASK OF GETTING THE CHILD IMMUNIZED BECOMES AN ISSUE. SO WE HAVE WORKED WITH FAMILIES, AND WE TAKE THEM TO THE CLINICS AND SO WE END UP ENGAGING IN THESE REALLY PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS. REALLY TOUCHY AREAS. OFTEN WHERE FAMILIES FEEL EMBARRASSED OR MAYBE JUST CAN'T THROUGH MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES ENGAGE. WE WANT THOSE KIDDOS IN SCHOOL SO WE CAN IMPACT THEM AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR THEM AND THEIR FAMILIES AND THEIR FUTURE. SO THERE ARE MANY STORIES LIKE THAT, THAT I CAN TELL.

THOSE ARE OUR TWO FAMILIES THAT WERE MOST CHRONICALLY ABSENT AND WE HAVE TURNED THAT AROUND. WE DO ENGAGE WITH THOSE FAMILIES AND PROVIDE THEM RESOURCES, SCHOOL IS NOT WHAT IT USED TO BE, WE ABSOLUTELY HAVE TO GO ABOVE AND BEYOND. I HAVE MYSELF AND MY SCHOOL COUNCILOR, SO WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF SOMEBODY ELSE PROVIDED TO US, IT TAKES TWO OF US TO GO OUT TO A HOME OR TO GO OUT TO A CAR OR TO GO OUT TO A SHELTER. I STILL HAVE 540 KIDDOS THAT ARE WAITING FOR ME AT SCHOOL AND HAVE OTHER THINGS GOING ON. SO THIS WORK CAN'T BE DONE WITHOUT THOSE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES. WE KNOW THAT, WHAT A GREAT INVESTMENT KIDS ARE. WHAT A GREAT INVESTMENT EDUCATION IS FOR THESE KIDDOS AND IF WE CAN TURN IT AROUND AT THE ELEMENTARY LEVEL AND HELP THEM TO UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING THERE EVERY DAY, AND HELP THEM TO REALLY FEEL THAT SENSE OF SECURITY, AND BUILDING IN THOSE HABITS OF BEING IN SCHOOL AND WHAT SCHOOL CAN PROVIDE, AND WE CAN THAT I CAN THAT CHANGE FOR THEM AT THE JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL AS WELL. THANK YOU.

Ms. Samolinski: BEFORE I DO THE SLIDE, WE MENTIONED SIX SCHOOLS THAT WERE DEMONSTRATION SITES AND AS SHAWNDA SEWELL MENTIONED HIGHLAND WAS ONE OF THEM AND I WANT TO NAME THEM. IT WAS GEORGE MIDDLE SCHOOL IN PORTLAND PUBLIC, DAVID DOUGLAS, SHAVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN PARKROSE, GLENFAIR IN REYNOLDS, LYNCHWOOD AND HIGHLAND IN GRESHAM-BARLOW. THOSE WERE THE INITIAL SIX, IT HAS GROWN BUT THOSE WERE THE SENIOR SITES AS THEY ARE CALLED. BEFORE WE CLOSE, WE ARE SEEING SUCCESS IN A LOT OF PLACES. WE WANT TO TALK ABOUT HOW IT HAS BEEN WORKING WITH KINDERGARTENERS. WE SHARED THE PROBLEM AND THE SCOPE. WE BELIEVE THAT THE SOLUTION LIES IN OUR COLLECTIVE APPROACH. WE ARE SEEING RESULTS IN ATTENDANCE RATES FOR KINDERGARTEN.

THIS SLIDE DEMONSTRATES WITH A STRAIGHT LINE THAT GOES UP THE TREND LINE, THE LINE THAT WE WOULD HOPE TO SEE, AND THE BLUE LINE REPRESENTS THE ACTUAL FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS OF ATTENDANCE FOR KINDERGARTENERS. AND SO AGAIN STARTING OUT 78% ATTENDANCE WITH A HIGH FOUR YEARS LATER OF 84.6, A DIP LAST YEAR DOWN TO 81.1. BUT KINDERGARTEN IS IMPORTANT, WE MENTIONED THAT BEFORE. THE BEGINNING OF THE PRESENTATION WE HEARD HOW IMPORTANT CHRONIC ABSENCE IS IN KINDERGARTEN AS A PRIMARY PREDICTOR OF EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN FIFTH GRADE, AND WHICH IS IN ITSELF A PREDICTOR OF FUTURE ACADEMIC SUCCESS SO THROUGH OUR WORK TO GO HERE AND THE ATTENDANCE WORK AND OTHER EARLY LEARNING EFFORTS WE ARE CHANGING THE TRAJECTORY FOR THESE KIDS. I AM GOING TO TURN IT TO LIESL TO CLOSE.

Ms. Wendt: THANK YOU. THERE IS A GROUP OF PEOPLE IN THE BACK THAT I JUST WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE WHO ARE THE BOOTS ON THE GROUND DOING THIS WORK. SO IF I SAY HER NAME IF YOU WILL STAND UP. FROM PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS. FROM CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT. FLORENCE, I WILL APOLOGIZE AHEAD OF TIME, FROM DAVID DOUGLAS SCHOOL DISTRICT, AND CHRIS FROM REYNOLDS. AND FROM DHS AND A FAMILY COACH, MOSES. FROM HOME FORWARD RACHAEL LANGFORD, AND FROM ALL HANDS RAISED JEANNIE MARIE PRICE. MIGHT BE A FEW OTHERS THAT SLIPPED IN. RAISE YOUR HAND IF YOU ARE HERE. GIVE THEM A ROUND OF APPLAUSE. [APPLAUSE]

AND WE WANTED TO CLOSE WITH ANOTHER THANK YOU NOTE. THIS IS FROM A STUDENT AT DAVID DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL. SHE SAID THANK YOU KELLY. I AM SO THANKFUL FOR YOU MAKING ME GO THE RIGHT PATH IN SCHOOL. YOU ARE THE BEST EVER. I AM SO HAPPY I MADE A CONTACT WITH YOU. YOU HAVE BEEN HELPING, TRYING TO MAKE ME DO THE RIGHT THING SINCE DAY ONE, AND THANK YOU SCHOOL MOM, YOU ARE THE BEST. WE ENCOURAGE ANY OF YOU TO COME AND VISIT THE SCHOOLS OR SHADOW SOME OF THE

ATTENDANCE WORKERS IN THE FIELD AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME TODAY TO DISCUSS THIS.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? COMMISSIONER MEIERAN?

Commissioner Meieran: THANK YOU CHAIR AND SO MUCH FOR THAT PRESENTATION AND FOR THE WORK THAT YOU ARE DOING. THAT IS JUST SOME INCREDIBLE ON THE GROUNDWORK THAT YOU AND THE OTHERS HERE HAVE BEEN DOING TO HELP OUR KIDS. I AGREE. STARTING WITH OUR KIDS, WHERE WE NEED TO INVEST BECAUSE IT SOUNDS CLICHE BUT THEY ARE THE FUTURE. I HAD A QUESTION, AND I AM NOT SURE IF THIS GOES TO LIESL OR WHO THIS WOULD GO TO, BUT IT SOUNDS LIKE THE SCHOOLS THEMSELVES ARE DOING AN AMAZING JOB WITH THESE DEDICATED CASE MANAGERS, SERVICES, AND ALSO WITH THE SART TEAMS.

I AM A BELIEVER IN THOSE INDIVIDUAL RELATIONSHIPS REALLY MAKING ALL THE DIFFERENCE AND FOCUSING IN ON THAT BUT GOING INTO THIS PROCESS THERE WERE A NUMBER OF, YOU KNOW, TOO MANY TO LIST ON THE PAPER OF THE NONPROFITS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS THAT WERE INVOLVED IN THIS PROCESS, AND NOW THAT IT SEEMS LIKE KIND OF THE FOCUS IS GOING INTO THE INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS, ARE THOSE NONPROFITS STILL INVOLVED IN SOME CAPACITY? IF SO WHAT CAPACITY AND GIVEN THAT CAPACITY WHAT KINDS OF LIKE OUTCOMES, MEASURES, HOW ARE WE LOOKING AT THEIR INVOLVEMENT AND ACHIEVING CERTAIN GOALS?

Ms. Samolinski: THANK YOU COMMISSIONER. THE NONPROFITS ARE DEEPLY INVOLVED. MANY OF THEM I LISTED ARE OPERATING THE SUN SCHOOL, IN ALL THE SCHOOLS, ALMOST ALL OF THEM THAT HAVE ATTENDANCE ARE SUN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS BY DESIGN BECAUSE SUN PROVIDES THAT ANCHOR, THAT PERSON IN THE BUILDING THAT IS BUILDING THE WILLIAMS AND HURTING THE PARTNERS TOGETHER TO WORK TOGETHER, SO THEY ARE ALL INVOLVED IN THAT CAPACITY, AND THEY SIT ON THE SART, I CAN'T BELIEVE I USED AN ACRONYM, I HAVE BEEN SHAMED FROM THAT BUT NEVERTHELESS I DO LIKE THAT ONE. SO THEY ARE ON THAT TEAM, AND IF THERE ARE OTHER NONPROFIT PARTNERS IN THE SCHOOL, AND THAT VARIES. MANY OF THE NONPROFITS TOUCH SCHOOLS, NOT ALL CITED IN THE SCHOOL, DON'T ALL SPEND EVERY DAY IN A SCHOOL BUILDING. FOR EXAMPLE NOT TO GET TOO COMPLICATED BUT OUR ADVOCACY PROGRAM WHICH IS, AS A CASE MANAGEMENT ORIENTED PROGRAM, THEY CONNECT WITH KIDS BUT DON'T LIVE AT THE SCHOOL LIKE THE SUN SITE MANAGER OR COUNCILOR OR TEACHERS OR THE FOLKS THERE.

SO IF THEY ARE IN THAT BUILDING OR DEEPLY CONNECTED YES THEY ARE PART OF THAT SO THEY ARE ALSO PART OF THAT TEAM THAT'S SAYING WHO KNOWS THIS FAMILY AND WHO KNOWS THIS STUDENT? ARE THEY ON

ANYBODY'S CASELOAD? HAS ANYONE TALKED TO THEM IN THE WHAT'S COUPLE DAYS? JUST, PART OF THAT CONVERSATION ABOUT WHO MIGHT BE THE BEST ONE TO REACH OUT AND CONNECT WITH THAT FAMILY. SO THEY ARE DEEPLY INVOLVED. YES. OUTCOMES, YOU ALSO ASKED ABOUT OUTCOMES. THANK YOU. SO WE ARE TRACKING ATTENDANCE. SO THAT'S ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE DO. YOU SAW ATTENDANCE FOR KIND SKINNED AND THE OTHER RATES, AND THAT'S INFORMATION THAT WE COLLECT BROADLY ACROSS THE COMMUNITY AND THEN FOR STUDENTS WHO ENGAGE IN SOME OF OUR FUNDED PROGRAMS LIKE THE YOUTH ADVOCACY OR SUN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS WE ARE COLLECTING THAT DATA FOR THOSE STUDENTS AS WELL.

Commissioner Meieran: THINGS THAT SHOW THE CAUSALITY, OR RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SUCH AND SUCH ORGANIZATION, AND THE OUTCOMES THAT WE SEE.

