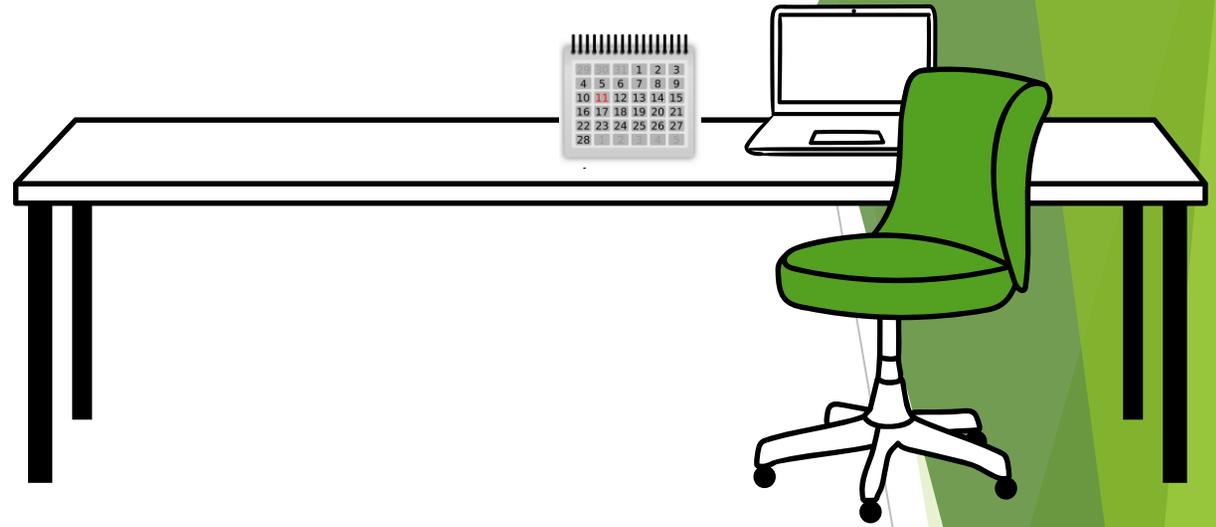


# Hope for Safe Spaces for Youth In Oregon

HB3835





Testimony Was Correct:

“Give Us This Day”

“Sequel”

“Michigan”

“Tennessee”

***Unforgivable / Unacceptable***

Problem:

*Well meaning  
responses had  
unintended  
consequences:*



**Facts:**

Punitive regulations (small things by statute must be investigated as either “abuse” or “neglect”)

You may not protect staff, other youth from aggressive behavior

Dr. Jetmalani: *“Fear and terror”  
among workers”*

**Fact**

## Decline of Available Safe Places for Kids 2014 - 2025



PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN  
AND YOUTH

# These Programs Have Been Hit Hardest / and Closed:



Culturally specific programs

LGBTQ+

Girls' programs

Latinx

Black youth

Regional diversity

Outdoor

Small & especially rural programs

Doing nothing is  
not an option.

Listen to the  
Youth:



“The part of us  
that is angry is the  
part that says that  
systems need to  
be better...”

“I would like to  
see a dramatic  
system change in  
our lifetime...”

# Facts:

There is only 1 program (with 2 locations, 1 child and 1 adolescent) for aggressive youth.

