

Presentation to the 2025  
Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Services

# Self-Sufficiency Programs

## Youth Experiencing Homelessness Program (YEHP)

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# Agenda

- I. **The need**
- II. Program overview
- III. Budget overview
- IV. Impact of investments
- V. Fund request and looking ahead

# The Need: Scale of Youth Homelessness

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**Oregon has the second highest rate of young people who are unaccompanied and unsheltered in the nation**

**Oregon has the seventh highest number of youth experiencing homelessness**

**Estimated that about 8,000 youth need YEHP services**

# Funding Landscape: Broader Youth Homelessness

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Federal funds:  
**15%**  
of YEHP  
grantees' funding

State funds:  
**44%**  
of YEHP  
grantees' funding

Other funds:  
**41%**  
of YEHP  
grantees' funding

# The Need: Why Youth Experience Homelessness

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## **Relational**

Family conflict and rejection



## **Structural**

Poverty, racism, systems involvement, lack of housing



## **Individual**

Behavioral health needs, personal well-being

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# Context: Key Budget Changes Over Time

|                                                           | 2019-2021            | 2021-2023             | 2023-2025              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Providers</b>                                          | <b>13</b>            | <b>32</b>             | <b>42</b>              |
| <b>Grants</b>                                             | <b>24</b>            | <b>43</b>             | <b>61</b>              |
| <b>Base Budget</b>                                        | <b>\$3.2 million</b> | <b>\$3.3 million</b>  | <b>\$5.2 million</b>   |
| <b>2020 Emergency Board, COVID-19 response</b>            | <b>\$1 million</b>   |                       |                        |
| <b>HB 2544: Core services, host homes</b>                 |                      | <b>\$3.4 million</b>  |                        |
| <b>HB 4013: Grant expansion, tuition fees and waivers</b> |                      | <b>\$470,000</b>      |                        |
| <b>OHCS Interagency Agreement: College housing, DCT</b>   |                      | <b>\$8.9 million</b>  |                        |
| <b>HB 5019: Core services</b>                             |                      |                       | <b>\$18.75 million</b> |
| <b>HB 3395: College housing</b>                           |                      |                       | <b>\$4 million</b>     |
| <b>Total</b>                                              | <b>\$4.2 million</b> | <b>\$16.1 million</b> | <b>\$28 million</b>    |

# YEHP: Key Role in Youth Homelessness System

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While YEHP is one part of Oregon's broader youth homelessness response, the work spans a continuum

**Prevention**



**YEHP  
Intervention**

**Stabilization**





# YEHP Overview: Program Components

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**YEHP Core  
Services  
grant  
program**

**Tuition and  
Fee Waivers**

**Direct  
Cash  
Transfers**

**Low-income  
college  
housing  
(ends June  
2025)**

# YEHP Overview: Core Services

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The diagram features a dark blue horizontal band with five circular nodes. Each node is composed of a solid inner circle and a light blue outer ring. The nodes are arranged in a slightly overlapping sequence from left to right. The colors of the nodes are: dark blue, green, light blue, dark blue, and green. Each node contains white text representing a core service.