Ms. Samolinski: THE TRUTH IS THAT THERE IS NOT ONE ANSWER TO THAT. THERE IS SO MANY THINGS THAT SHAWNDA SAID THAT GO INTO HELPING A STUDENT BE SUCCESSFUL. IT IS HARD TO TEASE OUT WHAT IT WAS PHONE CALL OR KNOCK ON THE DOOR AND THE ONE-ON-ONE CONVERSATION? WAS IT THE FACT THAT THERE WAS BREAKFAST TODAY? WE HAVE NOT DONE THE ANALYSIS TO TRY TO TEASE OUT SPECIFICS. THAT'S REALLY, IT'S REALLY HARD TO DO THAT, AND THAT'S NOT THE REASON NOT TO DO IT BUT IT'S REALLY CHALLENGING TO DO THAT, SO I MEAN, WE DO KNOW WHAT DOES WORK IN TERMS OF THE PHONE CALL HOME, BETTER THAN A LETTER, WE LEARNED THAT LIKE STOP SENDING LETTERS WHEN KIDS ARE ABSENT, MAKE THE PHONE CALL HOME AND WHEN MADE BY A TEACHER WHO THEY HAVE A CLOSER RELATIONSHIP THAN THEY DO WITH THE SECRETARY, IT'S A TIGHTER CONNECTION SO OVER TIME WE MAY BE ABLE TO LEARN MORE BUT FOR NOW, I DON'T KNOW,

Ms. Sewell: I THINK THAT'S WHAT WE ARE CURRENTLY DOING RIGHT NOW AS WE DO MAKE CHANGES TO THE ATTENDANCE PROTOCOLS OF WHAT WE'RE DOING LIKE AN EXAMPLE IS THAT FOR US, STUDENTS UNDERSTANDING AND FAMILIES REALLY RECOGNIZING A BREAK. SO AT CHRISTMAS, AT WINTER BREAK OR UPCOMING SPRING BREAK WE PUT SOME THINGS INTO PLACE AND WE'RE REALLY TRACKING THAT DATA SO AN EXAMPLE IS OVER WINTER BREAK, WE PUT WHAT THE BREAK WAS ON A STICKER ON A PACK OF POPCORN UNPOPPED POPCORN, AND WE SEND THAT HOME WITH STUDENTS IN, WHILE ALSO DOING THESE CHAINS THE KIDS COULD MAKE SO THEY COULD TAKE THE CHAIN OFF FOR SO MANY DAYS, AND WE WERE ABLE TO COLLECT THAT AND DOING THE SAME THING OVER SPRING BREAK SO THAT WILL GIVE US INFORMATION AS WELL, SO IT IS THE NEXT STEP AND I THINK THAT WE ARE IN THAT WORK RIGHT NOW.

Ms. Wendt: I WOULD ADD THAT AT A COMMUNITY LEVEL ALL HANDS RAISED CONVEEN AN ATTENDANCE PARTNERSHIP GROUP, WE ARE STARTING TO LOOK AT THE PIECES OF WHICH ELEMENT IS THE MOST IMPACTFUL AND HOW DO THE PIECES FIT TOGETHER AND ONE REPORT I WOULD HIGHLIGHT THAT HOME FORWARD DID IS A SERIES OF FOCUS GROUPS WITH FAMILIES LIVING IN THEIR HOUSING UNITS AND ONE OF THE ELEMENTS THAT STRUCK ME WAS THE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE BUS DRIVER AND THE NUTRITION SERVICES STAFF HAD A LOT TO DO WITH IF THE CHILD WANTED TO OR FELT WELCOME AND THAT THEY BELONGED IN THAT SCHOOL SETTING SO WE'RE STARTING TO UNPACK SOME OF THOSE PIECES AND OVER TIME HOW THEY FIT TOGETHER WILL BE SORT OF THE SWEET SPOT TO THE QUESTION.

Commissioner Smith: THANK YOU FOR PRESENTING THIS MORNING. IT IS SO INTERESTING AND EYE OPENING ON WHAT GETS KIDS TO MOVE AND TO COME TO SCHOOL AND THANK YOU FOR SHARING THE STORY ABOUT THE LADY WITH THE BLADDER PROBLEM, THAT HAPPENS TO SO MANY KIDS AND THAT STORY IS NOT OFTEN TOLD. IT'S A REAL CHALLENGE FOR MANY OF OUR KIDS PARTICULARLY WHO ARE IN, YOU KNOW, LOW INCOME FAMILIES, AND NOT HAVING THE RESOURCES WITH EVERYTHING. THAT'S SO KEY. THE OTHER QUESTION, JUST TO PIGGY-BACK ON COMMISSIONER MEIERAN'S THOUGHTS, I KNOW SOME OF THE NONPROFITS THAT YOU TALK ABOUT FROM LATINO NETWORK, THEY HAVE THE DATA ON WHEN THEY CASE MANAGE STUDENTS IN THE SCHOOLS, AND ON HOW THEIR ATTENDANCE HAS IMPROVED SO WE HAVE THAT DATA BASED BY, IF WE LOOK AT SUCCESSFUL FAMILIES 2020, WHICH IS PAID FOR WITH THE PROMISED NEIGHBORHOOD MONEY.

WE DO HAVE THAT DATA BY ORGANIZATION AND WHEN THEY ARE WORKING WITH KIDS WHO ARE IN THE SCHOOLS, YOU KNOW, HOW THE ABSENTEEISM RISES AND HOW THE PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT INCREASES, AND THE WHOLE NINE YARDS SO WE ARE PARTNERING WITH THOSE ORGANIZATIONS BECAUSE THEY DO GET GREAT RESULTS, AND I APPRECIATE, YOU KNOW, THE BOARD AND PREVIOUS BOARDS REALLY SUPPORTING RESOURCES FOR THAT. DO WE HAVE A BREAKDOWN? YOU HAD ONE GRAPH, AND IT JUST SAID KINDERGARTEN. IT DID NOT BREAK IT DOWN, AND I KNOW WE ASKED THAT QUESTION A BIT BUT DO YOU HAVE THE DATA FROM EACH INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL ON WHAT THE ABSENTEEISM IS? IT'S EASY TO PUT EVERYTHING IN ONE LUMP. IF THERE IS SOME PLACES WHERE WE NEED TO IDENTIFY SOME CHALLENGES AND MAYBE WE CAN FIGURE OUT HOW TO DO THAT? I AM SURE THAT SOME, SOME KINDERGARTEN SCHOOLS ARE THROUGH THE ROOF AND THEY BRING EVERYBODY ELSE'S SCORE UP BUT WE CANNOT SEE IT AND DESEGREGATE THE DATA, IT'S NOT CLEAR ON WHO REALLY NEEDS THE ASSISTANCE. THAT WOULD BE HELPFUL.

Ms. Samolinski: YES. BY SCHOOL. THE KINDERGARTEN RATE, WE CAN GET THAT. IT'S ON THE WEBSITE AND WE HAVE IT.

Vice-Chair Vega Pederson: THANKS FOR THIS PRESENTATION DAY. I THINK IT'S ONE OF THE MAIN THINGS THAT IT SHOWS IS THAT THE JOBS THAT SCHOOLS HAVE IN FRONT OF THEM IS BROADER THAN IT WAS YOU KNOW, 25, 30 YEARS AGO, AND WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A TEACHER AND AN ADMINISTRATOR. IT REALLY DOES TAKE A VILLAGE TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES, THE COMPLEX ISSUES THAT FAMILIES ARE FACING TODAY, AND THAT STUDENTS ARE FACING AS THEY TRY TO GET TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY SO I APPRECIATE THE WORK THAT YOU HAVE DONE AND EVERYBODY IN THIS ROOM HAS DONE. I THINK THAT I AM ECHOING A BIT WHAT MY FELLOW COMMISSIONERS SAID, I WOULD LOVE TO GET MORE DATA, EVEN WHEN YOU COME AND PRESENT TO US I DON'T MIND IF YOU GIVE US A BUNCH OF DATA. I REALLY APPRECIATE THAT.

I WOULD LOVE TO GET MORE CONTEXT ABOUT 20% ABSENTEE RATE. WHAT IS THAT STATEWIDE? I WOULD LIKE TO PUT THAT IN PERSPECTIVE A BIT. AND HAVING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF WHEN THIS WORK WAS, OBVIOUSLY IT'S NOT A GOOD NUMBER, RIGHT, BUT WHAT'S THE CONTEXT, AND WAS THERE A GOAL THAT WAS PUT FORWARD BY ALL OF THE PARTNERS IN THIS, THAT WE WANT TO DECREASE IT BY THIS, THIS IS WHAT WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE AND THEN TRACKING ON THAT. AND THEN THE OTHER QUESTION THAT I HAD IS JUST LIKE LOOKING AT IT, YOU KNOW, IN TERMS OF PER SCHOOL, YOU HAD THE RATES OF ABSENTEEISM BUT RACE AND ETHNICITY AND I WOULD LOVE TO SEE TRACKING THAT INFORMATION ABOUT IF THERE'S BEEN CHANGE IN THOSE RATES AS WELL.

THOSE ARE SOME OF THE THINGS THAT I AM LOOKING FOR. AND I THINK THAT IN THE CONVERSATIONS THAT THE ATTENDANCE CASE MANAGERS HAVE WITH PARENTS, WHAT'S BEEN IDENTIFIED AS SOME OF THE ROOT CAUSES? I THINK THAT WHEN YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT THE BED WETTING IS A VERY SPECIFIC ONE, BUT ARE THERE THINGS THAT YOU KNOW, WE CAN AS A BOARD, YOU KNOW, UNDERSTAND THESE ARE SOME OF THE ROAD CAUSES AND THESE ARE SOME OF THE WAYS THAT WE CAN BE SUPPORTIVE OF GETTING RESOURCES TO ADDRESS SOME OF THOSE NEEDS TOO.

Ms. Samolinski: WE CAN GEEK OUT ON DATA.

Ms. Wendt: I WILL JUST GIVE A BIT OF PROPS FOR ALL HANDS RAISED, CHAPTER 3 THERE IS REALLY GOOD DATA IN HERE RELATED TO ATTENDANCE. SO, IN THE IMMEDIATE BEFORE WE GET TO YOU WITH MORE. YOU CAN GEEK OUT ON THAT.

Commissioner Stegmann: THANK YOU CHAIR. THANK YOU FOR THE PRESENTATION. THANK YOU FOR GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND AS COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON SAID OUR ADMINISTRATORS AND TEACHERS ARE REQUIRED AND STEP UP TO DO SO MUCH MORE THAN YOU

HAVE EVER BEEN ASKED TO DO, SO THANK YOU FOR THAT. AND FOR REALLY TEASING OUT THAT 90% OF LIFE IS SHOWING UP. IF YOU DON'T SHOW UP IT'S REALLY HARD TO EXCEL, AND SO I MEAN I REALLY APPRECIATE YOU GETTING TO THE ROOF CAUSE OF A LOT OF GREATER ISSUES AND WITH EVERYTHING, I BELIEVE IT'S ALWAYS RELATIONAL AND IF YOU MAKE A PHONE CALL TO THAT KID OR TO THAT PARENT, THAT PARENT IS GOING TO GO WOW, YOU KNOW. SUZIE'S TEACHER OR PRINCIPAL CALLED ME. I BETTER MAKE SURE THAT SHE GETS TO SCHOOL TOMORROW.

Commissioner Stegmann: I JUST THINK THAT THAT'S SO CRITICAL. THEN ALSO SETTING A GOAL FOR THE KIDS AND EMPOWERING THEM BY SAYING HEY WE'RE AT 91%. WE NEED TO GET 95%. I THINK IT TEACHES THEM SO MUCH MORE THAN JUST I NEED TO BE AT SCHOOL TODAY. IT TEACHES THEM HOW TO WORK TOGETHER TO REACH SOMETHING LARGER THAN THEMSELVES. I HAVE AN EAST COUNTY SCHOOL HERE SO, WHICH IS GREAT AND I GUESS ALWAYS FROM MY PREDECESSOR IS HOW DOES THIS AFFECT EAST COUNTY AND HOW DOES THIS AFFECT GRESHAM, AND I KNOW THAT WE HAVE A GREAT GIF SYSTEM, AND I WOULD REALLY BE ABLE TO LIKE TO LOOK AT HOW DOES THIS AFFECT EAST COUNTY SCHOOLS VERSUS OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTY? AND JUST DIVE DOWN MORE INTO THE DATA TO FIND OUT WHERE EXACTLY THE HIGHEST NEED IS. SO IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU ARE WORKING ON THAT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE WORK YOU DO AND FOR PRESENTING.

