



To: [Joint Interim Committee On Addiction and Community Safety Response](#) 12/5/2023

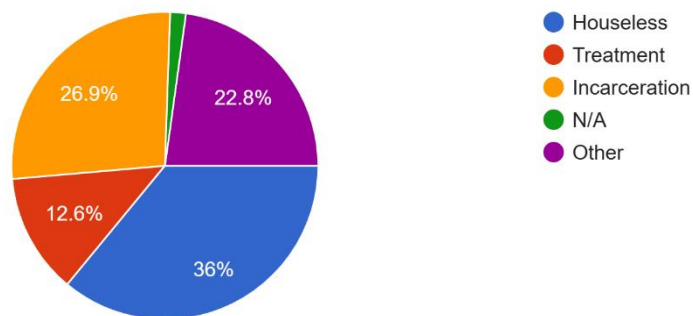
Transcending Hope is a Tri County Metro Housing provider and a Measure 110 BRHN (Behavioral Resource Health Network) recipient. Transcending Hope opened six measure 110 low barrier stabilization homes in Clackamas Co, and two measure 110 low barrier homes in Multnomah Co. The homes settings are below-

- 1 Family Housing -Oregon City
- 2 Men/Men w Children Housing-Milwaukie
- 1 Woman/Woman w Children Housing-Milwaukie
- 2 Latina Woman/Woman w Children Housing-Milwaukie & Portland
- 2 Latino Men/ Men w Children Housing-Milwaukie & Portland

Here are some statistics regarding participants placements

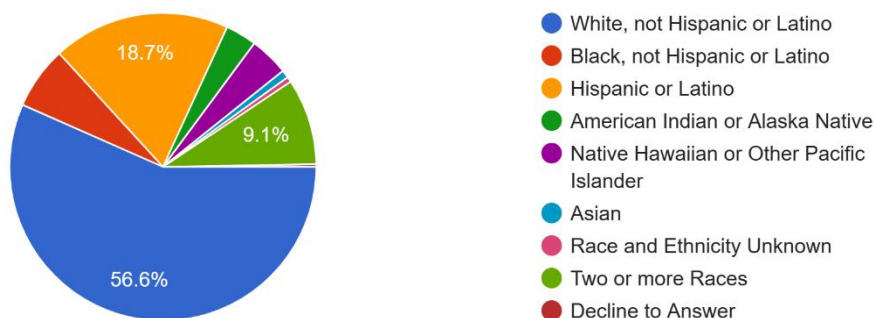
Housing status previous to Placement

364 responses



Ethnicity

364 responses



I am Deena Feldes, the Executive Director of Transcending Hope. I am a biracial Latina woman in long term recovery of over 20 years, and a mother of six children of Latino descent. I am a person who has experienced incarceration, domestic violence, homelessness, and extensive trauma.

All these experiences were direct results of my substance use disorder, alcoholism. When my first two children were young, I went to prison and had multiple incarcerations thereafter. Each time I was removed from society for rehabilitation it created more traumatic experiences not just for me but for ALL six of my children, ultimately my oldest child followed and was incarcerated at the young age of 12 only to complete almost 12 years of incarceration, he too is afflicted with trauma and substance use disorder. Four of my children were taken into DHS (Department of Human Services) protected custody, one was returned within a year, another within two years, my youngest daughter is 20 and has never known my life of active addiction, only the family afterwards, and I battled DHS for 7.5 more years for my other two children.

I am sharing this because I would like you to put into perspective the dollar figure this cost the state and community. To this day 20 plus years later each of us, my children and I seek outside therapeutic services due to the damages caused by incarceration, substance use, and untreated trauma.

While our systems stated they were designed to rehabilitate, reunify the family, and provide treatment. The direct opposite happened, today I use my experience to provide lifesaving stabilizing housing for our community members who identify with substance use disorder and or mental health. The measure 110 funds have allowed transcending hope to expand housing to our most vulnerable populations, we are collaborating with community partners, and by providing 6 to 8 months of stabilizing housing with staff and community supports we are able to set goals with our participants to transition into more permanent housing.

Transitional stabilizing housing is only one of the pieces, we need:

- More Treatment services.
- More mobile medical units
- More Withdrawal management
- More stabilization services.

- More recovery and transitional housing
- LESS INCARCERATION

It takes transcending Hope approximately \$2635.00 per month per placement to provide support services, a comfortable community environment, life skills, flex funds, goal setting, in home support meetings, equitable services.

Take this in comparison to let's say someone with substance use disorder residing in the state hospital at \$40,000 per month. If they are residing in prison its approximately \$150 per day \$4562.5 a month. There are multiple cons:

- Incarceration does not support rehabilitation/recovery.
- Family members are affected negatively.
- The cost to the state is astronomical and creates a revolving door.
- The family as a WHOLE are now all at risk for generational patterns of TRAUMA within the substance use cycle.

Incarceration is not the solution, life saving supportive services are. Please hear my voice as I am a person with lived experience and provide supportive housing for persons who are now contributing to the community, engaging in services, accessing more permanent solutions and housing.

We have tried incarceration for centuries and have experienced insanity systematically and across our communities.

Transcending Hope does have the ability and would welcome funding for expanding, i am providing a link of a video for your review to give you a view of our Latino housing services.

https://youtu.be/5_yQuKCMLyY?si=5LSPy9iG1ABb6aad

Thank you,

Deena L Feldes CRM, PSS, THW, CADCR, QMHA-R
Transcending Hope Recovery Homes
Executive Director
dfeldes@transcending-hope.com
503-757-2550

**Transcending Hope
PO Box 584
Hillsboro, Or 97123**