

# Reengaging Oregon's Disconnected Youth

*YDO's Implementation of Statewide Reengagement*

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2023 Alternative Education Conference:

April 24, 2023

Salem, Oregon



**Youth  
Development  
Oregon**

# Welcome

*The Oregon Reengagement System is committed to reducing youth disconnection. Through system collaboration, we work to eliminate barriers and strengthen pathways for all youth.*

## Paul Sell

Youth Grants and  
Reengagement System Lead

[Paul.Sell@ode.oregon.gov](mailto:Paul.Sell@ode.oregon.gov)

## Molly Burns

Reengagement Policy  
Analyst/Grants Manager

[Molly.Burns@ode.oregon.gov](mailto:Molly.Burns@ode.oregon.gov)

## Jarrold Shaw

Workforce Policy  
Analyst /Grant Manager

[Jarrod.A.Shaw@ode.oregon.gov](mailto:Jarrod.A.Shaw@ode.oregon.gov)

*\*\* Youth Development Oregon began funding Reengagement programs with the passage of HB 3427 in Oregon's 2019 Legislative Session \*\**

# Who We Are:



- The **Youth Development Division** is an agency located within the Oregon Department of Education.
  - Youth Development Grantmaking
  - Juvenile Crime Prevention (JCP) and Compliance Monitoring
  - Oregon Youth Reengagement System
- The Division's governing body is the **Youth Development Council**
  - Governor-appointed director
  - Expertise, experience and interest in youth development
  - Membership includes practitioners, advocates, Tribal Nations, local governments, juvenile justice system, and youth.
  - Provides strategic guidance, approves grantmaking processes and oversight of Juvenile Justice compliance work
- The Division and Council together are **Youth Development Oregon**

**Youth Development Oregon aligns systems and invests in communities to ensure equitable and effective services for youth ages 6 through 24. Throughout Oregon and Tribal Nations, we support educational and career success, disrupt youth crime and violence, and affirm youth strengths and safety.**

# Our Work:



**GRANTMAKING**

**POLICY ADVOCACY**

**COMPLIANCE  
MONITORING**

**COUNTY & TRIBAL  
JUVENILE CRIME  
PREVENTION PROGRAMS**

**CROSS-AGENCY COLLABORATION  
TO SUPPORT YOUTH**

**STATEWIDE YOUTH  
REENGAGEMENT  
SYSTEM**

**ADVISING &  
TECHNICAL  
ASSISTANCE**

# Opportunity Youth in Oregon



13.6%

Percentage of Oregon 16-24 year olds out of school and work

+17.5%

Increase in # of Opportunity Youth

In 2021, 1 in 8 youth ages 16-24 (13.6%) in Oregon was disconnected from school and work (62,211 youth).

[2021 American Community Survey Data]

This represents an additional 9,307 disconnected youth (or a 17.5% increase in the number of Opportunity Youth since 2019.)

**YDD Workforce and Reengagement programs are designed to serve Opportunity Youth and reconnect them to education and employment.**

More than

## 1 in 10 Youth

Did not earn a credential 5 years after entering high school

6,244 Oregon youth, 13.5% of adjusted cohort who entered high school in 2017, had not completed a diploma or GED by Spring 2022.

ODE Media files/YDD Analysis, Other than Completer (OTC rate)

# Oregon Reengagement System



**Outreach &  
\*Re\*connection**



## **Engagement & Completion**

- .... Wraparound Supports
- .... Specialized education, training, and/or support services
- .... Innovative, hands on, trauma informed, culturally affirming



**Career  
Pathways &  
Post-  
Secondary  
Transition**

**Vision:** All youth age 14-24 across Oregon have support, guidance, and educational opportunities leading to a high school credential and clear educational/career path.

**Mission:** Support youth-centered, community-based reengagement efforts to align education, employment, service providers, and community resources for youth disconnection.