Chair Kafoury: TO ADD MY COMMENTS THANKS FOR COMING TODAY AND TALKING ABOUT HOW THIS ATTENDANCE INITIATIVE HAS AFFECTED YOUR SCHOOLS SPECIFICALLY. I THINK A LOT OF TIMES PEOPLE DON'T THINK THAT THE COUNTY PLAYS A ROLE IN OUR EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM AND WE KNOW THROUGH THE YEARS THAT SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND TEACHERS AND PRINCIPALS CAN'T DO IT ON THEIR OWN. WHILE OUR STAFFER IS NOT IN THE CLASSROOM DOING THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF BEING A TEACHER OR BEING AN ADMINISTRATOR WE KNOW THAT WE CAN HELP WITH THE THINGS THAT AS WE TALKED ABOUT HERE TODAY THAT HELP KIDS BE PREPARED SO WHEN THEY GET TO SCHOOL THEY CAN FOCUS ON THEIR EDUCATION AND DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT, YOU KNOW, WHETHER THEIR MOM WILL BE THERE WHEN THEY GET HOME OR WHERE THEY ARE GOING TO SLEEP THAT NIGHT. SO THE WAYS THAT WE CAN PLAY THIS, BE HELPFUL AS WE TALKED ABOUT, IT TAKES ALL OF US. IT'S AN IMPORTANT THING TO THINK ABOUT THE EDUCATION OF THE CHILDREN. WE ARE HAPPY TO BE A PARTNER AND LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING MORE AND GETTING MORE DATA FROM YOU. THANKS FOR COMING.

R.2 Budget Modification Non-D 13-17 Family Support and Legal Aid Services Contingency Request. Sponsors: Chair Deborah Kafoury and Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson. Presenters: Rose Bak, DCHS; Adam Brown, Budget Office; and Kim Melton, Chair's Office; and Invited Guests: Andrea Williams, CAUSA; Michael Hsu, Multnomah Public Defenders; John Herrera, Catholic Charities Immigration Legal Services; Elene CaJacob, Immigration Counseling Services.

Chair Kafoury: COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON MOVES AND COMMISSIONER SMITH SECONDS APPROVAL OF R.2. THIS YEAR THE LANDSCAPE SURROUNDING OUR COMMUNITIES' IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES HAS PROFOUNDLY CHANGED. STRIKING OUR FAMILIES, OUR NEIGHBORHOODS, COMMUNITY CENTERS AND PUBLIC SPACES WITH FEAR AND UNCERTAIN. WE KNOW THAT WE CANNOT ALLAY EVERY YEAR BUT AS A BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WE COMMITTED TO STANDING ALONGSIDE AND SUPPORTING OUR IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE FAMILIES AND OUR MOST VULNERABLE COMMUNITY MEMBERS. THIS MEANS THAT WE ARE COMMITTING OURSELVES TO STRENGTHENING POLICY, WHERE WE CAN, WORKING WITH OUR REGIONAL STATE AND CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS TO FIND OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHANGE AND DISPELLING RUMORS AND RESPONDING QUICKLY TO THE CRISIS, THAT MEANS DOING WHAT WE CAN TO REDUCE THE FEAR.

THE TYPES OF OBSTACLES THAT MIGHT KEEP A FAMILY FROM SENDING THEIR CHILD TO SCHOOL OR FROM ACCESSING VITAL SERVICES. TODAY WE ARE CONSIDERING AN ACTION TO GET BETTER INFORMATION AND EDUCATION TO OUR REFUGEE FAMILIES. THIS ACTION WILL ALSO ENSURE MORE FAMILIES HAVE ACCESS TO TRUSTED SUPPORT AND HIGH QUALITY LEGAL ADVICE REGARDING FAMILY PLANNING AND IMMIGRATION STATUS. THIS BUDGET MODIFICATION IF APPROVED WILL MOVE 100,000 FROM THE CONTINGENCY FUND TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES WHO WILL WORK WITH OUR PROCUREMENT AUTHORITIES TO GET THESE RESOURCES QUICKLY OUT INTO THE COMMUNITY. I AM REALLY PROUD THAT WE'RE BRINGING THIS FORWARD TODAY. IT IS THE RESULT OF THE PASSION AND THE COMMITMENT OF EACH COMMISSIONER UP HERE TODAY AND OUR DESIRE TO RESPOND TO AND WORK WITH OUR COMMUNITY. THIS IS ONE STEP THAT WE CAN TAKE TO ADDRESS THE FEAR AND CONTINUE TO BUILD A STRONG COMMUNITY WHERE FAMILIES UNDERSTAND THEIR INDIVIDUAL SITUATIONS, THEIR RIGHTS, AND THEIR OPPORTUNITIES. COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON.

Vice-Chair Vega Pederson: THANK YOU CHAIR. I AM SO PROUD TO PARTNER WITH YOU TO BRING FORWARD THE CONSIDERATION OF THE ACTION WHICH WILL PROVIDE THE ACCESS TO LEGAL DEFENSE SERVICES FOR WHICH SO MANY MULTNOMAH COUNTY RESIDENTS HAVE EXPRESSED THE NEED. SO WE KNOW THAT THIS IS A TIME OF HEIGHTENED ANXIETY, FEAR, AND AS THE

COUNTY WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO WHAT WE DO BEST WHICH IS TO PROVIDE AND SERVE THOSE WHO ARE IN NEED. BY ALLOCATING THE RESOURCES TO A SERVICE THAT OUR COMMUNITIES HAVE IDENTIFIED AS CRITICAL TO BOTH THEIR SAFETY AND THEIR SECURITY. MY OFFICE HAS HEARD FROM THE IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE COMMUNITIES THAT LEGAL DEFENSE SERVICES ARE ALREADY DIFFICULT TO ACCESS BUT IMMIGRATION-SPECIFIC DEFENSE SERVICES ARE MORE IN ACTIONABLE. I AM GRATEFUL FOR THE RIGHTS ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS AND THE LEGAL PROFESSIONALS WHO HAVE HELPED US TO REACH THE POINT IN IDENTIFYING A TANGIBLE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM SO MANY ARE FACING. SO I WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME THE FIRST PANEL THAT WE HAVE. WE HAVE TWO PANELS THAT ARE GOING TO BE PRESENTING. WE HAVE WILLIAMS MICHAEL HSU AND JOHN HERRERA AND ELENE CAJACOB, IF YOU COULD COME FORWARD AND THEY WILL TALK TO US ABOUT WHAT WE ARE CONSIDERING.

Ms. Williams: YES. CHAIR KAFOURY AND COMMISSIONERS THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY IN SUPPORT OF THIS REQUEST. I AM ANDREA WILLIAMS, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CAUSA, AND WE'RE A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT WORKED TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF LATINO IMMIGRANTS AND THEIR FAMILIES FOR 20 YEARS. AT THE HEART OF OUR WORK HAS BEEN ADDRESSING IMMIGRATION ISSUES. WE ADVOCATED FOR AND ASSISTED ILLEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENTS AND APPLYING FOR CITIZENSHIP AND MADE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES. OF COURSE YOU KNOW THAT THESE TYPES OF EFFORTS ARE NEEDED NOW MORE THAN EVER, AND AS YOU RECENTLY REFERENCED THE RECENT CHANGES TO IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT HAVE RESULTED IN MUCH MORE AGGRESSIVE ACTIVITY BY IMMIGRATION AGENTS. WE ANTICIPATE MORE DRAMATIC CHANGES AS THESE ARE IMPLEMENTED. IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE WHAT THEY ARE GOING TO BE BUT WE ANTICIPATE MORE CHANGES.

AS A RESULT AS YOU SAID FEAR, UNCERTAINTY, ANXIETY HAS SKYROCKETED WITHIN IMMIGRANT FAMILIES, AND WHILE RUMORS HAVE RUN RAMPANT IN PORTLAND AND WE HAVE DONE OUR BEST TO COMMUNICATE TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS THAT THEY ARE RUMORS, PEOPLE DO HAVE REASON TO BE CONCERNED BASED OFF REAL INCIDENCE THAT HAVE BEEN OCCURRING LIKE WAIST GOING ON AT MULTNOMAH COUNTY COURTHOUSES AND WOODBURN WHERE FARM WORKERS WERE DETAINED AS OF 6:00 A.M. IN THE MORNING LIKE DOZENS OF THEM WERE. THIS WAS RECENT. IT JUST HAPPENED. SO FAMILIES ARE MANAGING TRYING TO MANAGE THEIR RISK. SO THEY ARE TRYING TO DO THINGS LIKE TAKING HUNTERS GOING TO THE GROCERY STORE, NOT SHOWING UP FOR THEIR HEALTH APPOINTMENTS. MAYBE THEY ARE NOT GOING TO THEIR COURT APPOINTMENT IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE RISK OF THEIR CHANCES OF RUNNING INTO ICE.

Ms. Williams: SO THESE ARE WAYS THE COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE TRYING TO MANAGE. THIS CREATES VERY MAJOR CHALLENGES FOR THE COUNTY'S SERVICE DELIVERY AND FOR THE OVERALL FUNCTIONING OF THE COMMUNITIES AS A WHOLE. IT'S OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT NO SINGLE ORGANIZATION CAN ADEQUATELY RESPOND TO THIS NEW ENVIRONMENT ALONE. RATHER IT WILL TAKE A COORDINATED AND COLLABORATIVE APPROACH. SO FOR THIS REASON CAUSA AND OUR PARTNERS AT THE PORTLAND READY COALITION HAVE DEVELOPED A COLLABORATION OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS STARTING WHEN WAS EXPANDED TO THE UNDOCUMENTED PARENTS OF U.S. BORN CHILDREN. IN THAT MOMENT WE ALSO REALIZED THAT WE COULD NOT DO THIS ALONE. SO THE PORTLAND READY PARTNERSHIP IS A DIVERSE COALITION OF STAKEHOLDERS TO PREPARE MULTNOMAH COUNTY'S RESIDENTS WITH INFORMATION, ACCESS TO SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE NEEDED TO APPLY FOR IMMIGRATION STATUS AS THEY MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR OR TO PREPARE FOR DEPORTATION. WE NEVER LIKE TO THINK ABOUT THAT.

WE ARE MADE UP OF A DIVERSITY OF ORGANIZATIONS SO COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, LEGAL ENTITIES AND NONPROFITS AND LABOR UNIONS WHOSE MEMBERSHIPS ARE IMMIGRANTS THAT RESIDE IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY. SINCE THE ELECTION WE HAVE HELD DOZENS OF TRAININGS OVER 40 IS OUR COUNT MOSTLY WITHIN THIS COUNTY. WE HAVE SERVED AS A HUB OF INFORMATION AND HAVE PROVIDED COUNTLESS LEGAL SCREENINGS TO THOSE WHO NEEDED THEM THE MOST AND MY PARTNERS HERE CAN SPEAK MORE DIRECTLY TO THAT. YOU FEEL LARGE GAPS REMAIN IN OUR COLLECTIVE CAPACITIES TO EDUCATE AND PROVIDE SERVICES. WE WANT TO DO THAT BUT IT'S DIFFICULT GIVEN THE CURRENT VOLUME OF THE REQUEST FOR GETTING. SO AS THE COUNTY THAT IS HOME TO THE LARGEST IMMIGRANT POPULATION IN OREGON WE ARE THANKFUL THAT THE COMMISSIONERS ARE CONSIDERING FUNDING TO SUPPORT AND PROVIDE MORE SERVICES FOR IMMIGRANT REFUGEE COMMUNITIES, AND WE ARE SUPPORTIVE OF THIS AND ENCOURAGE YOUR SUPPORT. SO THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE OPPORTUNITY AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO PARTNERING WITH YOU ALL.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING.

Ms. CaJacob: HI CHAIR KAFOURY AND COMMISSIONERS OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY. GOOD MORNING AND THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY IN SUPPORT OF THE BUDGET MODIFICATION REQUEST IN SUPPORT OF REDUCING FEAR AND UNCERTAINTY IN THE IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE COMMUNITIES IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY. I AM ELENE CAJACOB. I AM A PARALEGAL WITH IMMIGRATION COUNSELING SERVICE. WE ARE A NONPROFIT IMMIGRATION LAW FIRM SERVING LOW INCOME RESIDENTS OF OREGON AND SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON SINCE 1978. WE ARE ALSO PART

OF THE PORTLAND READY COALITION, AS ANDREA MENTIONED, A GROUP OF DIVERSE STAKEHOLDERS WHO HOLD INSIGHT EXPERTISE IN THE ISSUES AFFECTING MULTNOMAH COUNTY'S IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY.

