



CENTRAL CITY CONCERN

HOMES HEALTH JOBS

To: Senators Wyden and Merkley, and Representatives Blumenauer, Bonamici and Schrader

Central City Concern (CCC) is a non-profit direct service organization that provides integrated primary and behavioral health care, supportive and affordable housing, and employment services to people impacted by homelessness in the Tri-County area in your district. CCC serves 13,000 people annually through 2,200 units of affordable supportive housing, direct patient care through our 13 Federally Qualified Health Centers, makes 1,200 job placements annually through our Employment Access Center.

Central City Concern wants to support the following investments in the Build Back Better Act. We are supporting these critical investments alongside national coalitions. Need is growing and so should our ability to respond and care for our communities:

National Association of Community Health Centers
Community Health Clinic investments:

- \$10 Billion in funding for health centers to renovate and build new spaces and
 - \$6.3 Billion to strengthen the CHC workforce to serve the growing number of patients.
 - And we need congress to protect the 340B program from being dismantled and blowing a massive hole in the financial stability of health clinics who use these funds to care for the most vulnerable

National Low Income Housing Coalition, National Alliance to End Homelessness
Addressing Homelessness:

- \$327 billion for affordable housing – including \$90 billion to expand rental assistance to 1 million more households (the most proven way to reduce homelessness), \$80 billion to preserve public housing for more than 2.5 million residents, and \$37 billion for the national Housing Trust Fund.

Affordable Housing Tax Credit Coalition

Building long-term housing stability with the Affordable Housing Tax Credit Improvement Act:

- \$30 billion for housing development, could create up to 2 million affordable homes over the next 10 years
- Providing a 50% basis boost and 10% set-aside for developments serving Extremely Low-Income households (0-30% area median income) for 10 years

American Medical Association and Coalition to Stop Opioid Overdose

- Include the Medicaid Reentry Act in the final bill to interrupt the cycle of using criminalization to punish and exacerbate illness



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Below are comments from our direct service staff who are seeing the need for your action everyday:

“Housing is a basic human need.” **Vialante Vieira, Housing Specialist**

“I was homeless and on drugs. Thanks to CCC and federal funding I NOW HAVE A PLACE TO LIVE AND WORK.” **Paul Clissold, CBA Ankeny/Shoreline**

“Every study ever done on these matters demonstrates that every dollar invested in these programs saves multiple dollars in the next budget cycle and further down the line as well. When these are then reinvested in the same manner, it can create a genuine tsunami-like tidal wave of positive results and relieve huge amounts of misery and suffering along the way, which leads to wholesale reductions in crime, because most crime arises from some sort of unresolved pain and suffering, and the need to escape that. Provide the necessary tools to accomplish this, and everybody wins, excepting only the corrections officers' union and big corporations that own private, for-profit prisons whose job security and business plan require the human suffering to continue., Ian Austin, Assistant Case Manager
Homeless will not end with just building structures we need a diverse set of services for multiple entry points.” **Heather Hollingsworth, Project Manager**

“All of these items will drastically improve the resources for the clients we work with.” **Tracy Winn, psychiatric medical provider**

“As one of over 9000 FQHCs in the US, we rely on our 304B to keep our clinics open, and help patients afford life-saving medication. A dear patient of mine would not be able to afford her insulin without these discounts, and would likely end up with complications like diabetic ulcers and amputations. Thank you for renewing this program and increasing funding so patients like mine can get the care they need to heal and be healthy.” **Richard Bruno, Senior Medical Director**

“Housing and integrated care are infrastructure. Revitalize rural and urban communities by building health centers and you invest in jobs and improve rural wellbeing. By investing in healthcare, you reduce some of the most egregious injustices (like most mental health care in the U.S. is thru jail,) while investing in an educated American workforce. People can't heal if they don't have homes.” **Deidre Gordon, Mental Health Counselor**

“I have been on the receiving end of services at CCC and I believe that this funding will be an integral part of helping the diverse population we already serve.” **Dana smith, Employment Specialist**