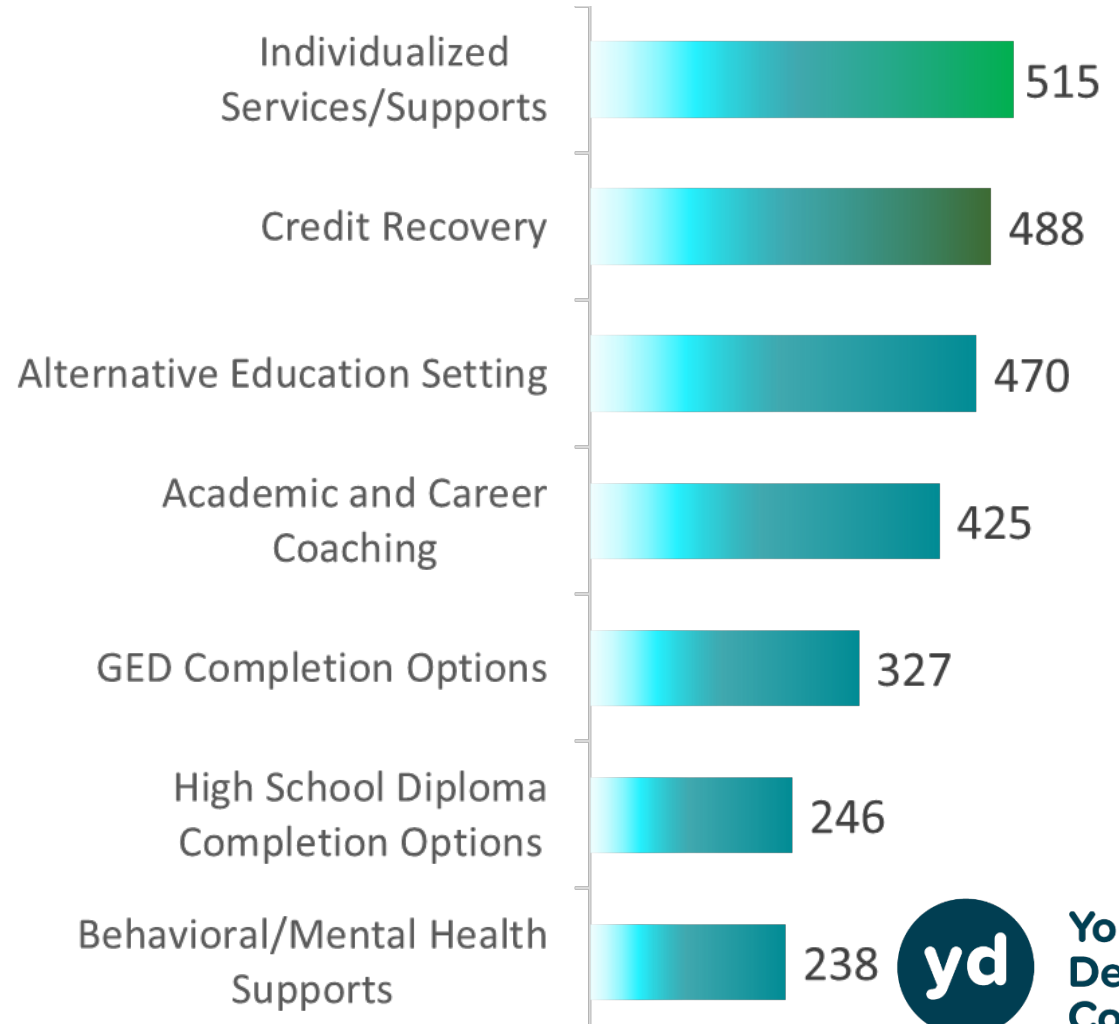
