



## Addressing the Needs of Oregon’s Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

**Oregon has the highest per capita rate of homeless children and youth in the country.**

**Yet, Oregon’s support for unaccompanied homeless youth through the DHS Runaway & Homeless Youth program is far below investments made by other states:**

State	Funding / Biennium	Number of Unaccompanied Homeless Youth	Funding per Unaccompanied Youth per Biennium
MINNESOTA:	\$8.3m	709	\$11,707 / Youth
WASHINGTON D.C.:	\$1.3m	318	\$4,088 / Youth
WASHINGTON:	\$20m	5,914	\$3,382 / Youth
MAINE:	\$265k	152	\$1,745 / Youth
OREGON:	\$3.1m	3,493	\$887 / Youth

Sources: The National Network for Youth (<https://www.nn4youth.org/wp-content/uploads/Model-Legislation-to-Provide-Housing-and-Services-to-Runaway-and-Homeless-Youth-NN4Y-2015-For-Advocates-2-25-2016.pdf>); the Oregon DHS Runaway & Homeless Youth program; the Oregon Department of Education; Communications with state officials in various states who run programs serving unaccompanied homeless youth.

### **Number of Unaccompanied Homeless Youth by Oregon School District**

- McMinnville School District: **199** students experienced homelessness;
- Oregon City School District: **280** students;
- Redmond School District: **393** students;
- Bend-La Pine School District: **467** students;
- Beaverton School District: nearly **1,800** students;
- Tillamook School District: **One in ten students** experienced homelessness.

### **SOLUTION:**

**Increase funding for the Oregon Department of Human Services Runaway & Homeless Youth program by \$9m/biennium (from \$3m currently to \$12m in the 2019-2021 budget)**

- Provides youth shelters, street outreach, transitional housing and hosts homes
- Would provide funding per youth roughly equal to that of the state of Washington.
- This funding level would still be less than half of what is needed to serve every youth