“I support these sections of the bill, as well as, others. Professionally, I work with unhoused veterans of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. It is extremely difficult for our vets to find rental housing that fits the standard of 1/3 of their income. Everyone deserves a safe space to live, but we owe our veterans at least that much! Thank you!” **Michaelle Robardey, Peer Support Specialist**

“If we don't help, who will. We need funding and support on this very difficult and sometimes heart-breaking job.” **Barber Baker, Administrative Care Assistant**



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“Just look around, from city to city., Willie Amos Jones Jr, Peer Support Specialist II
Let’s continue the work that has been started to see it through to its success. We cannot do it without this plans implementation.” **Vivian Lackey, Program Manager**

“Many Oregonians' and single parents who have lost their job and have become homeless need our assistance to help get these families back on their feet. I am a single mother with three teenage daughters living at home; I am in this category. If something happens to me and I would require Central City Concerns assistance. I live and work hard every day to do my part to help the homeless and the skyrocketing addition issue in Portland metro area; we need this help.” **Teri Adams - Gritzmacher, Clinical Safety Assistant**

“Oregon doesn't have much left to build back from!! Oregon does need to rebuild our economy from the ground up!! This means getting housing and jobs for those currently sleeping on the ground!! In order to have a vibrant economy we need to have more consumers!! This begins with the houseless, the unemployed and the underemployed!! You can help us the most by providing us the recourses necessary to fund those programs!!” **Rob Gabrish, Resident Services Support Specialist**

“Our most vulnerable communities have never been in a more dire spot of losing access to their basic human rights of safety, health, and shelter. The Build Back Better Act is essential to ensuring the security of these unalienable rights.” **Morgan Vann, Mental Health Counselor**

“Less restrictive living would be a great housing situation.” **Makyla Boone, Employment Specialist**

“The only solution to homelessness is affordable, permanent housing. The federal government created modern day homelessness with Reagan-era cuts to housing investments that still have not been resolved. There is absolutely no reason why cities with so much wealth in the United States should have its citizens sleeping on sidewalks. It is undignified, cruel, and inhumane.” **Leanne Falzon, Hepatitis C Coordinator**

“The time is now to fight for Housing, Healthcare, Climate Action, and transitioning our Economy and Infrastructure into the 21st century. No half measures!” **Brandon Brezic, Housing Development Project Manager**

“They're there needs to be funding for housing and all kind of help with employment and everything else for people that also are coming out of jail that have sex offense.” **Patrick Alexander, Recruiter Specialist**

“This company has saved my life. After 22 years I figured out I don't need alcohol n drugs to live. I have been clean 16 years and been employed over 13 years. CCC gave me a chance and a place to live without this I would still be part of the revolving door Prison program. I am so thankful for my life today. I see people coming and doing the same thing with their lives. It's amazing thank you for helping so many others like me.” **Billy Wright, Facilities Maintenance Manager**



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“This is a huge opportunity to address the epidemic of houselessness and poverty within the communities that we serve at CCC. By investing into these communities, we would be able to reduce the number of unsheltered individuals living on the streets, increase safety and enhance the lives of the individuals who are often forgotten. Please consider investing into these communities.” **Alexis Lawrence, Clinical Supervisor**

“Throughout my time at CCC working different programs which house those who are chronically houseless I have seen firsthand the benefits of how offering housing to individuals allows them to begin to work on other areas of their lives. Additionally, I have seen a reduction in their use of emergency services and overall cost on the community when the client is housed and able to access health services, mental health services, and substance use treatment.” **Angelisa Thompson, Clinical Supervisor**

“We need help,” **Robert Tsow, Lead Counselor CADC**

“We need to continue to give the underserved HOPE, not of just temporary assistance but of a permanent resolution. We learned from Houston and Sand Diego that while temporary assistance is good, permanent solutions make a bigger impact. Permanent solutions tend to cost a more up front. Central City Concern is attacking from all sides and we need the financial support to continue to do so.” **Barb Mack, Director of Employee and Labor Relations**