Ms. CaJacob: AT THIS TIME IMMIGRATION COUNSELING SERVICE REPRESENTS APPROXIMATELY 800 INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES WHO ARE MAKING REQUESTS FOR HUMANITARIAN RELIEF WITH IMMIGRATION AND FAMILY REUNIFICATION, AND WE ALSO PROVIDE FREE EDUCATIONAL FORUMS, MOST RECENTLY FOCUSED ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS WHEN ENCOUNTERING LAW ENFORCEMENT. I AM HERE TO ASSURE YOU THAT THIS REQUEST COULD NOT COME AT A MORE CRUCIAL TIME. IT IS SUCCESSFUL, IT WILL SEND A MESSAGE TO, OF INCLUSIVITY TO THE NEIGHBORS FRIGHTENED TO ENGAGE WITH COUNTY SERVICES. SINCE JANUARY 20 OF THIS YEAR DEMAND FOR LEGAL SERVICES AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH HAS EXPLODED. AT OUR OFFICE WE RECEIVE 75 TO 100 CALLS A DAY MOSTLY FROM INDIVIDUALS SEEKING THEIR FIRST CONSULTATION WITH AN ATTORNEY.

WE ARE SPENDING HOURS COUNSELING THE CLIENTS ON THE RISKS THEY MAY FACE WHEN ATTENDING A COURT DAYS OR SEEKING JUSTICE AGAINST AN ABUSER. WE HAVE A TWO-MONTH WAITING LIST. INSTRUCTING IMMIGRANTS AND THEIR RIGHTS IS ONLY PART OF THE OUTREACH [INAUDIBLE] THAT WOULD PROTECT THEIR FAMILY BUT WHO HAVE NEVER SOUGHT THE HELP OF A LAWYER. IT IS MORE CRUCIAL THAN EVER WE FUND AND EXPAND THE EFFORTS THAT WILL RESULT IN MORE FAMILIES WHO ARE PROTECTED FROM DEPORTATION AND BETTER EQUIPPED TO ENGAGE WITH THE COUNTY AND COMMUNITY, AND THIS HAS BEEN MENTIONED BY THE CHAIR AND COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON, EXPANDED RESOURCES FOR DIRECT REPRESENTATION AND DEFENSE IS A PRESSING NEED FOR ALL OF OUR ORGANIZATIONS.

IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US TO COLLABORATE ON THESE INITIATIVES TO INCREASE THE ACCESS TO QUALITY INFORMATION, EDUCATION, AND LEGAL SUPPORT SERVICES TO IMMIGRANTS BECAUSE AS PORTLAND READY MEMBERS HAVE SEEN IN THE PAST IF WE DO NOT MEET THOSE NEEDS UNAUTHORIZED PRACTITIONERS AND SCAM ARTISTS WILL DO SO OR WILL TRY, EDUCATION AROUND FRAUD AND HOW IMMIGRANTS CAN SIGN THE ADVICE IS ANOTHER CRUCIAL SERVICE PROVIDED BY PORTLAND READY'S LEGAL MEMBERS THAT CAN CONTINUE WITH THE EXPANDED RESOURCES AND A ROBUST PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COUNTY AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS WHO SERVE IMMIGRANT FAMILIES EACH DAY. ON BEHALF OF COUNSELING SERVICE STAFF AND THE CLIENTS WE SERVE THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS OUR ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT FOR THIS EFFORT. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

Mr. Herrera: GOOD MORNING. THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU, COMMISSIONERS AND CHAIR KAFOURY FOR ALLOWING US TODAY TO BE ABLE TO PRESENT THESE SUPPORT FOR THE IMMIGRANTS, FAMILIES IN NEED FOR LEGAL REPRESENTATION AND EDUCATION AND SUPPORT FOR INFORMATION THAT IS TRULY FOR A GOOD RESOURCES. I AM JOHN HERRERA AND I AM AN IMMIGRANT MYSELF AS YOU CAN SEE FROM MY VOICE. I AM FROM COLOMBIA. I CAME TO PORTLAND 15 YEARS AGO AND I WAS WELCOMED BY THIS ORGANIZATION THAT I AM REPRESENTING NOW. FOR THIS COMMUNITY THAT IS WELCOMING IMMIGRANTS AROUND OUR AREA. IMMIGRATION LEGAL SERVICES PROVIDED HIGH LEGAL SERVICES TO LOW INCOME IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES OVER 20 YEARS. AN ENGAGEMENT IN PUBLIC TRAINING AND OUTREACH TO PROMOTE JUSTICE FOR ALL NEW COMERS, AND IN A SYSTEM TO THE MOST VULNERABLE IMMIGRANTS INCLUDING VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT, CRIME VICTIMS, REFUGEES, AND ALSO HELPING THE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE INTERACTION KNOWN AS DOKA, WE SERVE CLIENTS STATEWIDE. DURING 2016 WE SERVED 4,000 CLIENTS WITH CONSULTATION, REPRESENTATION, AND OUTREACH.

SINCE LAST NOVEMBER WE HAVE HELD MORE THAN 30 PRESENTATIONS FOR OUR COMMUNITY, WHICH HAS BEEN ATTENDED FOR OVER 1500 PEOPLE. WE ALSO MET WITH SUPERINTENDENTS, PRINCIPLES, AND TEACHERS TO ADDRESS CONCERNS ABOUT THE SECURITY OF STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES. WE HAVE FOCUSED ON THE COMMUNITY REGARDING [INAUDIBLE] CONSULTANTS AND ALL THE SCAMS. WE ARE ALSO PREPARING FOR THE WORST EMERGENCY PLANS THAT INCLUDES POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR GUARDIANSHIP FOR CHILDREN WHOSE PARENTS MIGHT BE DETAINED. SO IT IS A DIFFICULT TOPIC TO TALK ABOUT PARENTS, GIVEN SOMEONE ELSE POWER TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR KIDS BECAUSE YOU ARE GOING TO BE DETAINED AND DEPORTATION PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU. WE[INAUDIBLE] WE ARE NOW RECEIVING DAILY 50 CALLS FROM CLIENTS REQUESTING AN INITIAL CONSULTATION TO ADDRESS THE IMMIGRATION ISSUES. WE BELIEVE THIS COALITION IS A GREAT TOOL TO PROVIDE. GREAT ACCESS TO SERVICE FOR THE COMMUNITY AND AVOID THE DUPLICATION OF EFFORTS, AND I ENCOURAGE YOU TO FUND THIS REQUEST. THANK YOU AGAIN FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK ABOUT OUR IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE FAMILIES.

Mr. Hsu: GOOD MORNING, THANK YOU COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CHANCE TO SPEAK TODAY, I AM MICHAEL HSU, AND I AM A STAFF ATTORNEY AT METROPOLITAN PUBLIC DEFENDERS. SINCE PRESIDENT TRUMP ISSUED HIS EXECUTIVE ORDER ON JANUARY 25, PRIORITIZING UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS FOR DEPORTATION THE POPULATION HAS BEEN LIVING IN FEAR. I PERSONALLY UNDERSTAND THAT FEAR BECAUSE UP UNTIL THREE MONTHS AGO I HAVE LIVED AS AN UNDOCUMENTED PERSON IN AMERICA FOR 21 YEARS. I ATTENDED ELEMENTARY, HIGH SCHOOL, UNDERGRAD AND LAW SCHOOL, AND IN 2011 I GRADUATED WITH HONORS AND PASSED THE OREGON STATE BAR. THERE ARE OTHER EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL

ACCOMPLISHMENTS THAT I CAN LIST BUT THOSE DO NOT PAINT THE PICTURE OF MY JOURNEY BECAUSE AMERICA ALSO IS WHERE AT THE AGE OF NINE I FIRST LEARNED HOW TO KICK A SOCCER BALL. IT'S WHERE I LEARNED TO CARVE A PUMPKIN FOR HALLOWEEN. HOW TO ROAST TURKEY FOR THANKSGIVING AND HOW TO SING JINGLE BELLS.

Mr. Hsu: IT IS WHERE I REPRESENTED COURT HEARINGS AND VOLUNTEERED MY TIME TO AT-RISK YOUTH, AND IN OTHER WORDS AMERICA IS WHERE I GREW UP. IT IS WHERE I VOLUNTEER, WORK, AND PAY TAXES AND ALSO WHERE I CONSIDER HOME. ONE OF THE MOST DIFFICULT THINGS ABOUT BEING UNDOCUMENTED IS THE INABILITY TO FEEL SAFE IN ONE'S OWN ONLY. UNDOCUMENTED PEOPLE ARE WORRIED ABOUT BEING UPROOTED FROM THEIR COMMUNITIES, SEPARATED FROM THEIR LOVED ONES, OR DETAINED IN A CELL WITH NO WAY TO REACH OUT AND FIND HELP. SOME OF THAT FEAR WAS ALLEVIATED WHEN PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA CREATED THIS PROGRAM IN 2011. A PROGRAM THAT GAVE UNDOCUMENTED PEOPLE LIKE ME WHO ARRIVE THE IN THE UNITED STATES AS CHILDREN THE ABILITY TO APPLY FOR A WORK PERMIT. I WAS A BENEFICIARY OF THAT PROGRAM. AFTER I GRADUATED LAW SCHOOL I OBTAINED A WORK PERMIT AND BECAME THE FIRST UNDOCUMENTED PERSON IN AMERICA TO BE LICENSED TO PRACTICE LAW UNDER THAT PROGRAM.

FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE I WAS NINE I FELT LIKE I COULD COME OUT OF THE SHADOWS AND LIVE MY LIFE TO THE FULLEST POTENTIAL. MY SITUATION IS NOT UNIQUE. OVER 750,000 PEOPLE HAVE RECEIVED WORK PERMITS SINCE THE PROGRAM WAS STARTED FIVE YEARS AGO. WITH THE NEW ADMINISTRATION HOWEVER UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS HAVE BEEN THROWN BACK INTO A STATE OF FEAR. EMPLOYEES ARE AFRAID OF LOSING THEIR JOBS. STUDENTS ARE AFRAID OF DOING THEIR ABILITY TO STAY IN SCHOOL. MOTHERS ARE AFRAID OF LOSING THEIR CHILDREN. I WOULD ASK FOR YOUR SUPPORT TODAY. METROPOLITAN PUBLIC DEFENDERS. WE HAVE A GOAL OF CREATING A PROGRAM THAT PROTECTS VULNERABLE IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES.

THE GOAL IS TO CREATE A LEGAL TEAM THAT HAS EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE OF OREGON LAW AND APPLY THAT KNOWLEDGE TO IMMIGRANTS WHO NEED HELP. IMMIGRANTS NEED LEGAL SERVICES NOW MORE THAN EVER. THE IMMIGRANT PROTECTION PROJECT WOULD HELP PROVIDE THEM WITH THAT SERVICE SO FEWER IMMIGRANTS IN THE PORTLAND AREA WOULD HAVE TO LIVE IN FEAR, MORE CAN ESCAPE FROM THE SHADOWS AND CONTRIBUTE TO THIS COUNTY AND FIND SOLACE IN AMERICA, THE PLACE THAT THEY CONSIDER HOME. THANK YOU.

Ms. Bak: GOOD MORNING CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS. ROSE BAK COUNTY SERVICES, DIVISION OF YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES. AS YOU KNOW THE DIVISION OF YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES PROVIDES A VARIETY OF

SERVICES FOCUSED ON EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT, SAFETY SERVICES, AND ECONOMIC STABILITY SERVICES. AS A RESULT OF ALL THOSE PROGRAMS WE REALLY HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR FROM FOLKS IN THE COMMUNITY HOW THE CHANGES HAVE AFFECTED FOLKS. WE HAVE HEARD UNIVERSALLY THAT PEOPLE ARE SCARED AND THAT, WE COULD SHARE WITH YOU THE SAME EXAMPLES YOU JUST HEARD, BASICALLY ANYONE WHO IS NOT A CITIZEN IS SCARED AND AFRAID TO ACCESS OUR SERVICES AT THIS POINT. IT HAS BECOME DIFFICULT FOR US TO WORK WITH FOLKS WHO DON'T WANT THEIR INFORMATION TO BE IN DATABASES AND ANY SERVICE THAT WE PROVIDE WE HAVE TO PUT INFORMATION INTO A DATABASE.

