

LC 95: Newcomer Humanitarian Investment



- I. Context Setting**
- II. Challenges
- III. Current Efforts
- IV. Opportunities

The Global Context

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reports that at the end of June 2023, more than 110 million people worldwide were forcibly displaced from their homes due to persecution, conflict, violence, human rights violations, and events seriously disturbing public order.



People in court proceedings U.S. 2023

Date of Entry:
Fiscal Year 2023

Total People:
1,488,116



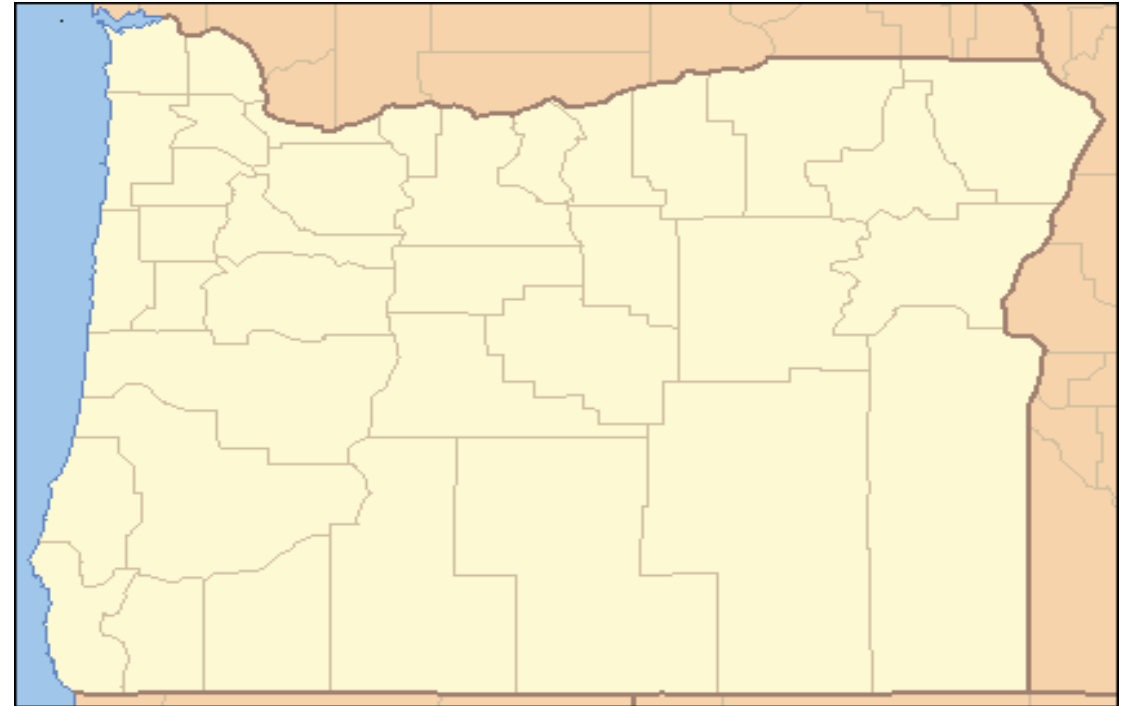
People in court proceedings Oregon

Fiscal Year 2020 - 1,276

Fiscal Year 2021 – 1,661

Fiscal Year 2022 – 6,587

Fiscal Year 2023 – 14,206



- I. Context setting
- II. Challenges**
- III. Current Efforts
- IV. Opportunities

Oregon's 6th Congressional District

“As the daughter of a Mexican immigrant, I know that we must be a nation that welcomes immigrants and those seeking refuge. Immigrants in Oregon and around the country make up the fabric of our communities and are employed in critical jobs that help keep our society running. Without their contributions, the United States would not be nearly as strong as it is today.

That being said, it's clear our immigration system is broken and in desperate need of modernization. We must do so in a way that prioritizes safety and humanity for all, including some border communities who are reeling from an untenable surge in crossings.”

– U.S. Representative Andrea Salinas



U.S. law and definition

Asylum Seeker – U.S. Code, Title 8, Chapter 12, Section 1158 states, “Any alien who is physically present in the United States or who arrives in the United States (whether or not at a designated port of arrival and including an alien who is brought to the United States after having been interdicted in international or United States waters), irrespective of such alien’s status, may apply for asylum in accordance with this section or, where applicable, section 1225(b) of this title.”



Growing need and no response infrastructure

- Those who are seeking asylum have been arriving at the southern border and migrating to states and cities across the U.S. for decades. There is currently no established federal infrastructure to coordinate arrivals and provide humanitarian reception across the U.S.
- **The absence of funding and federal infrastructure** is creating additional hardships for people seeking asylum and is **forcing states to be creative and develop their own solutions.**



Challenge:

Unmet needs exacerbate existing hardships

- Individuals and families who are in the process of seeking asylum often **do not qualify** for federal benefits until they are granted asylum.
- While their asylum application is pending, they may be eligible to apply for an employment authorization document, 180 days after the asylum application has been submitted. As a result, they are **not eligible to work**, which intentionally prevents them from getting their most basic needs met.
- Without access to basic resources, this community will continue to experience houselessness, food insecurity and other forms of **material hardship**, contributing to negative well-being outcomes and lasting disparities in Oregon.