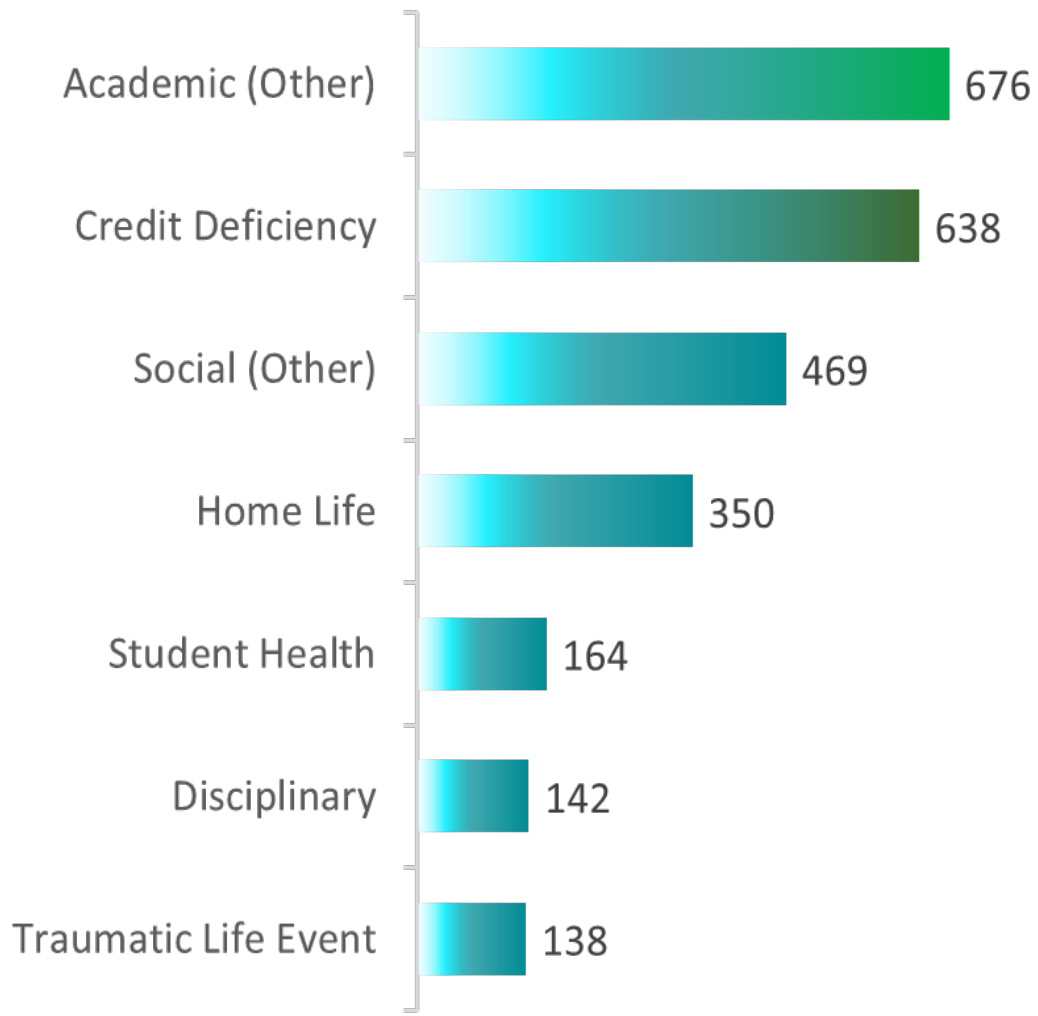
# Who Are Reengaged Youth?