Ms. Bak: SO WHAT THIS LOOKS LIKE IS IN THIS WINTER WHICH IS ONE OF THE WORST WINTERS THAT WE HAVE HAD IN MY RECOLLECTION IS PEOPLE DECLINED THE ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WHICH HELPS PEOPLE PAY THEIR HEATING BILLS IN THE WINTER BECAUSE THEY WERE AFRAID THAT WOULD SOME HOW LEAD TO THEM BEING DEPORTED. PEOPLE WHO WERE ON THE STATE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION PROGRAM, AND WE HAVE A PROGRAM WHERE WE HELP PEOPLE SIGN UP FOR THAT, WITHDREW THE APPLICATIONS AFRAID THAT THEY WOULD BE IN THE DATABASE AND WOULD LEAD TO BAD NEWS. I HEARD ONE OF OUR PROVIDERS HAD SIX WOMEN WITHDRAW BECAUSE THEY WERE AFRAID THEY WOULD BE DEPORTED AND THEIR CHILDREN WOULD BE LEFT WITH THEIR ABUSER SO THESE ARE THE THINGS THAT HAVE MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR US TO PROVIDE SERVICES AND WE CANNOT REALLY, YOU KNOW, COMFORT PEOPLE BECAUSE WE CANNOT GUARANTEE THAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN OR WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN WITH THE INFORMATION THAT WE HAVE TO ENTER INTO THIS STATE AND FEDERAL DATABASE SYSTEMS.

PEOPLE HAVE ALSO BEEN BOMBARDING AND I USE THAT WORD DELIBERATELY, OUR NONPROFIT PROVIDERS AND OUR STAFF WHO COME FROM THE COMMUNITIES WITH REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION SO THEY CALL OUR STAFF AND OUR NONPROFIT PARTNERS AND SAY CAN YOU CONFIRM THIS? DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN AND TELL ME WHERE I CAN GET INFORMATION AND WHO CAN HELP ME DO THIS PAPERWORK? ALSO PEOPLE ARE CALL US AND SAYING, ASKING FOR REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE DEVELOPING PARENTING PLANS SO SOMEONE CAN TAKE CARE OF THEIR CHILDREN IF THEY HAVE TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY BECAUSE THEY WANT THEIR CHILDREN TO STAY HERE AND ENJOY THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT THEY CAN HAVE FROM THIS COUNTRY SO WE WORKED TO WORKING WITH THE DEPARTMENT AND GETTING THE FUNDS OUT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BECAUSE THEY ARE NEEDED. WE ALREADY HAVE YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES, LEGAL CONTRACT PROGRAM AND STARTED THE PAPERWORK TO GET EVERYTHING MOVING. WE CAN GET THE FUNDS OUT QUICKLY INTO THE COMMUNITY AND WORK TO DO THE NECESSARY PAPERWORK. AND WORK WITH THE DEPARTMENT TO GET THE PAPERWORK OUT AND ASSESS THE OUTCOMES AND REPORT QUICKLY WHAT HAPPENS.

Chair Kafoury: DO WE HAVE QUESTIONS FOR THIS PANEL? DO WE HAVE QUESTIONS FOR THESE FOLKS?

Commissioner Smith: I HAVE A QUESTION. I THINK THAT IT'S FOR THE CAUSA FOLKS. THE PERSONAL INFORMATION YOU TALKED ABOUT BEING COLLECTED, I KNOW THAT THERE ARE TWO PIECES TO THIS. THERE IS THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY DEFENDERS' PIECE AND THE PIECE WITH CAUSA AND ONE OF THE CONCERNS IS THE PERSONAL INFORMATION OF THE PEOPLE THAT HAVE COLLECTED AND PASSED THROUGH THE NONPROFIT PIECE, IF THAT INFORMATION IS GOING TO BE PROTECTED INFORMATION.

Commissioner Smith: THERE IS TWO SEPARATE PROGRAMS, MONEY GOING TO CAUSA --

Ms. Williams: ARE YOU REFERRING TO THE PEOPLE THAT ARE CLIENTS OF THE NONPROFIT LEGAL SERVICES?

Commissioner Smith: RIGHT. SINCE YOU ARE NOT THE ATTORNEYS.

Ms. Williams: WE DO NOT SHARE THAT, THERE ARE PRIVACY RIGHTS BETWEEN A CLIENT AND ATTORNEY AND YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO SHARE THAT. WE SHARE THAT WHEN WE TRACK THAT INFORMATION, IT'S TRACKED IN A SEPARATE DATABASE SO IT IS VERY PROTECTED, AND IT IS OUR INTEREST FOR THAT INFORMATION TO REMAIN PROTECTED.

Commissioner Smith: I WANT TO PROTECT IT TOO, WE ARE WORKING WITH TWO ENTITIES AND IF THE CLIENT ATTORNEY PRIVILEGE IS GOING TO BE COVERED THROUGH EVERYONE FROM THE NONPROFIT SIDE TO THE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S SIDE.

Ms. Williams: I THINK WE CAN MAKE THAT HAPPEN AND THERE ARE STRUCTURES ALREADY IN PLACE.

Commissioner Smith: SO YOU THINK YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN? SO IS IT ALREADY IN PLACE?

Ms. Williams: YEAH. SO EACH ENTITY HAS THEIR OWN WAY OF KEEPING THEIR DATABASES AND HAS THEIR OWN AND ICS AND THOSE ARE NOT SHARED AT ALL. WE HAVE OUR OWN AS WELL. AND SO OUR PROTOCOL IS TO NOT MAKE THAT INFORMATION PUBLIC.

Ms. Melton: GOOD MORNING, KIM MELTON AND I WOULD SAY COMMISSIONER THAT ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE CAN DO, AS WE INTERMEDIATE INTO THE CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THE PROCUREMENT AND THE CONTRACTING, THAT WE WOULD PRIORITIZE MAKING SURE THAT WE HAVE ANSWERS TO THOSE

QUESTIONS BEFORE THE DOLLARS START GOING TO WORK, AND WE WILL GET THOSE THINGS CLARIFIED SO THAT WE KNOW THE ANSWERS TO ALL THOSE QUESTIONS.

Commissioner Smith: IT SOUNDS LIKE WE DON'T HAVE THE ANSWERS TO THE NONPROFITS SO IF THIS INFORMATION IS GOING TO BE COLLECTED AND I JUST USE CAUSA AS A GENERIC FOR THE NONPROFIT PIECE WHO IS GOING TO GET THIS MONEY BECAUSE THE WHOLE PURPOSE OF WHAT WE ARE DOING TODAY IS TO MAKE SURE THAT THERE IS ACCESSIBLE LEGAL SERVICES. AND IF WE ARE PUTTING THEM IN A POSITION WHERE WE ARE GOING TO HAVE THAT SHARED WE ARE ACTUALLY DEFEATING YOUR PURPOSE.

Ms. Bake: WE HAVE THE ABILITY IN THE CONTRACT TO ASK THEM TO RECORD ONLY NON-IDENTIFIED INFORMATION.

Mr. Herrera: AT THE EDUCATIONAL EVENTS, WE DON'T COLLECT INFORMATION. WHEN A CLIENT BECOMES A CLIENT, THEY'RE PROTECTED BY OUR RULES. WE TREAT IT LIKE ANY CLIENT ATTORNEY SITUATION.

Commissioner Smith: AND JUST ONE LAST THING, I MET WITH CASCADIA BEHAVIORAL CENTER YESTERDAY AND ONE OF THE THINGS THEY TOLD ME AND I KNEW WE WERE GOING TO BE HERE TODAY WAS THAT A LOT OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS WERE TELLING THEM THEY WERE AFRAID TO ACCEPT THEIR SERVICES BECAUSE NOW, ICE IS IDENTIFYING THEMSELVES THROUGH JACKETS WITH JUST "POLICE," NOT "ICE." AND SO THEY THINK THAT IT'S LOCAL POLICE, AND THEN ONCE THEY COME IN CONTACT WITH THEM, THEY FIND OUT THAT THEY'RE ICE. AND SO I THINK THOSE KINDS OF THINGS TO PASS DOWN INTO THE COMMUNITY TO LET THEM KNOW HOW DO WE MAKE SURE THAT IT'S HARD FOR US FROM A LOCAL STANDPOINT TO MANDATE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WHAT TO DO. IT'S REALLY TOUGH. BUT THESE ARE THE KINDS OF THINGS THAT ARE HAPPENING AND BEING SEEN IN THE COMMUNITY AND PEOPLE ARE AFRAID, YOU KNOW, ON TOP OF THESE TWO EXECUTIVE ORDERS. IT'S JUST, YOU KNOW, THIS IS SO MUCH NEEDED AND I APPRECIATE YOU ORGANIZING THIS AND PUTTING THIS TOGETHER. THANK YOU.

Ms. Melton: AND AS PART OF THE LARGER WORK WE'RE DOING, AS WE'RE THINKING ABOUT CASCADIA AND OTHER WHO MIGHT BE WORKING WITH MULTNOMAH COUNTY AS CONTRACTORS OR PARTNERS THERE'S ALWAYS WORK HAPPENING WITHIN THE COUNTY WHERE WE'RE FIGURING OUT HOW DO WE ALSO ENSURE THAT ALL OF OUR PARTNERS HAVE ACCESS TO THE BEST AND MOST ACCURATE INFORMATION THAT THEY CAN ALSO SHARE WITH THE CLIENTS AND CUSTOMERS THAT THEY'RE SERVING SO WE CAN BEGIN TO TAKE MULTIPLE AVENUES TO GET TO THAT CONCERN THAT YOU'VE RAISED SO THANK YOU.

Chair Kafoury: ANY OTHER QUESTIONS FOR OUR PANELISTS? WE HAVE TWO PEOPLE ON PUBLIC TESTIMONY.

Board Clerk: [READS NAMES] PLEASE COME FORWARD.

Mr. Walsh: GOOD MORNING AGAIN. MY NAME FOR THE RECORD IS JOE WALSH. AND I REPRESENT INDIVIDUALS FOR JUSTICE. I WOULD REALLY LIKE TO COMPLIMENT COMMISSIONER SMITH. YOU STOLE SOME OF THE QUESTIONS THAT I HAD. WE HAVE A TERRIBLE, TERRIBLE FEAR THAT ANY LIST OF PEOPLE WOULD BE SUBJECT TO SUBPOENA AND I'M NOT A LAWYER, BUT I'VE BEEN IN FEDERAL COURT A COUPLE OF TIMES. WHAT STOPS A SUBPOENA-ER IS A JUDGE. AND THE JUDGES ARE GOING TO CHANGE IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF YEARS. THAT'S THE PROBLEM. IT'S NOT THAT WE CAN RELY ON WHAT'S IN THE PAST. OUR CONCERN IS ARE THOSE NONPROFITS SETTING UP SOME KIND OF BARRIER THAT THEY CAN EITHER DESTROY THE LIST, I MEAN DESTROY IT. THAT IT DOESN'T EXIST. CAN THEY DO THAT LEGALLY? I'M NOT SURE THEY CAN. SO OUR CONCERN IS EXACTLY WHAT YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT, IS THAT ANY TIME A NAME GOES DOWN ON PAPER, IT IS VULNERABLE. SOMEBODY CAN GET THAT.

