

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
14th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

CHRIS CORRY
ASSISTANT MINORITY
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State of
Washington
House of
Representatives



APPROPRIATIONS
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
CONSUMER PROTECTION
& BUSINESS

To: HCA Contract Division and Sole Source Procurements Team

c/c Dakota Steel, Office of Community Voices and Empowerment, HCA

I am writing today to express my intent during this past 2024 legislative session regarding one specific Operating Budget request I authored and was subsequently unanimously passed in House Appropriations and adopted into the State's operating budget. The budget language associated with this \$200,000 budget request was drafted with the sole intent of acknowledging the work Chad's Legacy Project has been doing for the past seven years. Still, more importantly, the critical work planned for the coming 12 months.

Chad's Legacy Project (CLP) has accomplished much, including the inception and leadership of the continuing Washington State Mental Health Summit series, support programs to help build the Washington Peer workforce and Mental Health First Aid training capacity in rural areas. CLP is also slated to co-lead an HCA legislative implementation workgroup passed in the 2024 session associated with the overwhelmingly supported 2SSB 5660 in the coming months in the area of Mental Health Advance Directives. In addition, CLP stands poised to nationally transform how teachers locate, assess and implement Mental Health education through a planned expansion project for their groundbreaking online curriculum library, www.mentalhealthinstruction.org.

All of these efforts have been without, and even in lieu of, state funding support. It is time for the State of Washington to invest in CLP and enable them to sustainably champion and execute tasks that are now waiting in the starting blocks. The referenced state budget request signed by the Governor was drafted referencing specific projects only CLP has the capability of accomplishing, and you'll note the mission statement referenced in budget language is merely a copy and paste of the Mission Statement posted on the CLP website. On behalf of CLP, I and my House Appropriations cohort request this budget item be created as a Sole Source contract for Chad's Legacy Project and funds made available to them as soon as feasibly possible.

Thank you for your consideration. I have full confidence in the work of Chad's Legacy Project to further improve mental health services and education here in Washington State.

Sincerely,

Chris Corry