# Top 7 Reasons for School Disconnection

# Top 7 Reasons for Reengagement



21-23 Reengagement Opportunity Grants (July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022)



Youth Development Council

# Advancing Reengagement

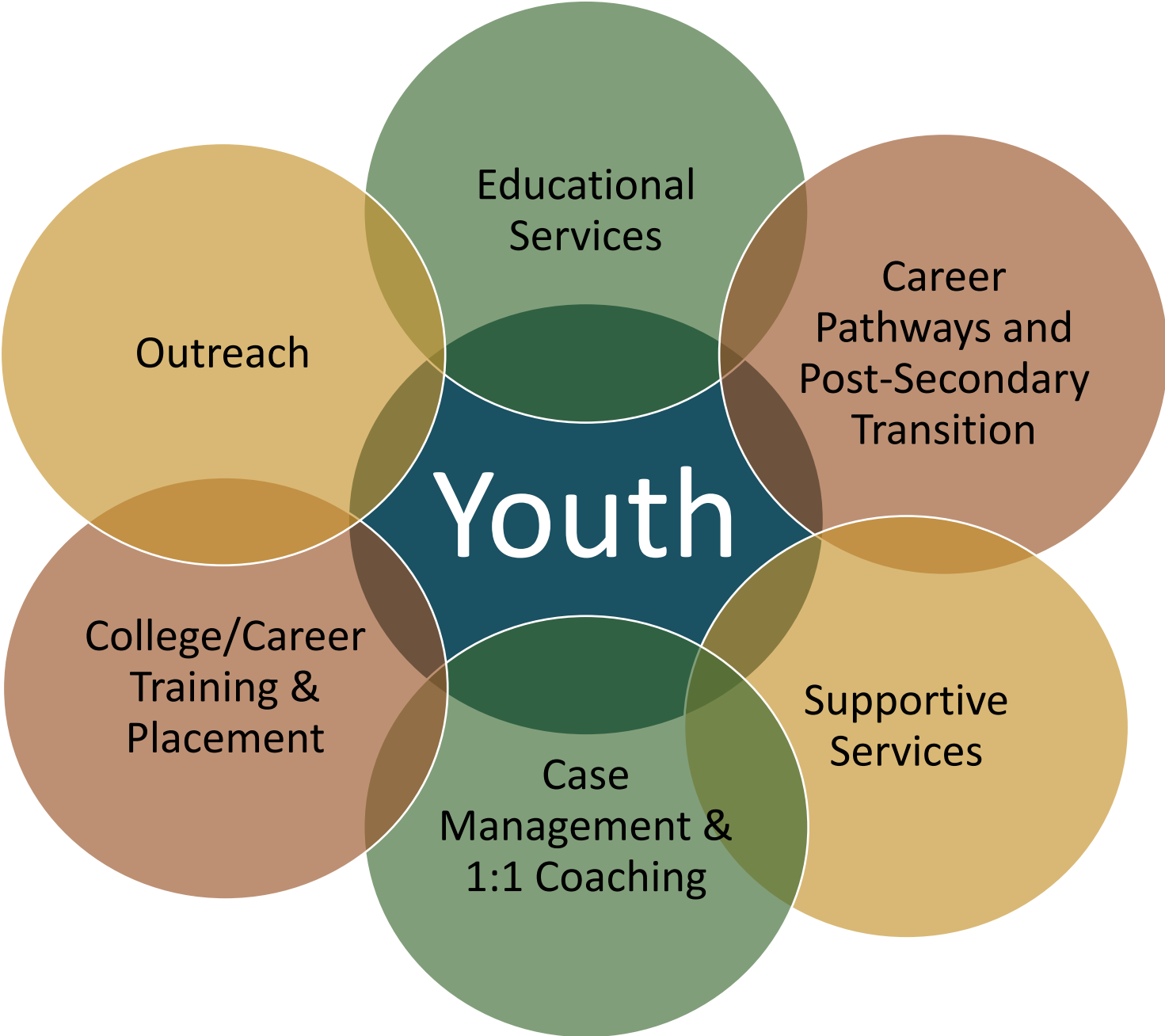
## Grant-making

- Reengagement Opportunity Grants
- Reengagement Collaborative Grants
- Future Ready Grants
- Community Investment Grants
- JCP Funds

