



Oregon Alliance

3/12/2025

Co-Chair Campos, Co-Chair Valderrama, and Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Services,

I am writing on behalf of the Oregon Alliance of Children's Programs and its members to urge your continued investment in Oregon's Youth Experiencing Homelessness (YEH) system by approving POP 502 YEHP Core Service Maintenance in the Self-Sufficiency budget.

The Oregon Alliance is a coalition of organizations dedicated to providing essential services to children, youth, and families across the state. Many of our member organizations serve youth experiencing homelessness and have played a pivotal role in expanding and strengthening these services.

Thanks to the \$19.9 million investment made during the last biennium, Oregon has significantly increased its capacity to support vulnerable youth. This funding has enabled the growth of YEH services from 13 providers in 12 counties to 42 providers in 26 counties. It has also expanded the scope of services beyond shelters and transitional housing to include prevention programs, host homes, direct cash transfers, and culturally specific services. Because of this investment, approximately 6,200 young people have received the support they need.

A reduction or elimination of this funding would have devastating consequences, forcing critical services to disappear and leaving thousands of youth without vital support.

We urge you to protect and sustain this progress by maintaining this investment. The well-being of Oregon's youth depends on it.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Vera Stoullil
CEO, Oregon Alliance

Empowering Organizations,
Transforming Lives