Acuity is on the rise

OHA estimated approximately 130 spots needed each year



## Reality:

No Where to Go

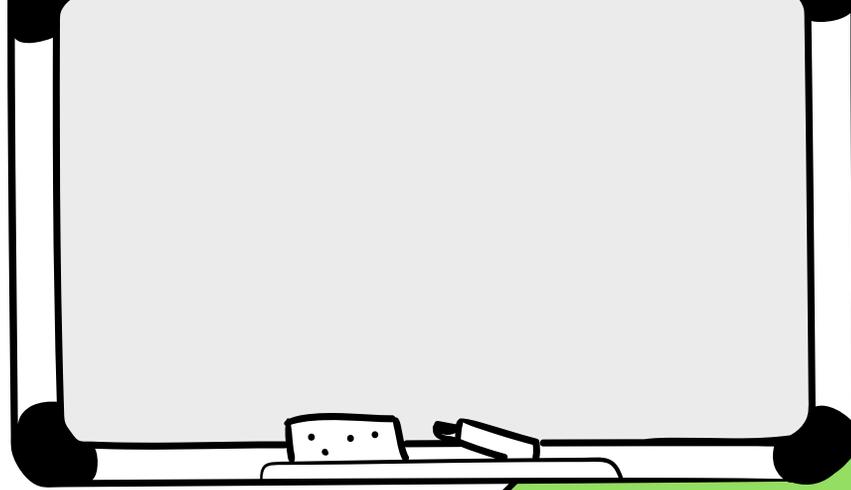
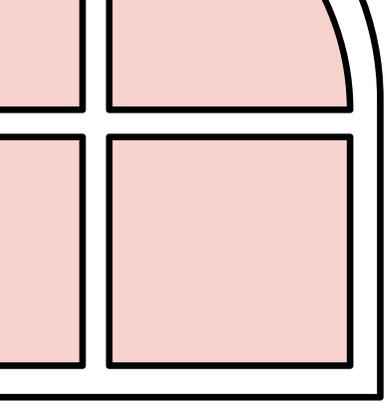
Example: 24 and 55



## Where Are These Youth:

- ✓ Emergency Rooms
- ✓ Hotels with 2-3 full time DHS caseworkers
- ✓ On the streets / homeless / incarceration
- ✓ In wrong level of care (pressuring foster system)

*"I wasn't safer when they rejected me. I was homeless, on the street..."*

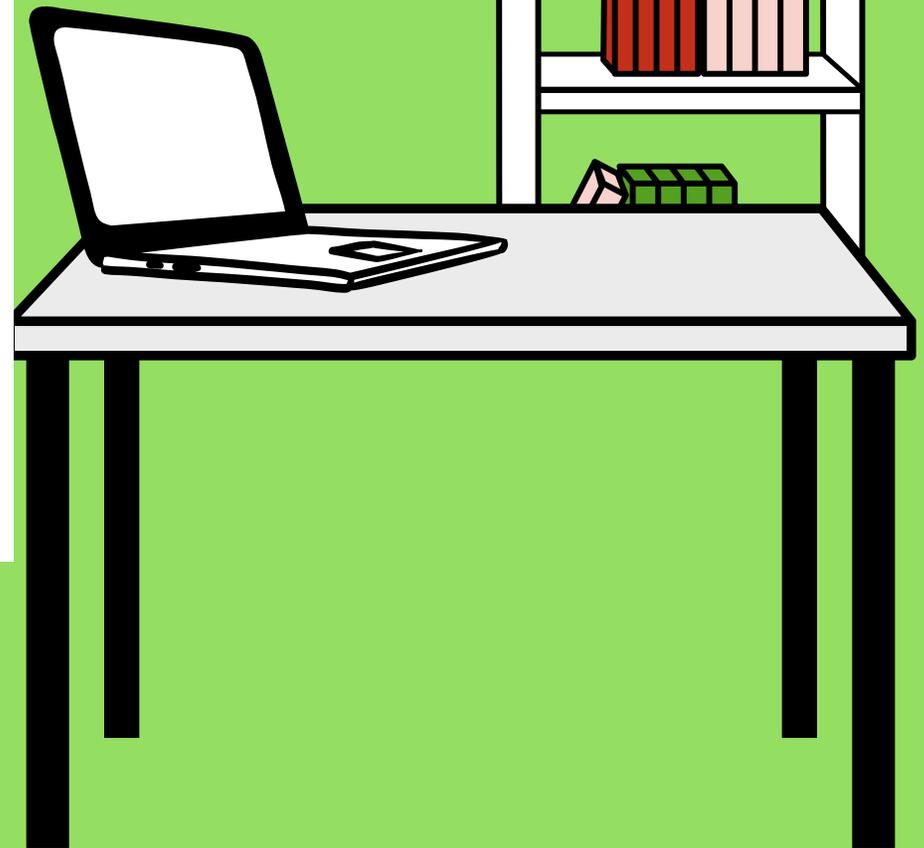


*To Be Safe, Kids Require  
Safe Spaces*

Status Quo is Getting us

**LESS CHILD SAFETY**

because there are no safe spaces





Two Choices:

1) Status quo

*OR*

2) Change Course & Rebuild  
Options for Children through Teams  
of Caring Adults / Safe Spaces