“Without this help I don't think I would have ever made it back to being a productive member of society,” **Michael Dunn, Maintenance 2**

“Without these investments many individuals will fall short of receiving the care they need to survive.” **Billy Anfield, Advocacy Coordinator**

“Working on a group project that is addressing decriminalization of homelessness in Portland.” **Paige Persico, MSW Intern Portland State University**

“Working together for a better community!” **Curtis Stokes, Case Manager**

This is a joint letter co-signed by the follow Central City Concern staff:

Tracy Winn, OTC/OTRC, Psychiatric medical provider

Richard Bruno , OTC/Blackburn, Senior Medical Director

Ian Austin, Golden West/STS Program, Assistant Case Manager

Heather Hollingsworth, Real Estate Development , Project Manager



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Deidre Gordon, Old Town Recovery Center, Mental Health Counselor

Vialante Vieira, Blackburn-RCP, Housing Specialist

Dana Smith, Blackburn/Supportive Housing, Employment Specialist

Michaëlle Robardey, Veterans/Grant & Per Diem (Gpd), Peer Support Specialist

Paul Clissold, ERP, CBA Ankeny/Shoreline

Barber Baker, Letty Owings Center, Administrative Care Assistant

Willie Amos Jones Jr, STP, Peer Support Specialist II

Vivian Lackey, Employment Access Center, Program Manager

Teri Adams - Gritzmacher, OTC / OTRC / Hooper / Letty Owings Center / Blackburn, Clinical Safety Assistant

Rob Gabrish, Estate/Resident Services, RSS

Morgan Vann, Old Town Recovery Center, CORE/ACT team, Mental Health Counselor

Makyla Boone, Employment Access Center, Employment Specialist

Leanne Falzon, Blackburn Center Hepatitis C Program, Hepatitis C Coordinator

Brandon Brezic, Housing Development, Housing Development Project Manager

Patrick Alexander, Human Resources, Recruiter specialist

Billy Wright, Housing, Facilities Maintenance Manager

Alexis Lawrence, Old Town Recovery Center/ACT II Team, Clinical Supervisor

Angelisa Thompson, Bud Clark Commons/Bud Clark Case Management Team, Clinical Supervisor

Robert Tsow, Central City Concern Recovery Center, Lead Counselor CADC

Barb Mack, Human Resources, Director of Employee and Labor Relations

Michael Dunn, CCCRC Richard Harris, Maintenance 2

Billy Anfield, Flip the Script, Advocacy Coordinator

Paige Persico, Youth Unlimited Inc., MSW Intern Portland State University

Curtis Stokes, Blackburn RCP, Case Manager

Mike Leslie, Old Town Clinic Pharmacy, Pharmacy Purchaser



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Savannah Pozarycki, Old Town Recovery Center, Certified Pharmacy Technician

Gabriel Luzader-Kamprath, Admin, Housing Accountant

Maeve Connor, Public Affairs, Communications Specialist

Shelby Pearson, Old Town Recovery Center, Mental Health Counselor

Steven gilroy, Chez ami, Peer support specialist

Vy Pham, Old Town Recovery Center, Care Team Manager

Gary Cobb, Public Policy, Community Outreach Coordinator

Mandy Putnam, Blackburn Center SUDS, CADC Counselor II

Veronica HILL, Administration, Accountant

Vivian Ton, Old Town Clinic, Clinical Pharmacist

Petr Mordashev, 8x8, On Call CBA/FD

Mandi Houston, Human Resources, Recruiter

Keith Martin, BBIS, Business Analyst - System Admin Team

Jennifer Stein, Housing Administration, Administrative Specialist - Housing

Eliza Kinrose, HR, Senior Recruiter

Eric Oswald, CEP, Clinical supervisor

Rachel Hunter, Decision Support, Software Developer

Cash Freitas, IT Department, Clinical Informatics Specialist

Karen Jones, BBIS, Revenue Cycle Manager

Guy Limasa, Employment Access Center, Director of Employment Services

Claudia Fischer, Supportive Housing (PTP), Case Manager

Tony France, Hooper DSC/Health Services, Cook II

Miranda L. Tarrow, Old Town Recovery Center, Medical Records Clerk

Sara Sanderson, Recuperative Care Program, Community Liaison

Aneta Bujno, Hooper Detox, Registered Nurse

Casey Strickler, OTC, Physician Assistant



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Andrew B Mendenhall MD, , Chief Medical Officer

