May 10, 2023

Tim D. Noe, PhD, Center Administrator

Center for Prevention and Health Promotion

Oregon Health Authority - Public Health Division

800 NE Oregon Street

Portland, OR 97232

Dear Mr. Tim D Noe,

The Oregon Conference of Local Health Officials (CLHO) offers this letter of commitment for supporting the Oregon Health Authority Public Health Division (OHA-PHD) application for the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) Strategic Prevention Framework-Partnerships for Success funding opportunity (SPF-23-003). CLHO exists in Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS 431.330) to provide recommendations on foundational capabilities and Public Health Modernization to the Oregon Health Authority. CLHO is made up of representatives from each of the 33 local public health authorities (LPHAs) in Oregon, each of which provides services, implements health promotion programs, and works to advance health equity in their communities.

CLHO is supportive of OHA-PHD efforts to prevent and reduce the social, economic, and other harms resulting from substance misuse. Oregon ranks highest in the US for rates of illicit drug use disorder, prescription opioid misuse, and methamphetamine use. Excessive alcohol use is the third leading cause of preventable death in Oregon. Harms related to substances are a population health problem that requires prevention investments and strong, multi-sector partnerships. We welcome this opportunity to leverage new resources to build capacity across Oregon’s public health and behavioral health systems and organizations for preventing and reducing substance misuse.

If OHA-PHD is funded, CLHO will support engagement with its members and their partner networks to 1) Co-develop methodology for identifying SPF-sub-recipients to address gaps and underserved communities; 2) Support alignment and coordination with any communities directly funded through SAMHSA’s parallel NOFA (SPF-23-004), or other existing SPF grantees; and 3) Share process and outcome evaluation results to advance evidence-based state and community substance misuse prevention services.

CLHO and its members look forward to continuing and strengthening our partnership with OHA-PHD to ensure substance use prevention investments are well integrated into Oregon’s SUD continuum of care and promote healthy, equitable communities in Oregon.

Sincerely,