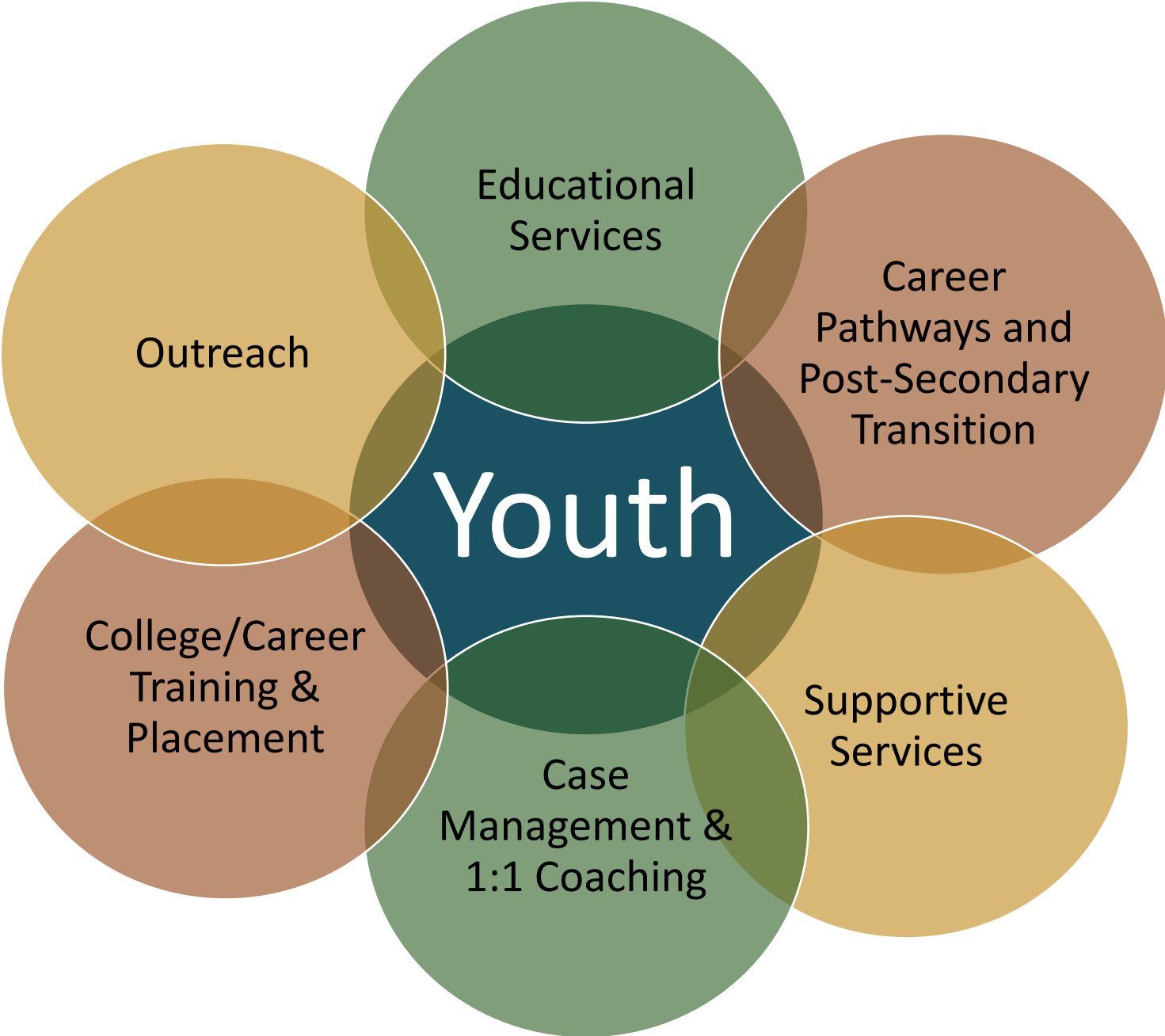
## System Building

- Convening Reengagement and Youth Service Providers
- Building Capacity of Reengagement and Community Programs
- Strengthening and Expanding Partnerships
- Advocating for Youth

