

November 15, 2024

Oregon Health Authority,

I am writing to offer public comment on the review of the OHSU/Legacy and the Legacy/PacificSource HCMO transactions. My name is Nichole June Maher, and I serve as the President and CEO for Inatai Foundation. Inatai Foundation is a grantmaking institution primarily focused on the State of Washington with significant grantmaking in the Pacific Northwest. To date, Inatai Foundation has granted more than \$30 million to organizations serving the state of Oregon, with a focus on supporting culturally specific organizations, rural communities, disability serving institutions, community organizing towards racial justice and health equity efforts throughout the state.

It was brought to our attention by several of our Oregon grantees that Inatai Foundation and our institutional practices were referenced in Legacy's application to create a new health foundation. We were deeply dismayed to receive this news and to subsequently discover that our name and practices were referenced in "Exhibit 16 - Foundation Workgroup." At no time has Legacy, PacificSource or OHSU contacted us, and no conversations or dialogue have taken place with this institution related to the creation of a health foundation. Language from our website was taken without our permission and placed into their application without our consent, consultation, or conversation. This feels disingenuous and undermines our trusting relationships with organizations across Oregon.

The reality that Legacy Health has a long history and many current and ongoing challenges in their relationships with communities of color is something that must be examined in both transactions related to the proposed foundation. Grantees across Oregon have asked us to speak up and ask the following questions: How will past harm be healed? How will the governance structure honor the communities that have experienced direct harm? If Legacy Health has not consulted communities to create this new "health foundation" how can they be trusted to operate a foundation? And most importantly, how will the governance reflect independent and authentic community leadership?

We take our role and responsibility of being in trusting relationships with our grantees very seriously. We take our reputation and authentically living into our values just as seriously. We feel that our name and practices were misappropriated and it seems Legacy's approach to community engagement is lacking, as well. Both call into question the integrity of this application's promise to create a foundation "reflective of, focused on, and accountable to under-resourced communities." As the public body entrusted with ensuring these transactions further health equity, we hope you question it, too.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nichole June Maher'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'N' and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Nichole June Maher
President and CEO
Inatai Foundation

*Cc: Seth Kirby, Inatai Foundation Board Chair;
Tom Schroeder, Partner, Davis Wright Tremaine LLP*