**Culturally  
specific  
services**

**Emergency  
shelter**

**Host  
homes**

**Outreach,  
drop-in**

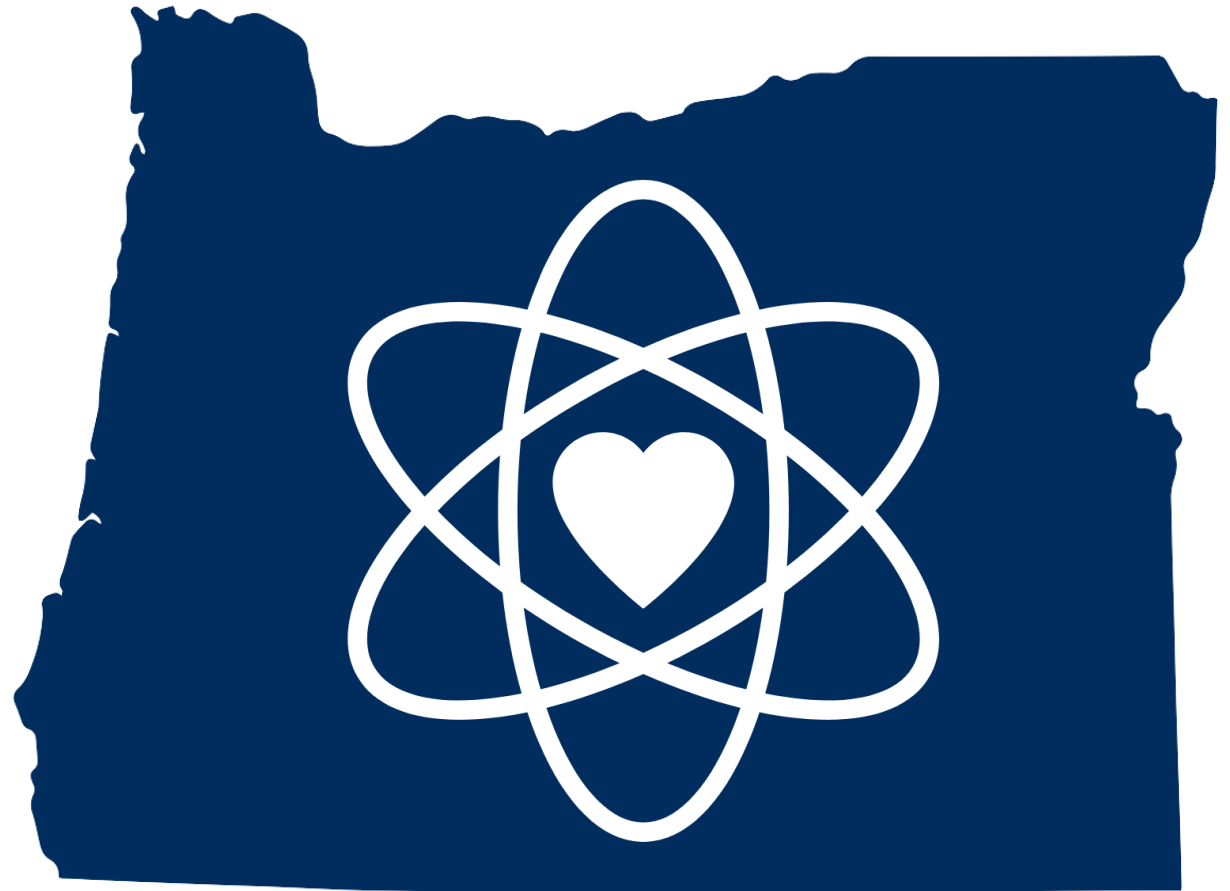
**Transitional  
Living  
Program**

# Geographic Reach: Expanded but Incomplete

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Reach has doubled—YEHP  
Core Service grantees are  
now operating in **26 of  
Oregon's 36 counties**

However, in **most counties,**  
**only one** of the core YEHP  
services is **funded**



# YEHP Overview: Eligible Populations

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## YEHP Core Services

- Unaccompanied youth 24 and younger who cannot safely live with a parent or guardian

## Host Homes

- Unaccompanied youth ages 16 to 21 (statutorily limited)

## Direct Cash Transfers (DCT)

- DCT Plus: Youth 18 to 24 experiencing homelessness
- DCT as Prevention: Youth 18 to 24 at risk of homelessness

## Tuition and Fee Waivers

- Youth 24 and younger who were homeless six+ months between ages 14 and 24 and received YEHP-funded services

