



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: February 5, 2025

SUBJECT: Approval to apply for and accept a five-year grant from Oregon Health and Science University to coordinate care for families who have children with special health care needs

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Move approval to apply for and accept a five-year grant Oregon Health and Science University for an in-home care coordination program serving families who have children with special health care needs.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

The Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special Needs (OCCYSHN), administered by Oregon Health and Science University, contracts with local public health agencies to implement the CaCoon (CAreCoordination) program. Deschutes County Health Services is requesting approval to apply for and accept another five-year grant from Oregon Health and Science University to support the CaCoon program.

CaCoon is a statewide public health program that focuses on community-based care coordination through registered nurse home visits for families with children (newborn through age 21) who have special health care needs. The program has operated in most Oregon counties, including Deschutes County, for over 30 years. According to OCCYSHN, children and youth served in the CaCoon program make fewer visits to emergency departments and have higher rates of immunizations and annual well-child and dental care visits. The most vulnerable families are prioritized for service.

CaCoon nurses partner with families to:

- Identify the child's strengths and needs
- Connect with healthcare and other community supports
- Make sure the child's health team works well together
- Assist in gathering information to make health-related decisions for the child
- Identify problems and help find solutions

Funding from this grant will support approximately 0.20 full-time equivalent Public Health Nurse II and 10% for indirect costs.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

If awarded, approximately \$171,282 (\$32,256 per year) over the five-year term.

ATTENDANCE:

Anne Kilty, Public Health Program Manager