

Hi, my name is Mandee Seeley, and I live in Sisters in Deschutes County. Since moving to Oregon in 2016, my family has spent 7 months in a tent and over 2 years in an RV in the forest due to the housing crisis. On February 11th of this year, we were lucky enough to be chosen for a project-based section 8 HUD voucher and moved into a community that was built with the help of OHCS and the LIFT program, and without it, our family and many others would still be facing homelessness today. But it's not enough, as there are only 81 rental units in Sisters that are income-based. Our family was first selected for a general HUD voucher in 2019, but we had to temporarily separate due to not being able to find anything in Sisters that was both big enough for all of us and fit the financial criteria required to obtain the voucher. That unit was a one-bedroom (that I gave my children), 400sq ft apartment that cost nearly \$1,100 per month, and was considered affordable. We were also on the path to homeownership through Habitat when Covid caused me to lose my job and we were no longer qualified. Whether through down payment assistance, homeownership, or rental assistance, OHCS and the LIFT program have been crucial to getting members of my community, including my family, out of homelessness and into long-term stable housing. I ask you today to please commit more money to build more affordable homes by continuing to fund OHCS and the necessary programs struggling Oregonians rely on. Thank you for your time.