



changing lives • building futures

**Dennis L. Morrow**, Executive Director

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[www.janusyouth.org](http://www.janusyouth.org)

**Residential Services**

Annex I & II  
Buckman  
Hope Partnership  
Cordero  
Imani

**Runaway Youth Services**

Harry's Mother  
Garfield House  
Reception Center  
24-Hour Youth & Family Help Line  
Athena House

**Homeless Youth Services**

Willamette Bridge Programs  
Yellow Brick Road Portland  
Access Center  
Helen Reser Bakkenen Youth  
Shelters - Street Light & Porch Light  
Bridge House  
Changes

**Village Gardens**

Food Works & Food Works Farm  
Village Market  
Community Programs  
New Beginnings Garden  
Seeds of Harmony Garden  
Community Health Workers  
Livestock Project

**Insights Teen Parent Services**

HomeSafe Supportive Housing  
Healthy Start  
SEEDS  
Enhanced Case Management  
Christina Project  
In School Program  
ECHO

**Washington Youth Services**

Yellow Brick Road Washington  
Oak Bridge Youth Shelter  
Oak Grove Crisis Shelter  
The Nest  
Bridges  
The Perch

**Scholarships for Success**

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The Standard

April 22, 2015

RE: Support for OR - HB 2232

Dear Human Services and Early Childhood Committee Chair Senator Gelser, Vice-Chair Senator Olsen, and Committee Members:

My name is Dennis Morrow, Executive Director of Janus Youth Programs, a network of more than 40 programs in Oregon and Washington reaching 6,000 youth every year. We serve youth who have runaway or are homeless, youth who have been trafficked for sex, youth in residential treatment through the Oregon Youth Authority and Department of Human Services, teen parents and youth living in low-income neighborhoods.

We support HB 2232 because we believe in a statewide system of services and support for youth in crisis. Few situations put a young person at greater risk than being homeless where they face exploitation, abuse and violence. For well over a quarter of a century our programs have been at the forefront of services providing thousands of youth with an accessible and supportive path out of homelessness each year. Our crisis triage center for runaway youth provides a 24-hour coordinated system of care for thousands of youth and their families, providing immediate access to services.

We are ready and willing to work in a public/private partnership, face-to-face, to build a comprehensive, coordinated system to reduce the number of homeless children and help the ones who need us. HB 2232 will help DHS build a strategic plan for the establishment of a sustainable statewide system for these children and youth by:

- Requiring the establishment of an advisory committee for the purpose of joint collaboration between providers, DHS and other public systems to implement the 2011 legislation.
- Requiring the advisory committee to report back to the legislature on their progress, final system plan and recommendations.

I respectfully ask you to move the bill after the hearing on April 23.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis Morrow". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Dennis Morrow, Executive Director  
Janus Youth Programs

Cc: Oregon Alliance of Children's Programs