- I. Context setting
- II. Challenges
- III. Current Efforts**
- IV. Opportunities

Leveraging existing policies



81st OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY—2021 Regular Session

Senate Bill 553

Sponsored by Senators DEMBROW, HANSELL; Senators BEYER, FREDERICK, GELSER, THOMSEN, Representatives CLEM, FAHEY, NERON, POST, REARDON, SCHOUTEN, WILDE (Possession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Provides that student who legally entered United States under Compact of Free Association treaty between United States and Republic of Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands or Federated States of Micronesia and who has not previously established residence in any state or territory of United States other than Oregon qualifies for exemption from nonresident tuition and fees at public universities and is eligible to receive state and university scholarships or other financial aid.

Provides that student who is refugee or special immigrant visa holder and who has not previously established residence in any state or territory of United States other than Oregon qualifies for exemption from nonresident tuition and fees at public universities and is eligible to receive state and university scholarships or other financial aid.

Directs Higher Education Coordinating Commission to provide mission differentiation funding if specified enrollment threshold is met.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.



81st OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY—2021 Regular Session

House Bill 2508

Sponsored by Representative PRUSAK, Senator BEYER; Representatives CLEM, SCHOUTEN, WILDE; Senator GORSEK (Possession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Requires Oregon Health Authority to ensure reimbursement of health services delivered using telemedicine.

Modifies requirements for health benefit plan coverage of telemedicine.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

Oregon's caring communities

2023 Long Session

- See No Stranger – Legislation invested \$9.8 million to help provide permanent housing to 300 newcomer households in Multnomah County.

Community organizations, individuals, and people of faith are utilizing and exhausting their limited resources to:

- Welcome/receive individuals and families, house individuals in their own homes, provide food, transportation, court accompaniment, interpretation and translation, service navigation, etc.



Elevating the voices

“We are seeing an increase in newly arrived people at our organization, but do not have the staff or resources needed to meet this need in a systemic way.”

- Centro Cultural

“Since late September we have supported 100 newcomers to Oregon in finding emergent housing, food, clothing and health resources.”
— Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice

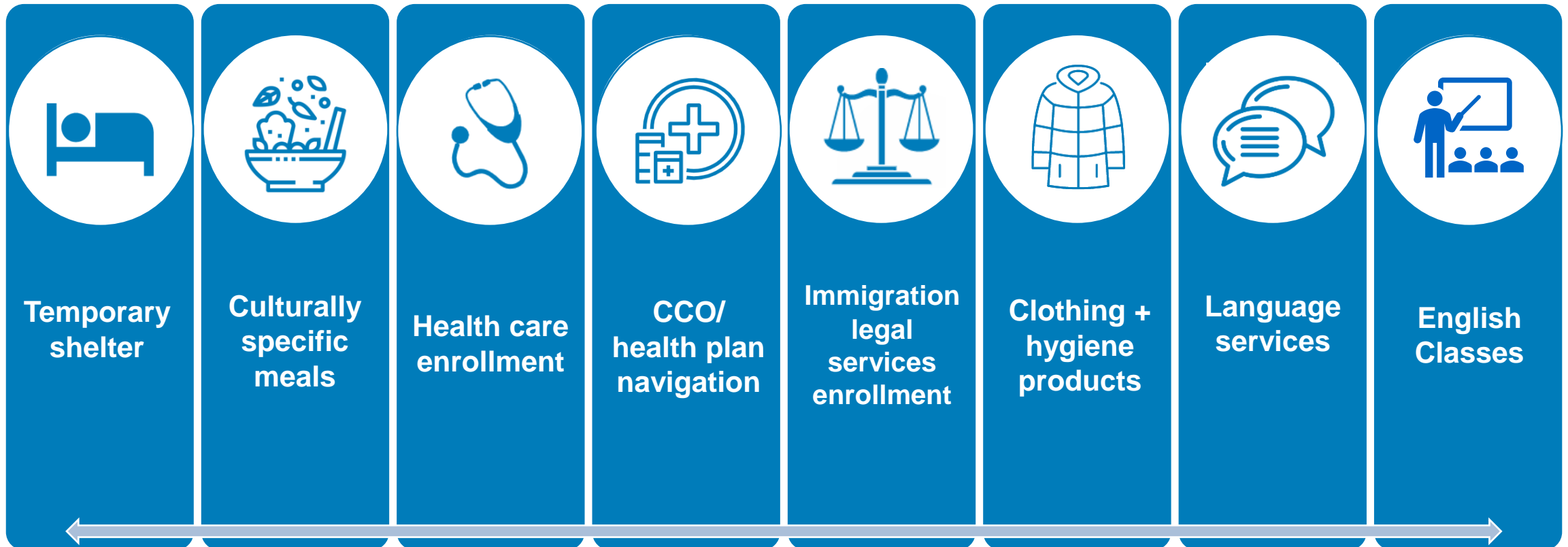
- I. Context setting
- II. Challenges
- III. Current Efforts
- IV. Opportunities**

Proposed Funding Stream



Establishing a pilot

The Office of Immigrant and Refugee Advancement with the support of and in consultation with Oregon Department of Human Services shall coordinate with community-based organizations and award contracts to equitably provide eligible newcomers with the following culturally and linguistically appropriate support services:



Coordinated Care Organization Partners (16)

- CCOs have the flexibility to support new models of care that are patient-centered and team-focused and reduce health disparities.
- They have flexibility within their budgets to provide services alongside today's OHP medical benefits with the goal of meeting the Triple Aim of better health, better care and lower costs for the population they serve.

Coordinated Care Organization 2.0 Service Areas

