

2025-27 Housing Stabilization Requests

Building on housing progress and investing in solutions to improve everyday life for the people we serve

OHCS continues working to make meaningful improvements in outcomes for the most vulnerable Oregonians struggling to find and maintain stable housing.

We are very much looking forward to the next biennium to continue services that are so critical for shelters to be able to continue operating. Now more than ever, this work is vital for achieving our state's goals of reaching and supporting people experiencing homelessness and housing instability.

It is critical that we continue investing in the systems Oregon has built to prevent and respond to homelessness. OHCS is requesting the following resources to sustain and expand these efforts and to ensure success in improving outcomes for Oregonians.

Maintaining Shelter Capacity and Services – \$217.5 million in General Funds (POP 501)

Oregonians across the state have demanded action to address the conditions faced by our neighbors' experiencing homelessness. While shelter alone does not end homelessness, it is crucial for keeping people safe and connecting them with services. Shelters provide the gateway to stable housing, and this budget ensures we continue to serve Oregonians in need.

This funding sustains critical emergency shelter capacity created in the 2023-25 biennium, including Project Turnkey and other state-funded beds. Additionally, this package funds housing-focused services to transition individuals from

shelters into permanent housing. Investments will also improve shelter data collection through the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) system, expanding its reach to more communities statewide.

Rehousing Program – \$188 million, General Fund (POP 502)

The Oregon Rehousing Initiative is a critical component of Oregon's strategy to address homelessness by providing individuals and families with the support needed to transition from homelessness to stable, long-term housing.

The program focuses on rapid rehousing, which includes short- to medium-term rental assistance combined with supportive services such as case management, nutrition assistance, employment support, and access to mental health services.

Eviction Prevention – \$173.2 million, General Fund (POPs 504 and 505)

In order to reduce homelessness, OHCS is focusing on upstream strategies that seek to prevent folks from losing their housing whenever possible. We have made resources available to help keep folks in stable housing and to reduce the need for further supports.

These eviction prevention programs include rental assistance, legal services, mediation, and support for culturally specific organizations - all designed to prevent Oregonians from being evicted and avoid the trauma of homelessness. The funds will also support the expansion of the **Oregon Eviction Diversion and Prevention Program (OREDAP)**, which has been successful in addressing the needs of renters at risk of displacement.

These investments are primarily designed to build upon past successes and support the evolving needs of Oregonians most impacted by housing instability. These funds represent ongoing commitments to programs and our communities, giving providers the confidence to invest in expanding capacity to meet the state's housing needs.

Curious about the details? Review <u>OHCS' 2025 – 27 Agency Request Budget</u> for more information.