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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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April 22, 2026

VIA E-MAIL ONLY: miriam@movementforfamilypower.org

Miriam Mack
Movement for Family Power

Re: Petition for Public Records Disclosure Order
Department of Human Services
DOJ File No.: 100101-GA0077-26

Dear Mr. Mack:

This letter is the Attorney General's response to your petition under the Oregon Public Records Law, ORS 192.311 to 192.431. Your petition, dated April 22, 2026, seeks assistance from the Attorney General in obtaining records you requested from the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) on October 9, 2025. For the reasons discussed below, we respectfully grant your petition.

Upon receipt of a written public records request by an individual identified in an agency's published procedures for submitting requests, the agency is obligated to respond to the request "as soon as practicable and without unreasonable delay." ORS 192.329(1). An agency that is unable to complete its response within fifteen business days of receiving a written request is required to provide the requester with a reasonable estimated completion date. ORS 192.329(5). A requester may petition the Attorney General if they believe an agency has failed to comply with the processing timelines contained in ORS 192.329. ORS 192.407(1). The agency carries the burden of sustaining its actions. ORS 192.411(1).

Your petition explains that you submitted your records request to ODHS more than six months ago and have not received any records in response. You note that ODHS has extended its production deadline on several occasions without providing any information about the delay. You explain that ODHS sent you a clarifying question on March 16, five months after you submitted your request, that suggested that ODHS "has not read or engaged with my request."

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We discussed your petition with Mallory Kenney, the Public Records Unit Manager for ODHS. She explained that your request is complex and requires the assistance of three different departments within ODHS. She also stated that the extensions on your request were necessary due to limited agency resources.

The request you submitted to ODHS seeks eleven categories of information with multiple subparts, and we are aware that ODHS is concurrently processing thousands of additional public records requests. Nonetheless, your request has been pending for more than six months. Under these circumstances, we conclude that any further delays would be unreasonable. We grant your petition, and we order ODHS to either provide a fee estimate[1] or the response required by ORS 192.329(2) by May 15, 2026. If ODHS elects not to comply with this order, it has seven days to announce its intention to seek judicial review. *See* ORS 192.407(3) and 192.411(2).

Sincerely,

BENJAMIN GUTMAN
Deputy Attorney General

DEP:pjn
c via e-mail only: Mallory Kenney (ODHS)

[1] We note that you have requested a public interest fee waiver. As part of this petition, we have not considered whether a full or partial fee waiver is appropriate under the Public Records Law. You are free, of course, to file a new petition with this office if you wish to contest ODHS's subsequent handling of your petition.