# Agenda

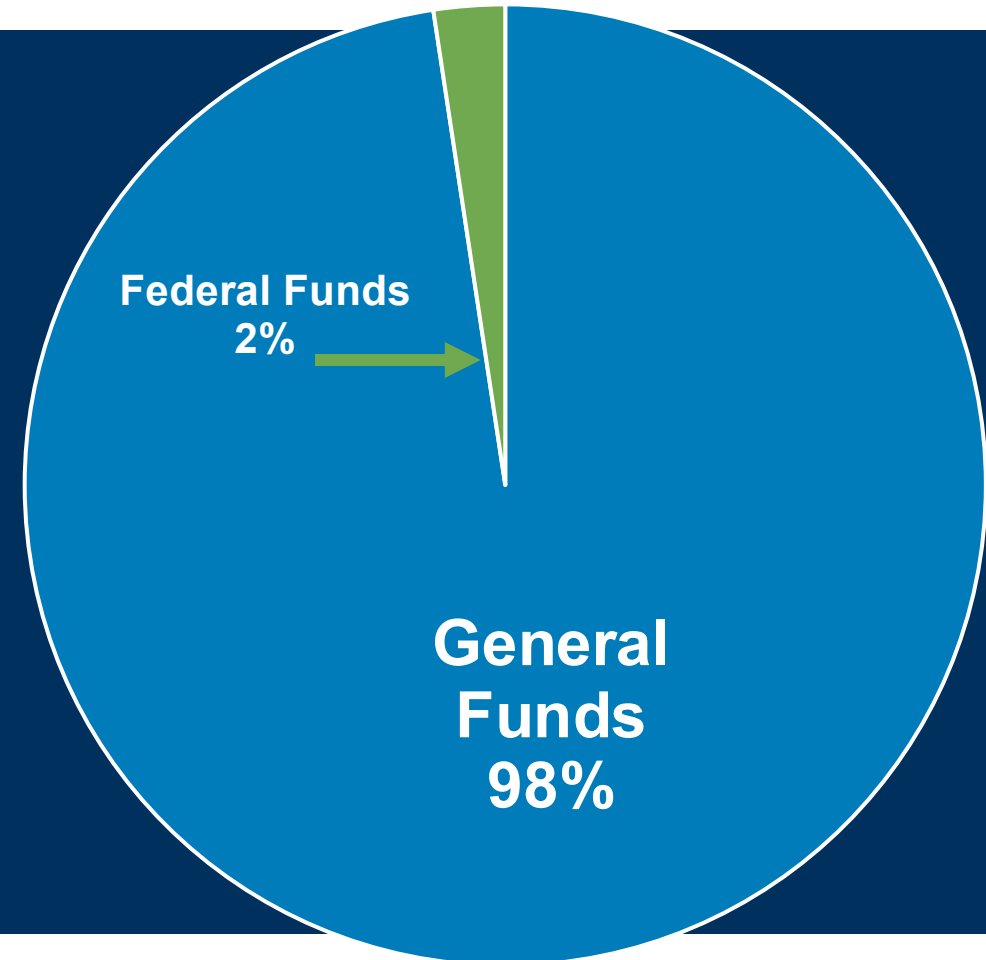
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# YEHP 2025-27 Budget: Funding Split

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**YEHP:**  
\$25.054 million

**SSP total budget:**  
\$4,869.7 million



# YEHP Budget: Staffing

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**Current:**  
7 positions  
7 FTE

**Without POP 502:**  
2 positions  
2 FTE

**With POP 502:**  
8 positions  
7.25 FTE

# YEHP Budget: 2023-25 Expenses

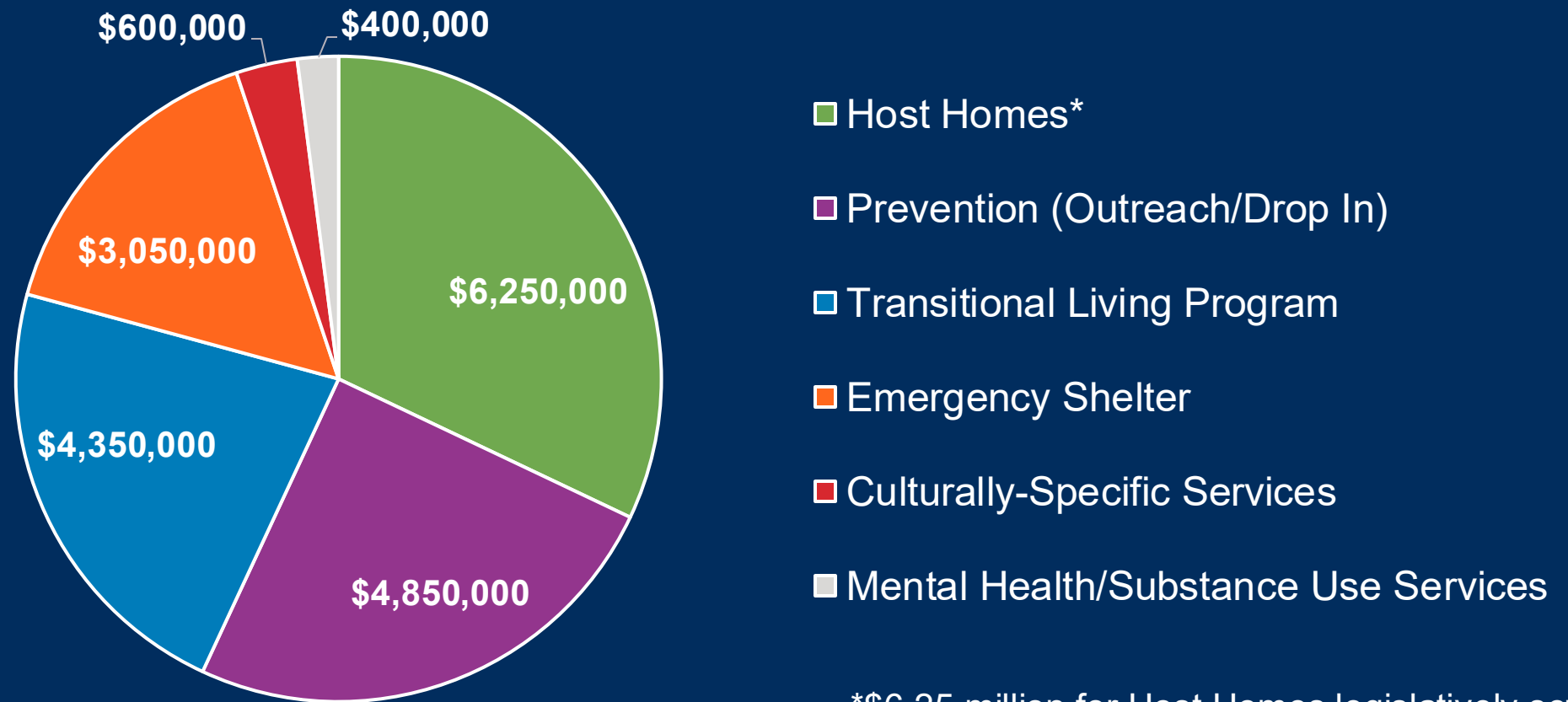
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| Category                             | Expenditures |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Core Services                        | \$19,500,000 |
| Direct Cash Transfers                | \$3,720,500  |
| Low Income College Housing (HB 3395) | \$4,000,000  |
| Youth Action Board payments          | \$65,000     |
| Personnel, Supplies and Services     | \$1,739,943  |
| Other                                | \$82,495     |
| Total                                | \$29,107,938 |





