**Email Template for Community Partners**

Subject: DD Services Family to Family Networks. Please Don’t Eliminate Funding.

Cc: info@kdsupportnetworkorg

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and I work for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and live in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. I am writing to you today to explain our organizations interactions with our local Family to Family Network, Kintsugi Disability Support Network, and how important they are as a community partner in Harney County. (SHORT DESCRIPTION). Our Family Network has provided (FAMILIES I WORK WITH, ETC.) the opportunity to find and navigate needed resources, support systems, information and trainings. Families that have a child that experiences a disability experience a higher level of isolation – especially during this time of Covid-19. Family to Family Networks decrease this sense of isolation.

With the modest investment of $1.3 million per biennium (or $667,000 for the remainder of the current biennium) Regional Family to Family Networks support more than 12,250 families which equates to only $54 per family per year. And because the Network funding does not increase as more families are engaged, the cost per family actually decreases every year.

Now is not the time to eliminate Family to Family Networks which serves as a vital lifeline for thousands of families across the State, including many whose children with disabilities cannot access formal services. Please maintain current service level funding in the DD Services Budget for Family to Family Networks to help ensure equitable access for children with disabilities and their families that are vulnerable to isolation and systemic discrimination, especially during this ongoing pandemic.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

NAME

ORGANIZATION

CITY

PHONE #

**Please send email to:**

Rep.RobNosse@oregonlegislature.gov; Sen.LeeBeyer@oregonlegislature.gov; rep.danrayfield@oregonlegislature.gov; sen.elizabethsteinerhayward@oregonlegislature.gov; sen.betsyjohnson@oregonlegislature.gov; info@kdsupportnetwork.org