IF THEY CAN GET INTO OUR COURT, YOU KNOW, WALK INTO OUR COURT AND ARREST PEOPLE THAT ARE TRYING TO RESOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS, WHAT KIND OF ATTITUDE DO THEY HAVE? DO YOU THINK IT'S GOING TO STOP THEM BECAUSE YOU'RE GOING TO SAY WELL ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE? HUH-UH. THEY'RE GOING TO GO AFTER THIS LIST. AND I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW THAT THE NONPROFITS HAVE AN EMERGENCY PROCEDURE THAT THEY CAN EITHER GET RID OF THE LIST, IF I WAS SOMEBODY THAT WAS IN DANGER OF DEPORTATION. I WOULD WANT TO KNOW THAT. YOU WOULD HAVE TO SAY TO ME THERE'S NO WAY THAT THEY CAN GET YOUR NAME. AND I DON'T THINK WE HAVE THAT YET. I THINK WE HAVE A GOOD SYSTEM UNDER REASONABLE PEOPLE. IN WASHINGTON, WE DO NOT HAVE REASONABLE PEOPLE, WE HAVE LUNATICS. SO WE HAVE TO HAVE PLAN B., C., D. AND E. AND IT MAKES ME VERY NERVOUS WHEN WE START GATHERING THIS INFORMATION. SO JUST I'M THINKING CAUTIOUSLY, I LOVE THESE PEOPLE, THESE PEOPLE ARE HEROES, BUT JUST THINK ABOUT IT. WHAT HAPPENS IF THEY FIND A JUDGE AND THEY WILL UNDER SESSIONS THAT WILL GET A SUBPOENA FOR YOUR RECORDS. WHAT DO YOU DO? AND HOW MUCH ARE YOU WILLING TO RISK? THAT'S REALLY TOUGH STUFF. THANK YOU.

Mr. Johnson: I THINK THAT THE PEOPLE THAT ARE IN THIS COUNTRY WITHOUT DOCUMENTATION, SOME PROGRAMS THAT ARE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS, THEY'RE ABLE TO BE CLIENT OF AND OTHER THEY'RE NOT, BUT I THINK THAT WE CAN TRUST THE PEOPLE THAT ARE COORDINATING THESE PROGRAMS TO TELL THEM WHEN THEY NEED TO BE ANONYMOUS. IT'S ENTIRELY

POSSIBLE THAT THIS PROGRAM CAN ONLY SERVE TWO PEOPLE: JUAN DOE AND JUANITA DOE.

Mr. Johnson: THE DIFFICULTY COMES IS THAT DOESN'T WORK IN CRIMINAL COURT AND IT DOESN'T WORK FOR RECEIVING MEDICAL AND SOCIAL SERVICES, ALTHOUGH YOU HAVE SOME ABILITY TO MAKE IT KNOWN THAT, YOU KNOW, IN AREAS WHERE WE DON'T NEED TO IDENTIFY PEOPLE TO GET THEM COVERED UNDER FEDERAL FUNDING THAT PEOPLE WHO ARE NEIGHBORS IN THIS COMMUNITY THAT MIGHT NOT HAVE THE DOCUMENTATION TO PLEASE THE GREAT ORANGE DICTATOR CAN STILL FEEL COMFORTABLE GOING TO A COUNTY AGENCY, EXCEPT FOR THE COURTHOUSE BECAUSE I DON'T THINK WE HAVE HEARD CLEARLY FROM MICHAEL REESE HOW SUCCESSFULLY HE CAN MANAGE HIS PEOPLE SO THAT THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE VERSIONS OF MARK KRUEGER DON'T DO SOME INDEPENDENT LAW REPORTING AND CALL UP ICE ON THEIR OWN, SO THAT NO MORE JUDGES HAVE TO RELEASE PEOPLE THROUGH THEIR CHAMBERS BECAUSE WE THINK THAT DECEPTIVE LYING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS FROM BCP AND ICE ARE WAITING TO HELP THE CITY GET ITS ACT TOGETHER AND PROVIDE SIMILAR ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLE THAT ARE BEING PERSECUTED. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. ALL RIGHT, DO WE HAVE COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD BEFORE I TAKE A VOTE? COMMISSIONER STEGMANN?

Commissioner Stegmann: THANK YOU, CHAIR. THANK YOU ALL FOR PRESENTING. THIS IS A REALLY PERSONALLY ISSUE FOR ME BECAUSE I'M AN IMMIGRANT AND I BECAME A U.S. CITIZEN WHEN I WAS FOUR YEARS OLD SO MICHAEL, THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR STORY AND CONGRATULATIONS ON BEING THE FIRST ATTORNEY. YOU KNOW, I TELL MY DAUGHTER WHO'S 18 THIS COUNTRY WAS BUILT BY IMMIGRANTS. AND SO I THINK WHAT WE ALL BRING TO THE U.S. IS JUST PHENOMENAL AND INCREDIBLE AND PRECIOUS. THERE'S A YOUNG MAN NAMED ADAM, IF ANY OF YOU HAVE FOLLOWED HIM. HE IS KOREAN, AS AM I, WHO WAS RECENTLY DEPORTED. SO I RELATE VERY MUCH TO HIS STORY BECAUSE HE GREW UP IN A VERY ABUSIVE HOUSEHOLD WHERE HIS PARENT FAILED TO FILE THE PROPER PAPERWORK, THE LEGAL WORK, HE'S IN HIS LATE 30S, 40S, HE WAS DEPORTED. HIS TWO YOUNG CHILDREN HERE. THAT COULD HAVE BEEN ME. THAT COULD HAVE BEEN ANY ONE OF US WHO MAY HAVE BEEN ADOPTED.

SO THIS WAS REALLY IMPORTANT TO ME. AND I WANT TO THANK ANDREA FOR COMING AND SPEAKING AND ALSO ACKNOWLEDGE MY STAFF. WE'VE HAD TWO COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS WHERE ANDREA CAME AND TALKED ABOUT WHAT FOLKS COULD DO WHEN THEY WERE FACED WITH THOSE ISSUES. AND MY STAFF HAS JUST STEPPED UP, LIKE MANY OF YOU, WE CAME IN ON A MONDAY MORNING AND JUST SAID WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN THE WORLD? IT CHANGED LITERALLY OVERNIGHT. AND SO I SAID ALL RIGHT,

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT? AND THEY CAME BACK AND THEY SAID WE'RE GOING TO HAVE THESE COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS, WE'RE GOING TO PULL ORGANIZATIONS TOGETHER, WE'RE GOING TO GET THE FACTS OUT AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT THEY DID. SO I'M REALLY PROUD OF THE WORK, ONE OF OUR VERY FIRST MEETINGS, WE HAD THE GRESHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT CHIEF THERE AS WELL AS MULTNOMAH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE. AND THERE HAVE BEEN SOME BLUNDERS. BUT THINGS, WE HAVE A NEW COUNTY SHERIFF WHO I HAVE EVERY CONFIDENCE IN IS GOING TO DO THE RIGHT THING AND HAVE BETTER POLICIES GOING FORWARD, BUT WHEN YOU HEAR IT DIRECTLY FROM THE GRESHAM P.D. THAT THEY WILL NOT HELP ICE, THAT'S POWERFUL TO A LOT OF THOSE FOLKS IN THE ROOM.

Commissioner Stegmann: THERE'S SO MUCH MISINFORMATION. THERE'S SO MANY RUMORS. SO JUST THE FACT THAT A. THAT IF WE CAN GET OUT THE TRUTH, BUT MOREOVER EMPOWER PEOPLE BECAUSE KNOWLEDGE IS POWER AND SO I MEAN, I WHOLEHEARTEDLY SUPPORT THIS AND THINK THAT IT'S JUST INCREDIBLE IMPORTANT AND ANYTHING THAT WE CAN DO TO HELP OUR RESIDENTS, I WANT TO DO. SO THANK YOU, CHAIR AND COMMISSIONER FOR BRINGING THIS FORWARD. IT'S IMPORTANT, I WISH WE COULD DO MORE, BUT IT'S SOMETHING, SO THANK YOU.

Vice-Chair Vega Pederson: SO THANK YOU EVERYBODY WHO TESTIFIED TODAY AND I'M SO GLAD THAT THIS IS THE TYPE OF WORK THAT I GET TO DO AS A COUNTY COMMISSIONER. THIS WAS ONE OF THE REASONS WHY I WANTED TO HAVE THIS JOB AND, YOU KNOW, IT'S BECAUSE RIGHT NOW, MORE THAN EVER WE HAVE A NEED FOR STRONG LOCAL LEADERSHIP IN THE FACE OF THE INTOLERANCE AND THE UNCERTAINTY AND INEFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP THAT WE'RE SEEING AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL ON ADDRESSING COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM AND ISSUES WITH IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES. WE HAVE A VACUUM OF LEADERSHIP ON THOSE THINGS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL SO IT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER THAT WE STEP UP LOCALLY TO DO THIS AND SO I'M REALLY PROUD TO BE PART OF A BODY THAT'S ADDRESSING THESE ISSUES. IN MY PREVIOUS ROLE, I WAS A SPONSOR OF A BILL, 4128, WHICH ADDRESSED NOTARIO FRAUD AND THAT WOULD ADDRESS THE FACT THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE OUT IN COMMUNITIES WHO ARE REALLY DOING PREDATORY ACTIONS ON PEOPLE WHO ARE MOST VULNERABLE TO TRYING TO GET INFORMATION, TRYING TO GET RESOURCES AND TO FIGURE OUT HOW THEY CAN PROTECT THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES FOR STAYING IN THIS COUNTRY.

I WAS GLAD WE WERE ABLE TO DO SOME WORK ON THAT LEVEL TO TRY TO FIGHT THAT PROBLEM, BUT THE FLIP SIDE OF THAT IS PROVIDING RESOURCES AND PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR REAL, HELPFUL LEGAL SERVICES AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE TODAY. SO I'M VERY PROUD TO SUPPORT THIS. AND I REALLY JUST WANTED TO TAKE A

MINUTE TO THANK ALL THE STAFF THAT'S BEEN WORKING SO HARD IN WEEKLY MEETINGS, TALKING ABOUT THIS AND OTHER IMMIGRATION ISSUES. I KNOW EVERYONE HAS HAD STAFF THAT'S BEEN ATTENDING THOSE MEETINGS SO I WANT TO THANK ALL OF THEM FOR ALL OF THEIR HARD WORK ON THIS ISSUE, AS WELL.

Commissioner Meieran: I ALSO WANT TO ADD MY THANKS TO YOU FOR DOING THIS WORK AND FOR BEING THERE FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE OFTEN ALREADY BEEN HORRIBLY TRAUMATIZED BY THEIR EXPERIENCES EVEN BEFORE THEY HAVE COME TO THE UNITED STATES AND IT'S HARD ENOUGH ADAPTING, LET ALONE TO BE RETRAUMATIZED BY WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH OUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TAKING THE ACTIONS THAT IT HAS. YESTERDAY, MY DAUGHTER'S AN EIGHTH GRADER AND THEY DID A PROJECT THAT WAS ABOUT EACH STUDENT HAD TO CHOOSE A FAMILY MEMBER AND DO A SORT OF REPORT AND PRESENTATION ON THEM AND THEY MADE THESE POSTER BOARDS AND THEY ALL PRESENTED THEM YESTERDAY EVENING AND IT MOVED ME TO TEARS. SO MANY OF THESE KIDS EITHER THEMSELVES OR THEIR PARENTS OR THEIR GRANDPARENTS WERE REFUGEES. VIRTUALLY EVERY ONE. AND IT REALLY STRUCK ME AND THE STORIES THAT THEY WERE TELLING ARE SO POWERFUL.

I KNOW IN MY OWN FAMILY, MY MOM CAME OVER FROM ENGLAND AND WAS RIGHT AFTER WORLD WAR II AND SHE WAS PERSECUTED THERE EVEN FROM OUR ALLIES FOR BEING JEWISH AND MY FATHER'S FAMILY CAME FROM NORWAY WHERE MOST OF THE FAMILY THAT DIDN'T ESCAPE WAS KILLED IN THE HOLOCAUST. AND I FEEL PERSONALLY VERY SCARED ABOUT WHAT WE HAVE GOING ON IN OUR COUNTRY RIGHT NOW. THERE'S A SENSE IT COULD HAPPEN AGAIN AND IF I FEEL FEAR IN MY POSITION AS A CITIZEN LIVING IN MY HOUSE, ETC., I JUST CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT IT MUST FEEL LIKE FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT DOCUMENTED AND HERE AND LIVING IN FEAR CONSTANTLY. SO I PLEDGE TO DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER AND I'M SO PROUD TO BE PART OF THIS COMMISSION TO WORK WITH YOU TO DO WHAT WE CAN TO RESPOND. SO THANK YOU.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU.