# YEHP Budget: Core Services Grants in 2023-25



\*\$6.25 million for Host Homes legislatively set aside

# Funding: Application Review Process

## Review Panel

- **Young people with lived experience**
- Subject matter experts
- ODHS staff



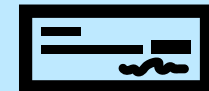
## Award Priorities

- Maintain **geographic** footprint
- Expand to **under-served** areas
- **Culturally responsive** services
- **Evidence-informed** practices
- **Avoid duplication** of other funding
- **Realistic**, quick implementation
- Plan to secure other funding



## Grant Cap

- **Prevention:** \$200,000
- **Emergency:** \$300,000
- **Transitional Living:** \$300,000
- **Culturally specific services:** \$200,000
- **Host homes:** \$300,000 per county



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# YEHP Legislative Investments: 2023-25 Biennium

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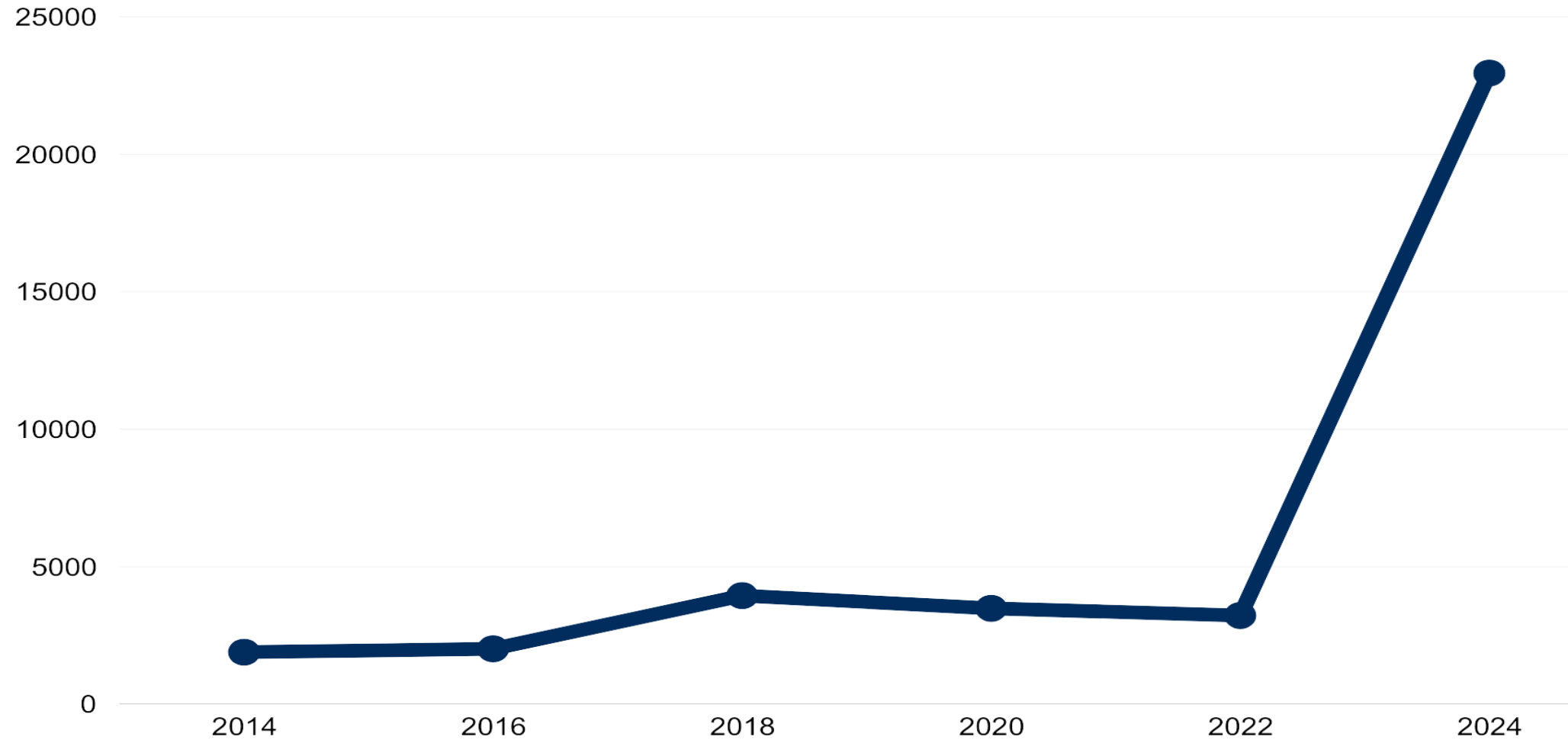