# Supporting Youth to Reengage



# Supporting Youth to Reengage



# Outreach



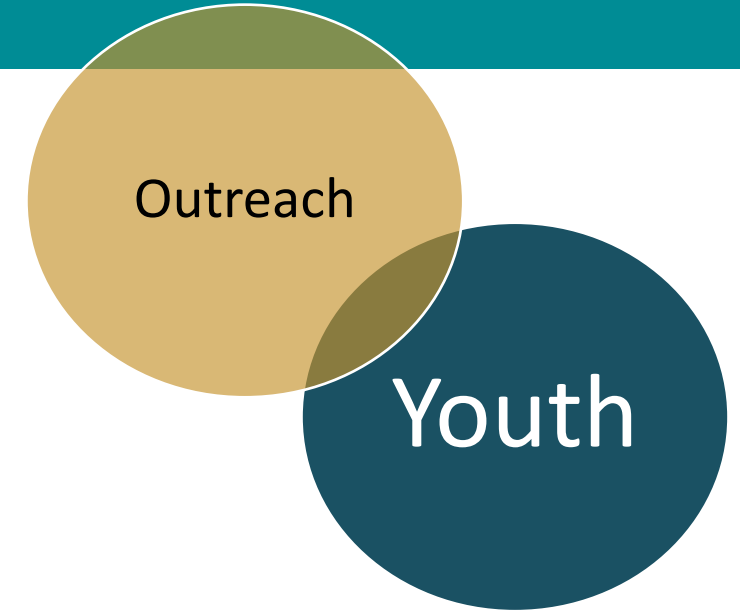
## Necessary elements for successful outreach:

- Access to youth (location, time)
- Trust building
- Organizational partnerships (schools, nonprofits, agencies)
- Data sharing
- Barrier removal and incentives for participation
- Streamlined referrals/access
- Relationships, relationships, relationships



## Multnomah Education Service District Community Outreach Events

- Multiple nonprofits and community-based organizations partnering at tabling events
- Games, prizes, music
- Distribution of resources
- Access to services and educational options



## Outreach Services:

Identification, contact, and retention of youth who are disengaged or at risk of disengagement.

# Supportive Services

## Necessary elements for Supportive Services include:

- Responsive, understanding, and caring systems of support
- Systems designed around the wellbeing and overall health of the individual
- Tailored access and support for basic needs assistance
- Access to multi-tiered levels of support (such as health services, childcare, and/or legal services)
- Inclusionary practices and services
- Relationships, relationships, relationships



## Working Theory Farms

- Empowerment through shared work
- Focused on the growth of both personal and social responsibility
- Relationship building and giving space when needed
- Services and supports are youth choice
- Experience and opportunity through giving back

Youth

Supportive  
Services

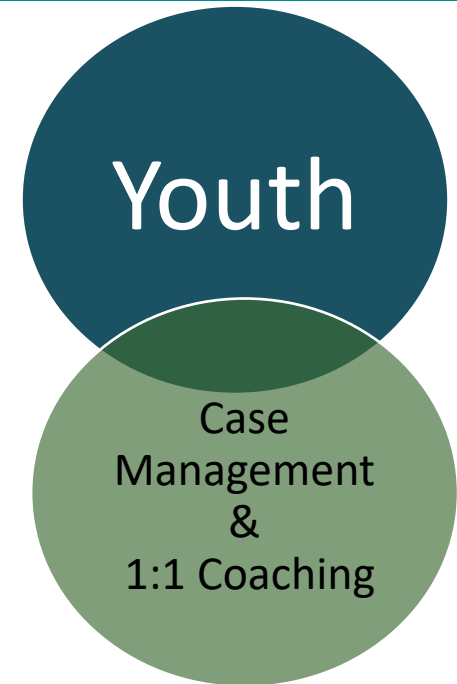
## Supportive Services

Services and supports focused on supporting the overall health and wellbeing of the whole person



# Case Management, Coaching Essentials

- A Caring Adult
- Accessible
- Connected
- Centered on Youth
- Youth's Whole Journey

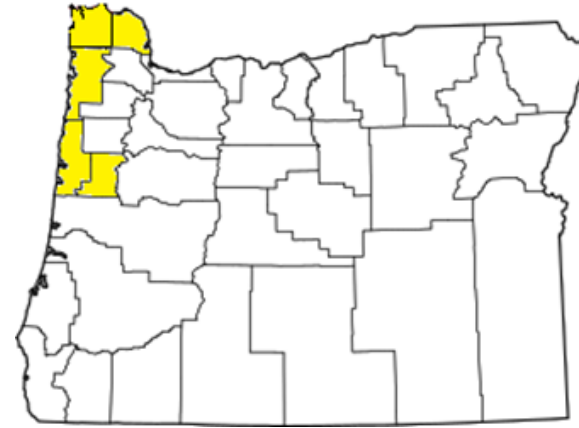


**Case Management:**

1 on 1 services to mentor, support, advise or train/coach Youth.