Brandon Deyo, Old Town Clinic Summit Team, Complex Care Nurse

Helki Watson, Blackburn Center , Receptionist

Kaitlyn Licono, OTC/ Health services, Certified Medical Assistant

Michael Healy, IT, System Administrator

Noah Christen, IT , Support Specialist

Rachel Glatt, Blackburn Pharmacy, Pharmacy Operations Manager

Kimerly Leathley, Health Services, Operations Executive

Wayne Haddad, Information Technology, Chief Information Officer

Olivia Hnilicka, Pharmacy/HCV, Outreach and Linkage to Care Specialist

Ryan Newton, OTRC / CORE2 ACT Team , Community Mental Health Counselor

Amanda Young, Billing & Business Information Systems (BBIS), Insurance Specialist

Anthony Morris, Blackburn Center Housing, Community Building Associate

AJ Rohn, Supportive Housing, Data Technician

Katherine Stansbury, Blackburn, SUDS, DVIP

Linda Hudson, Imani Center, Director

Oscar Solorio, Administration, Purchasing Manager

Christina Schermerhorn, Health Services , Health Information Manager

Juan Franco, Administration, Organizational Development and Racial Equity Manager

Amanda Stone, CC Staffing/On-Call Program, CC Staffing Supervisor

Jared Gallegos, Old Town Clinic Pharmacy, Clinical Pharmacist

Sarah Holland, Supportive Housing , Director of Supportive Housing

Wolf Taylor, Old Town Clinic Pharmacy, Certified Pharmacy Technician

Amy Jo Rist, Old Town Clinic, MA

Chuck Sve, Old Town Clinic, Crisis Counselor, Acupuncturist, and Medical Education Coordinator



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Jesse Goedken, BBIS, Coding Supervisor

Linda Golden, Old Town Recovery Center, CORE/ACT team, Mental Health Counselor, LCSW

Isadora Padillas, ccrc, fd/cba on call

Laura Goodrum, Hooper Detox, Sub-acute Tech

Faith Entze, Maintenance/housing, Turnover janitor 2

Paule Threet, Central City Concern's Old Town Clinic Pharmacy, Pharmacy Technician

Isiah Bailey, Alder hotel, Community building assistant

Nichole Mckernan, Blackburn Center Primary Care, Health Assistant

Medina kurney, Flip the Script reentry program, Associate director of reentry

Tina Bialas, Letty Owings Center, Director of Residential Services

Andrea Hartford, River Haven, CBA

Ray Delcambre, Housing Department, Housing Nighttime Community Manager

Keri Burnidge, Housing Facilities, Facilities Manager

Briana Stodola, Administration, Project Manager

Taniesha Sharifiazad, Central City Concern Blackburn Center, Call Center Operator

Virinia Hovland, Primary Care, Blackburn Center, Family Nurse Practitioner

LaFreda Ceaser, Admin, Chief Organizational Development and Racial Equity Officer

Vernetta, OTRC, Front Desk Supervisor

Colin Newman, IT, IT Business Analyst

Margaret Floberg, Biltmore/Public Affairs, Events & Corp. Giving Manager

Daniel Epting, Blackburn SUDS, Peer Support Specialist II

Jennifer Gambill, BEST, Benefits and Entitlements Specialist, Peer Support Specialist

Amanda Scales, HR, ER Specialist

Shawn Aleshire, The Medford, Community Building Assistant

Ronnie head, Biltmore/butte, CBA

Anna Bryan, Old Town Clinic, Health Assistant



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Kaeli Graffuis, Old Town Recovery Center, Mental Health Counselor

Mariam Admasu, Administration, Organizational Development + Racial Equity Manager