**HB 5019 - 2023**  
**\$18.75 million for YEHP core services**

**HB 3395 - 2023**  
**\$4 million for affordable housing  
for low-income college students**

# Providing More Services to Youth

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# Outcomes: Offers Youth More Than Housing

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Five data categories  
make up the new  
YEHP outcomes  
framework

Education



Employment



Housing



Self-Sufficiency



Well-being



# Core Services Investment

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**205** beds created



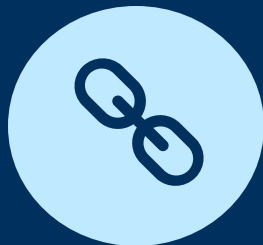
**117** beds sustained



**Five** new providers and  
**Eight** additional counties



**4,946** youth served  
(Jan. 1, 2024 – Dec. 31, 2024)



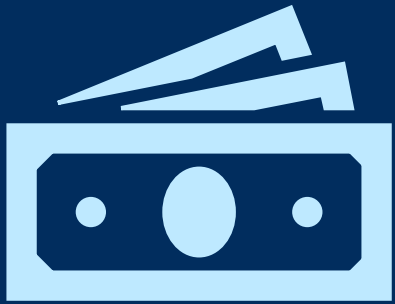
**85%** linked to public benefits  
(Jan. 1, 2024 – Dec. 31, 2024)



**81%** of TLP youth gained work  
skills or became employed  
(Jan. 1, 2024 – Dec. 31, 2024)

# YEHP Outputs: Direct Cash Transfers (DCT)

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## DCT as Prevention:

**103 people served**

**96% report  
stabilized housing  
upon exit**



## DCT Plus:

**120 youth enrolled**

**117 completed the  
program**

**91% report stabilized  
housing at exit**



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# 2025-27 Governor's Recommended Budget

## POP 502

### Youth Experiencing Homelessness Program Core Services Maintenance

#### PROBLEM

Current funding set to expire June 2025, 75 percent of program budget and 70 percent of program staff at risk

#### SOLUTION

**Sustain YEHP's core services**, including:

- Safe shelter and transitional housing.
- Crisis intervention and supportive services.
- Direct Cash Transfer (DCT) initiatives, which empower youth with the resources they need to build stability.

#### RESOURCES

- GF: \$19,707,205
- OF: 0
- FF: 0
- Pos.: Six
- FTE: 5.25



**ODHS priority: Safety**

# Looking Ahead

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Service and  
staffing gap  
risks

Data  
challenges

Impacts of  
federal  
funding  
changes

Broader  
service  
continuum  
needs

# YEHP: Making a Difference



**Getting help from a YEHP provider changed my life. After years of being homeless, they helped me quickly secure an apartment. With stable housing, my health improved, I began healing from past trauma, built meaningful friendships, and found ways to give back to my community.**

**—Youth Action Board member**

**Thank you.**