Commissioner Smith: THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. I WANT TO SAY THANK YOU TO ALL THE NONPROFIT AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS, YOU ALL TOOK THE LEAD ON THIS IMPORTANT PROJECT AND THIS IS AN EXACTLY OF HOW COMMUNITY PARTNERS IDENTIFY AN EMERGING NEED IN FINDING A REASONABLE AND TIMELY, VERY TIMELY SOLUTION TO WHAT WE HAVE IN FRONT OF US. AND GIVEN THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AT THE FEDERAL LEVEL INCLUDING THOSE THAT PROMPTED A FEDERAL COURT TO BLOCK THE PRESIDENT'S TRAVEL BAN YESTERDAY, THE NEED FOR THE EFFORTS THAT WE'RE DOING TODAY TO PROTECT THE MOST VULNERABLE IN OUR COMMUNITY AND IT COULDN'T BE MORE URGENT AND IMPORTANT. I'M

ESPECIALLY PLEASED TO SEE MULTNOMAH PUBLIC DEFENDERS WORKING SO HARD TO FIND MULTIPLE PARTNERS, PUBLIC AND PHILANTHROPIC, TO FUND THIS PROJECT BECAUSE THEN IT BECOMES A COMMUNITY ISSUE AND THIS REALLY IS A COMMUNITY ISSUE.

Commissioner Smith: WE ARE ENTERING A TIME WHEN BEING CREATIVE WITH OUR FUNDS AND LEVERAGING OUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROJECTS IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER. AND I APPLAUD ALL THE WORK THAT YOU'VE DONE TO THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX, TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND MICHAEL, I WAS SO INSPIRED BY YOUR STORY, THAT IS HUGE, TO BE THE FIRST OF THE DACA, THAT IS AMAZING AND THANK YOU FOR SHARING THAT. I SAY DITTO, DITTO, DITTO AND THANK YOU, CHAIR AND COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP FOR BRINGING THIS FORWARD. THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT AND THIS IS A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME THAT WE'RE DOING THIS, BUT I DON'T THINK THAT THIS IS GOING TO END ANY TIME SOON. SO THANK YOU FOR BRINGING THIS TO OUR ATTENTION.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. I'M SENSING WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A POSITIVE OUTCOME TO THIS SO I FEEL REALLY GOOD ABOUT WHERE WE'RE GOING. I WANT TO THANK EVERYONE WHO'S WORKED ON THIS AND EVERYONE WHO'S BEEN SO PATIENT WHILE THE WHEELS OF GOVERNMENT SOMETIMES MOVE A LITTLE SLOWLY, BUT REALLY WITHOUT THE STAFF'S WORK ON THIS, YOU GO HAVE BEEN WONDERFUL AND I WANT TO JUST REITERATE TO COMMISSIONER SMITH'S EARLIER POINT ABOUT MAKING SURE THAT THE DATA IS SAFE AND THAT'S SOMETHING WE WILL DO THROUGH OUR PROCUREMENT PROCESS BECAUSE OBVIOUSLY THAT IS KEY TO MAKING THIS PROGRAM SUCCESSFUL. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR, VOTE AYE. [UNANIMOUS AYES] THE BUDGET MODIFICATION IS APPROVED. [APPLAUSE]

R.3 Resolution Declaring Multnomah County as a New Member of the Welcoming America National Coalition. Sponsors: Chair Deborah Kafoury and Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson. Presenters: Anna Marie Allen, Community Engagement Advisor, Chair Kafoury's Office; and, Charlene McGee, Refugee Health Worker, Multnomah County Health Department.

Chair Kafoury: CONTINUING ON OUR SAME THEME, WE WANT TO CONTINUE OUR CONVERSATION WITH COMMUNITY MEMBERS ON HOW WE BUILD STRONG PROGRAMS THAT KEEP OUR COMMUNITY AT THE CENTER. THERE IS NO SIMPLE FIX TO INSTITUTIONAL RACISM, OPPRESSION AND THE POLITICALLY DRIVEN HATE AND FEAR THAT IS BEING FORCED IN OUR COMMUNITIES. IT TAKES TIME, RESISTANCE AND EDUCATION AND THAT MEANS INVESTIGATING IN COMMUNITY AND EQUIPPING OURSELVES AND OUR STAFF WITH THE RIGHT INFORMATION AND THE TOOLS TO MOVE THE DIAL. I'M REALLY PROUD OF OUR BOARD AND THE WORK THAT THE COMMUNITY HAS DONE ON THAT LAST AGENDA ITEM, BUT IT'S ALSO

IMPORTANT FOR US TO CONTINUE OUR WORK TO INCREASE ACCESS TO TRAINING AND BEST PRACTICES FOR COUNTY STAFF. ESPECIALLY THOSE WORKING WITH FAMILIES EVERY DAY.

THAT'S WHY I'M BRINGING THIS RESOLUTION FORWARD TODAY. PARTNERING WITH WELCOMING AMERICA MEANS THAT WE'RE PARTNERING WITH COMMUNITIES AND JURISDICTIONS ACROSS THE NATION WHO ARE OPENING THEIR ARMS TO EVERY SINGLE PERSON REGARDLESS OF WHICH COUNTRY THEY WERE BORN IN. AND NOW, I WANT TO HAVE SOME PANELISTS COME FORWARD. WE DIDN'T DO A MOTION DID WE? SO FILLED WITH LOVE IN MY HEART. COMMISSIONER STEGMANN MOVED AND COMMISSIONER SMITH SECONDED APPROVAL OF R.3. IT'S ANNA COMING UP. CHARLENE IS ON HER WAY. GOOD MORNING, THANKS, BOTH OF YOU FOR COMING.

Ms. Allen: GOOD MORNING CHAIR KAFOURY AND COMMISSIONERS. MY NAME IS ANNA MARIE ALLEN, THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ADVISOR IN CHAIR KAFOURY'S OFFICE. AS WE HEARD A LOT TODAY AND THROUGHOUT THE LAST YEAR, MANY FOLKS ACROSS OUR NATION HAVE HAD TO ADAPT QUICKLY, LEARN FASTER, SACRIFICE VITAL SERVICES OUT OF FEAR AND ENGAGE DIFFERENTLY IN THIS NEW POLITICAL ARENA. I'M VERY PROUD TO WORK FOR AN ORGANIZATION THAT VALUES THE DIVERSITY OF OUR COMMUNITY AND IS EAGER TO STEP UP, STAND UNITED AND INVEST IN OUR COMMUNITY AS WE JUST WITNESSED IN THAT LAST AGENDA ITEM. THE RESOLUTION YOU HAVE BEFORE YOU TODAY IS ANOTHER WAY TO CONTINUE TO INVEST IN COMMUNITIES THROUGH INTERNAL STAFF TRAINING, NETWORKING, PROBLEM SOLVING AND ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.

WELCOMING AMERICA IS A NATIONAL NONPROFIT, NONPARTISAN ORGANIZATION WITH MORE THAN 185 MEMBERS. ACTUALLY, WE WOULD BE THE 190TH MEMBER IF WE JOINED TODAY. THEIR APPROACH GOES BEYOND A SINGLE PROGRAM OR SERVICE TO TALK WITH INSTITUTIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY TO REDUCE BARRIERS THAT IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES FACE TO FULLY PARTICIPATING IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT, WHETHER THAT BE IN ADVISORY ROLES, ACCESSING SERVICES OR AS OUR STAFF. IF PASSED TODAY WE WOULD BE THE FIRST COUNTY IN OREGON TO JOIN THIS NATIONAL VOICE. I BELIEVE THE CITY OF BEAVERTON BEAT US IN TERMS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT JOINING, BUT FIRST COUNTY. NOW, I'M GOING TO TURN IT OVER TO MY CO-PANELIST CHARLENE TO TALK ABOUT THE WORK THAT SHE DOES IN THE COMMUNITY AND THE DOORS THIS MEMBERSHIP WOULD OPEN FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY.

Ms. McGee: GOOD MORNING CHAIR KAFOURY, GOOD MORNING COMMISSIONERS. I'M CHARLENE MCGEE AND I SERVE AS THE REFUGEE AND IMMIGRANT HEALTH EQUITY POLICY LIAISON AS A MEMBER OF THE TEAM.

ADDITIONALLY, I'M ALSO AN IMMIGRANT WHO WAS BORN IN LIBERIA. MULTNOMAH COUNTY IS HOME TO A DIVERSE AND VIBRANT COMMUNITY OF REFUGEES AND IMMIGRANTS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD. SINCE THE 1970S, TENS OF THOUSANDS OF REFUGEES HAVE RESETTLED IN OREGON. MOST OF THESE REFUGEES INITIALLY SETTLE IN THE GREATER PORTLAND METROPOLITAN AREA. APPROXIMATELY 14% OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY RESIDENTS ARE FOREIGN BORN. NEWCOMERS BRING INNOVATIVE IDEAS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE ECONOMIC GROWTH, THE GLOBAL CONNECTION OF SOCIAL AND CULTURE IN OUR COUNTY. ACTIONS ARE NEEDED TO DEMONSTRATE OUR SOLIDARITY WITH ALL RESIDENTS OF OUR COUNTY, THAT WE WELCOME THEM AND THAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE AND WORK ON THEIR BEHALF.

Ms. McGee: JOINING THE WELCOME AMERICA, ALL COMMUNICATES TO OUR STAFF SOME OF WHOM ARE REFUGEES AND IMMIGRANTS THAT THEY ARE WELCOMED AND VALUED. I'LL WORK ACROSS SYSTEMS INTERNALLY AND EXTERNALLY TO IDENTIFY GAPS IN CLINICAL AND NONCLINICAL SETTINGS IN OUR PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEMS AND REMOVE STRUCTURAL BARRIERS AND VULNERABILITIES FOR REFUGEE AND IMMIGRANT INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES. WORKING IN PURSUIT OF HEALTH EQUITY, WE FOCUS ON HEALTH EQUITY, ALIGNS WITH OUR ONGOING EFFORTS. THROUGH CONSTRUCTIVE PARTNERSHIPS WE DEPLOY HEALTH EQUITY FRAMEWORKS, PUBLIC HEALTH AND LIFE COURSE PRINCIPLES TO ENSURE OPTIMAL CARE AND SERVICES ARE GIVEN TO ALL. WELCOME AMERICA ALIGNS WITH ONGOING WORK BEING IMPLEMENTED WITHIN THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT, SUCH AS THE COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN.

AS A CLINICAL INVITATION FELLOW, I'M DEVELOPING A MODEL OF CARE THAT RECOGNIZES REFUGEE AND IMMIGRANT CARE AS A SPECIALTY CARE. THIS MODEL SEEKS TO PROVIDE EQUITABLE HEALTH TO OUR POPULATION AT RISK FOR DISPARITIES, ESPECIALLY THOSE EXPERIENCING CONCURRENT COMPLEXITIES. ADDITIONALLY, WE'RE EXPLORING A PAYMENT MODEL THAT WOULD SUPPORT VALUE BASED CARE FOR THIS POPULATION. CUSTOMIZED TRAINING THROUGH WELCOME AMERICA WILL PROVIDE COACHING AND TRAINING FOR STAFF AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO LEVERAGE CUTTING-EDGE STRATEGIES THAT WE CAN INTEGRATE THROUGHOUT OUR SERVICE MODELS TO BE MORE EFFECTIVE AND INCLUSIVE THAN WE ARE TODAY. JOINING THIS NETWORK IS ANOTHER DELIBERATE ACTION THAT CONNECTS US AS LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO A NATIONAL NETWORK OF SUPPORTS TO DRAW UPON AND INTEGRATE LESSONS LEARNED INTO PLANS THAT TRANSFORM MULTNOMAH COUNTY INTO A VIBRANT PLACE WHERE PEOPLE ARE RESPECTED AND EVERYONE'S TALENTS AND VALUES ARE CULTIVATED. THANK YOU.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. DO WE HAVE QUESTIONS FOR THE PANELISTS BEFORE PUBLIC TESTIMONY? GREAT. THANK YOU.