# Case Management, Coaching

Grantee Highlight: Student Success Coach



## Model

- Embedded in communities
- Mentorship, academic planning & navigation
- Direct support & incentives

## Big Picture

- Support professional development for coaches
- Reengagement Partner Network (outreach & referrals)

Youth

Case Management & 1:1 Coaching

### **Case Management:**

1 on 1 services to mentor, support, advise or train/coach Youth.



# H.S Completion Options

## Educational Services at the Heart

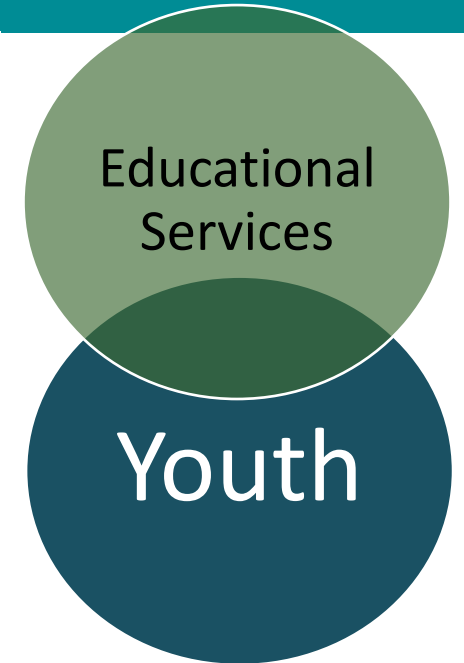


### Educational Options

- Public high schools (Traditional K-12)
- School & community-based GED
- Alternative high schools (public/private)
- Charter schools
- Small learning environments (public/private)
- Residential facilities
- Shelters and other community-based centers
- Other specialized programs
- Oregon's community college adult education departments

### Youth Identified Options:

- Running Start/Early College programming
- School based GED options in traditional educational setting
- Specifically designed coursework related to GED supports
- Paid internships directly connected with credit-bearing or GED programming
- Get youth (student) feedback to design educational options.



### Educational Services:

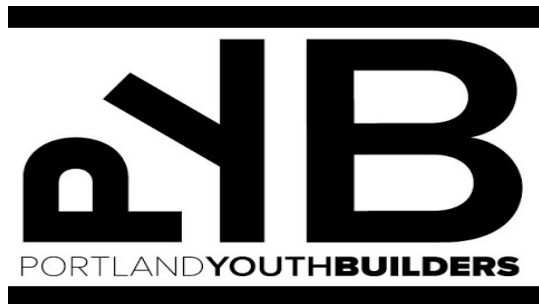
Specialized education, training, and/or support services that are structured and lead to high school graduation and GED completion

# College and Career



## Necessary elements for successful career placement:

- Hands-on career exposure
- Real world application
- Barrier removal (transportation, childcare, etc.)
- Employee-ready businesses
- Essential employability, "soft" skills



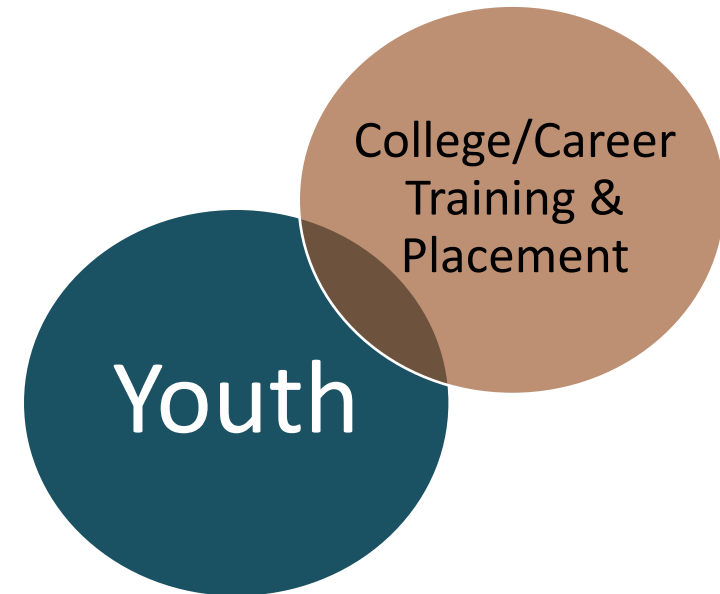
**BRIDGE TO CONSTRUCTION**

Bridge is a construction pre-apprenticeship program designed to support high school graduates ages 18-26 with pursuing a living-wage career in the construction trades through hands-on training and individualized career coaching.

