

Submitter: Jacek Haciak PsyD
On Behalf Of: DynamicChanges LLC
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure: HB2001

Chair Dexter, Vice-Chair Gamba, Vice-Chair Helfrich, and Committee members,

Please support Oregon's unaccompanied houseless youth (UHY) and pass HB 2001 with the full \$25 million dollar funding for supports for youth experiencing houselessness.

Our State of Oregon has one of the highest number of unaccompanied youth experiencing houselessness in the country. African American, Indigenous, and Alaska Native youth, particularly young men, report the highest rates of houselessness.

I urge the Legislature to pass HB 2001 and fund:

1. \$6.25 million to enhance Oregon's existing networks of host home housing programs that match UHY with volunteer home providers, ensuring they have stable housing, regular access to food, and a supportive family.
2. \$12.5 million for shelter services, such as emergency housing, street outreach, culturally specific services, mental health & substance use services, and transitional housing options.
3. \$6.25 million in emergency dollars to help prevent evictions and rapidly rehouse school-aged youth and families to stop them from experiencing houselessness in the first place.

Investing in supports for youth experiencing houselessness will help address today's youth houselessness while preventing a budget crisis in the future. Oregon's youth deserve a robust continuum of services to keep them cared for, supported, and safe. I ask you to stand with unhoused youth and fund this provision at its full ask of \$25 million dollars. Please move HB2001 forward for full passage.

Respectfully,

Jacek (Jack) Haciak, PsyD, Director
DynamicChanges LLC
Salem, Oregon, 97302, United States