

4/2/19



Restore Hope, Renew Lives

Lane County Board of Commissioners
125 East 8th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401

April 2, 2019

Re: CCO Selection for Lane County

South Lane Mental Health believes it to be in the best interest of our clients and our communities that there be a nonprofit Coordinated Care Organization chosen as the CCO for Lane County or as one of the CCOs chosen.

At this point, we lack sufficient information on the design and implementation for how multiple CCOs could operate simultaneously within Lane County, and are taking no position on that until we have a more clear analysis of the implications for client care, access to services, economic and financial impacts, community benefits, and much more. Having multiple CCOs in Lane County could dramatically alter the service delivery landscape in ways that we can't predict at this time, and we would want a detailed analysis of all of the possible consequences before a decision was made on this.

We think that the biggest consideration in the CCO determination for Lane County is whether or not the CCO or CCOs are nonprofit organizations. It is our position that a CCO organized for the purpose of making a profit can lead to compromises that are not in the best interest of clients or the community. When a client legitimately requires a higher level of care, that increased care is in conflict with the desire to control costs and increase profitability. Furthermore, we feel that a for-profit model for CCOs is less aligned with South Lane Mental Health's philosophy for client care where we strive to provide the best possible community-based care, and to serve clients in the manner that is best suited for them, regardless of whether it makes our job harder or more expensive. As an agency serving rural communities, we realize that we need to meet clients where they are, and that is not always the cheapest or most convenient model to deliver. It is our opinion that a nonprofit CCO is more likely to be aligned with our mission to serve the community in this manner.

Sincerely,

Rob Dickinson, Board Chair