# THE TRUTH ABOUT HOMELESS YOUTH

Support our goal of NO Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) in Oregon

## Are there really homeless youth in our community?

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## YOUTH ARE HOMELESS OR RUNAWAY IN THE UNITED STATES.

Homeless youth are individuals under the age of eighteen who lack parental, foster, or institutional care. These young people are sometimes referred to as "unaccompanied" youth.

## OREG **POSITIVE OUTCOMES**

Last year, the Oregon Alliance of Children's Programs aggregated their data to measure positive outcomes for runaway and homeless youth.

## **OUTREACH** 62

### STREET OUTREACH AND DAY SHELTER SERVICES FOCUS ON HARM REDUCTION.

Of 28,580 individuals contacted, 62% accessed: food, shelter, educational, job and life skills support.

STUDENTS K-12 ARE REPORTED TO BE HOMELESS

## **OF THESE YOUTH ARE** UNACCOMPANIED-BUT WE KNOW THERE ARE MORE.

These numbers are for 2013-14 school year. Source: Oregon Department of Education



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SHELTER

### TRANSITIONAL LIVING



### SHELTER PROVIDES 24/7 BASIC CARE AND OVERNIGHT STAYS.

76% exited to a safe home

61% reunited with family

43% accessed behavioral health services 78% connected to educational services

### TRANSITIONAL LIVING SUPPORTS YOUTH AS THEY TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD THROUGH HOUSING AND SKILL-BUILDING.

87% connected to a supportive adult 83% accessed behavioral health services 74% attended school, graduated, or obtained GED at exit

Source: New Avenues for Youth Study

Alliance of Children's Programs.



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## Why are they homeless?

- Severe family conflict
- Parental abuse or neglect
- Parental mental health & substance abuse issues

## What can I do?

SUPPORT OUR GOAL of NO Runaway and Homeless Youth in Oregon.

**EXPAND RESOURCES** to build a state-wide system of intervention and prevention.

1 of 4WERE SEXUALLY ABUSED 

## lof 2**REPORT BEING BEATEN**

Running away from home dramatically increases the risk of youth victimization - physical and/or sexual by both friends and strangers. They are at a much greater risk of being a part of sex trafficking.

Lacking the skills, education, and resources to find legitimate employment, runaway and homeless youth become easy prey for pimps and drug dealers, show higher rates of gang involvement, have higher rates for attempted suicide, and have higher rates of mortality than their counterparts in the general population.