BOARD CLERK: [READS NAMES]

Mr. Lightning: MY NAME IS LIGHTNING, I REPRESENT LIGHTNING SUPER WATCHDOG. BASICALLY, I ABSOLUTELY APPROVE THIS RESOLUTION, AND I THINK FROM MULTNOMAH COUNTY'S POSITION, IT IS VERY BENEFICIAL TO BECOME A MEMBER. AND MY FEELING IS WHEN WE'RE TALKING SYRIAN REFUGEES ON THE NUMBER OF SUFFERING PEOPLE THAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT ON TRYING TO RELOCATE LET'S JUST USE TURKEY FOR AN EXAMPLE, WE NEED TO LOOK AT THIS FROM A HUMANITARIAN POSITION AND I HOPE THAT PRESIDENT TRUMP WILL LOOK AT THIS FROM A HUMANITARIAN POSITION AND UNDERSTAND THAT THE UNITED STATES DOES HAVE TO DO WHAT THEY CAN DO, OFFER FOREIGN AID AND CONTINUE TO TRY TO IMPROVE THEIR LIVES. NOW, LOOKING AT THAT FROM A REALISTIC POSITION, AS TURKEY HAS, IS THAT WE ALSO HAVE TO UNDERSTAND WE HAVE TO HAVE THE PROPER RESOURCES IN PLACE, THE PROPER HOUSING IN PLACE, THE PROPER MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN PLACE, SO WE ARE TAKING CARE OF THEM. WE DON'T WANT TO RELOCATE PEOPLE IN LARGE NUMBERS TO LOCATIONS THAT ARE NOT BEING TAKEN CARE OF BY GOING TO THAT NEW LOCATION. WE HAVE TO LOOK AT THIS VERY CLOSE, PEOPLE NEED TO HAVE REASONABLE DISCUSSIONS AND UNDERSTAND THAT WE NEED TO ALSO IN CERTAIN LOCATIONS SUCH AS TURKEY OFFER FOREIGN AID.

IF THEY'RE TAKING IN LARGE NUMBERS, OFFER FOREIGN AID PRESIDENT TRUMP, DO NOT DENY THE FOREIGN AID. IT IS VERY IMPERATIVE THAT YOU DO NOT STOP THE FUNDING AND WE NEED TO KEEP LOOKING AT THIS FROM PRESIDENT TRUMP'S POSITION, SAFETY IS HIS NUMBER ONE CONCERN AND HE'S TRYING TO MODERNIZE THE IMMIGRATION SYSTEM ITSELF, REFORM THE IMMIGRATION LAWS AND WE NEED TO KEEP HAVING THESE ATTORNEYS THAT WE'RE TALKING TO AND FUNDING THEM CREATING INNOVATIVE IDEAS THAT CAN BE PRESENTED TO NOT HAVE THE SAME SITUATION HAPPEN IN SYRIA TO WHERE SO MANY PEOPLE HAVE TO FLEE THEIR COUNTRY AND THEY DON'T WANT TO. THEY DON'T WANT TO HAVE TO RELOCATE. THEY HAD GOOD JOBS, THEY HAD GOOD CARS, THEY HAD HOMES. WE NEED TO FOCUS ON THE BIG PICTURE OF PREVENTING THAT FROM HAPPENING IN THE FIRST PLACE. AND UNDERSTAND THAT THE UNITED STATES DOES HAVE TO FROM A HUMANITARIAN POSITION ALSO STEP UP AND CONTINUE FOREIGN AID TO THESE COUNTRIES THAT CURRENTLY NEED IT AND PRESIDENT TRUMP NEEDS TO CONTINUE TO UNDERSTAND THAT AND HAVE PEOPLE STRESS THAT TO HIM. THANK YOU.

Mr. Walsh: GOOD MORNING AGAIN, MY NAME IS JOE WALSH AND I REPRESENT INDIVIDUALS FOR JUSTICE FOR THE RECORD. I'M GOING TO DO SOMETHING UNUSUAL. I'M NOT GOING TO TALK TO YOU. I'M GOING TO TALK TO THE PEOPLE THAT MAY SEE THIS ON VIDEO AND ASK THEM TO COME TO YOUR MEETINGS. YOU NEED TO HEAR FROM OTHER PEOPLE THAN ME. YOU KNOW,

I THINK I'M REALLY INTERESTING BUT AFTER A WHILE IT GETS BORING. SO I'M ASKING YOU PEOPLE THAT ARE WATCHING THIS TO COME AND TALK TO YOU AND GIVE THEIR OPINIONS. WE ARE A REPUBLIC. WE PRACTICE DEMOCRACY. AND THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN DO IT IS TO TELL YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS WHO ARE SUPPOSED TO REPRESENT YOU WHAT TO DO. THEY DON'T ALWAYS DO IT, BUT YOU CAN AT LEAST TELL THEM THIS IS WHAT I BELIEVE. AND IF YOU CAN'T DO THAT, IF YOU CAN'T LEAVE YOUR HOUSE OR YOU HAVE TO WORK, AND I KNOW IT'S DIFFICULT TO DO, AND IT'S A LOT EASIER FOR ME BECAUSE I'M RETIRED, PICK UP THE PHONE, CALL THEIR OFFICES, LEAVE A MESSAGE.

Mr. Walsh: HEY, COMMISSIONER SMITH! I REALLY AM ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE DOING. HEY, CHAIR KAFOURY, YOU'RE DOING A HECK OF A JOB. HEY, CHAIR KAFOURY, YOU'RE NOT DOING A HECK OF A JOB. IT'S THEIR OPINION THAT IS CRUCIAL. IT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF OUR DEMONSTRATE. I KNOW YOU GET MAD AT US AND NOW, I'M GOING TO SPEAK TO THE ACTIVISTS AND I KNOW HOW TO DO THIS, I'VE BEEN DOING THIS FOR 40 YEARS AND I STILL DON'T KNOW HOW TO DO THIS. I DON'T KNOW HOW TO BRIDGE BETWEEN THE ACTIVISTS AND THE POLITICIANS. I DON'T KNOW HOW TO BRIDGE THAT. WE ARE SO ANGRY WITH OUR POLITICIANS, I DON'T KNOW HOW TO BRIDGE THAT, BUT I KNOW IN MY HEART AND MY SOUL! THAT WE HAVE TO DO IT.

WE HAVE TO STAND TOGETHER. ALL THESE FIGHTS THAT WE'RE DOING FOR THE LAST TWO OR THREE YEARS ARE IRRELEVANT NOW. AND THAT'S HARD. BECAUSE WE CARE ABOUT A LOT OF THE ISSUES, BUT THE ISSUES THAT ARE COMING DOWN TO US FROM WASHINGTON, D.C. ARE TERRIBLE. IF YOU SAW THE SUGGESTED BUDGET OF THE PRESIDENT, IT IS DEVASTATING, DEVASTATING. I KNOW THE PRESIDENTS' BUDGET IS KILLED ON ARRIVAL. HOWEVER, THIS ONE I DON'T KNOW. THEY MAY PASS A LOT OF THIS CRAB THAT'S COMING DOWN AND WE'RE GOING TO BE DEVASTATED SO WE NEED TO STAND TOGETHER. DON'T KNOW HOW TO BRIDGE THAT. MAYBE IT WILL TAKE ME ANOTHER COUPLE OF YEARS TO FIGURE IT OUT. BUT WHATEVER I THINK ABOUT YOU PERSONALLY, YOUR JOB YOU'RE DOING, I WILL STAND THERE AND DEFEND YOU. I WILL. ALWAYS. BECAUSE THIS SCARES ME. THANK YOU.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. ALL RIGHT, I'M GOING TO READ THE RESOLUTION, AND THEN WE'LL HAVE COMMENTS. DECLARING MULTNOMAH COUNTY AS A WELCOMING COUNTY AND SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIP IN WELCOMING AMERICA. MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FINDS IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT LOCAL AND NATIONAL LEADERS UNITE AGAINST THE RECENT ESCALATION IN HATE CRIMES, DISCRIMINATION AND BLATANT RACISM. MULTNOMAH COUNTY VALUES THE DIVERSITY AND ACKNOWLEDGES THE STRENGTH AND RESILIENCE OUR IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE COMMUNITIES BRING TO OUR NATION. MULTNOMAH COUNTY IS

COMMITTED TO CONTINUE TO BUILD A WELCOMING COMMUNITY WHERE EVERYONE HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO THRIVE. EFFORTS THAT PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING, EDUCATION, AND COLLABORATION IN OUR DIVERSE COMMUNITY ARE CRUCIAL TO PRESERVING AND STRENGTHENING MULTNOMAH COUNTY'S WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY.

Chair Kafoury: WELCOMING AMERICA IS A NONPROFIT, NONPARTISAN ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO LEADING A MOVEMENT OF INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE NATION. MEMBERS OF WELCOMING AMERICA CONNECT WITH COMMUNITY LEADERS, GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS CREATING CUTTING-EDGE TOOL KITS, POLICIES AND ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES. IN ADDITION, THE COUNTY WILL GAIN ACCESS TO TRAINING, POLICY RESEARCH AND REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES THAT SUPPORT THE COUNTY'S COMMITMENT TO CREATING SAFETY AND BELONGING AND TO ENSURING CONTINUED ACCESS TO THE VITAL SERVICES. LAUNCHED IN 2009, WELCOMING AMERICA SPURRED A NATIONAL MOVEMENT WITH 1 IN 8 AMERICANS LIVING IN A WELCOMING COMMUNITY. THIS AWARD-WINNING SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP MODEL IS BEGINNING TO SCALE GLOBALLY. MULTNOMAH COUNTY IS A WELCOMING COMMUNITY. THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SUPPORTS THE COUNTY IN BECOMING AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL WELCOMING AMERICA NETWORK. COMMENTS? COMMISSIONER STEGMANN.

Commissioner Stegmann: USUALLY, WHEN I SEE THE WORD "INSTITUTIONALIZATION" IT'S USUALLY IN A NEGATIVE CONNOTATION SO IT'S NICE TO SEE IT USED IN THIS. THIS IS THE FIRST STEP OF STARTING A CULTURE OF INCLUSIVITY AND SO I THINK HAVING INSTITUTIONAL INCLUSIVITY IS A TREMENDOUS THING. SO I SUPPORT THIS. THANK YOU.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR, VOTE AYE. [UNANIMOUS AYES] THE RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED.

R.4 Authorizing Settlement of Lawsuit: Breanne Chilton-Eddy v. Multnomah County, et al, MCCC Case No. 16CV14457. Presenter: Andy Jones, Asst. County Attorney.

Chair Kafoury: MAY I HAVE A MOTION? COMMISSIONER SMITH MOVES, COMMISSIONER VEGA PEDERSON SECONDS, APPROVAL OF R.4.

Mr. Jones: GOOD MORNING, I'M ANDY JONES HERE FROM THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE. I'M HERE ON A COMPANION CASE TO A CASE I WAS ON A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO. I'M HERE TO PRESENT A MEDIATED SETTLEMENT NUMBER ON THIS PERSONAL INJURY CASE AND I'M ASKING FOR YOUR APPROVAL TO SETTLE THIS CASE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$46,000.

Chair Kafoury: QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? ALL THOSE IN FAVOR, VOTE AYE. [UNANIMOUS AYES] THE SETTLEMENT IS APPROVED.

BOARD COMMENT

BC.1 Opportunity as time allows, for the Commissioners to provide comment on non-agenda items.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. ALL RIGHT. WELL, NOW WE'VE COME TO THE TIME ON OUR AGENDA FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS. DOES ANYBODY ANYTHING TO DISCUSS OR FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER? NO? ALL RIGHT. WELL, THANK YOU, IT'S BEEN A REALLY IMPORTANT MORNING FOR US. I'M EXCITED FOR THE WORK THAT WE'RE DOING SO WE ARE ADJOURNED. [GAVEL]

ADJOURNMENT – 11:37 a.m.

[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:
Lynda J. Grow, Board Clerk and
Marina Baker, Assistant Board Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
Multnomah County, Oregon