- 💰 Earn up to \$15/hr over 9 weeks
- 👷 Hands-on training on working construction job sites
- 🤝 Personalized career coaching
- ✅ Direct/preferred entry into apprenticeships and trades
- 🆓 Completely free!

ENROLLING NOW!  
CONTACT US!

- 📞 971-379-5217 (call/text)
- ✉️ [apply@pybpdx.org](mailto:apply@pybpdx.org)
- 🌐 [www.pybpdx.org](http://www.pybpdx.org)



## College/Career Training & Placement:

Access to and support for college, career, and post-secondary opportunities

# Transition to College/Career Essentials

Support/Bridge

Create/Connect Opportunities

Open Space

Maps and Gaps

Education  
Plan

Support  
Plan

Career  
Plan

Financial  
Plan

Youth

Career  
Pathways and  
Post-Secondary  
Transition

**Transition to  
College/Career:**  
Supports and  
opportunities focused  
on the transition to  
career or college

# Transition to College/Career

## Grantee Highlight: Brighter Future Mentors



### Model

- Youth Transition Specialist co-located at Community College
- Building trusting relationships with adults that help them realize future goals
- Creating a connective network of existing supports that break down the disconnect, silos, etc. that happen as of those systems; includes youth voice.

### Big Picture

- Continuous Improvements
  - Asking Performance Questions: Does having a mentor from reengagement through to completion and transition phrase make a difference in long-term and short-term outcomes.
- Get systems to work (data, intake & referral, all partners)



Career Pathways and Post-Secondary Transition

Youth

**Transition to College/Career:**  
Supports and opportunities focused on the transition to career or college

# Supporting Youth to Reengage



## Working Theory Farm

Website:

<https://workingtheoryfarm.org/>

Contact: Henney Sullivan

Email: [henney@workingtheoryfarm.com](mailto:henney@workingtheoryfarm.com)

## Northwest Oregon Works (NOW)

<https://www.nworegonworks.org/>

Contact: Logan Garner

Email: [logan@nworegonworks.org](mailto:logan@nworegonworks.org)

## Portland Youthbuilders

<https://pybpdx.org/>

Contact: Mary Hou

Email: [mary.hou@pybpdx.org](mailto:mary.hou@pybpdx.org)

## Multnomah Education Service District (MESD)

Website: <https://www.multnomahesd.org/>

Contact: Christine Otto

Email: [cotto@mesd.k12.or.us](mailto:cotto@mesd.k12.or.us)

## Douglas Education Service District (Douglas ESD)

<https://douglesd.k12.or.us/>

Contact: Melody Rodgers

Email: [Melody.Rogers@douglesd.k12.or.us](mailto:Melody.Rogers@douglesd.k12.or.us)

# What can **YOU** do?



**SUPPORT YOUTH REENGAGEMENT  
IN YOUR COMMUNITY**

**SPEAK UP FOR AND REACH  
OUT TO SUPPORT YOUTH**

**CONNECT WITH  
OTHERS TO BRIDGE  
THE GAP FOR  
YOUTH**

**APPLY FOR  
A GRANT AND/OR  
PARTNER TO PROVIDE  
SERVICES**

**MEET YOUTH WHERE THEY  
ARE AND AMPLIFY THEIR  
VOICES**



**Youth  
Development  
Division**

**Thank you!**

Paul Sell

Youth Development Oregon

Reengagement System & Youth Grants Lead

[paul.sell@ode.oregon.gov](mailto:paul.sell@ode.oregon.gov)