

A revamped housing intervention.

- Origins as an alternative housing model rooted in the 1980's and early 1990's.
 - Historical examples of this go back way further, not necessarily called "host homes"
 - Minneapolis and Seattle credited with early formalization
- Host homes are a form of **temporary housing** where young people, often those in crisis or at risk of homelessness, live in private homes with trained, vetted, and supportive individuals or families. The intervention is designed to provide a more personalized, stable, and less institutionalized environment than other forms of shelter.



Oregon joins the effort

- Cities like **Boston**, **San Francisco**, **Portland**, and **Chicago** developed local host home programs targeting youth aged 16-24 who were experiencing homelessness, and the model began to expand to other vulnerable populations such as LGBTQIA2S+ youth, pregnant teens, and young adults exiting foster care.
- Core Principles
 - Temporary and Safe
 - Family-Like Environment
 - Supportive Services
- Key Features Emerging
 - Vetting and Training Hosts
 - Integration with Case Management
 - Longer-Term Solutions
 - Kinship Strengthening/Support

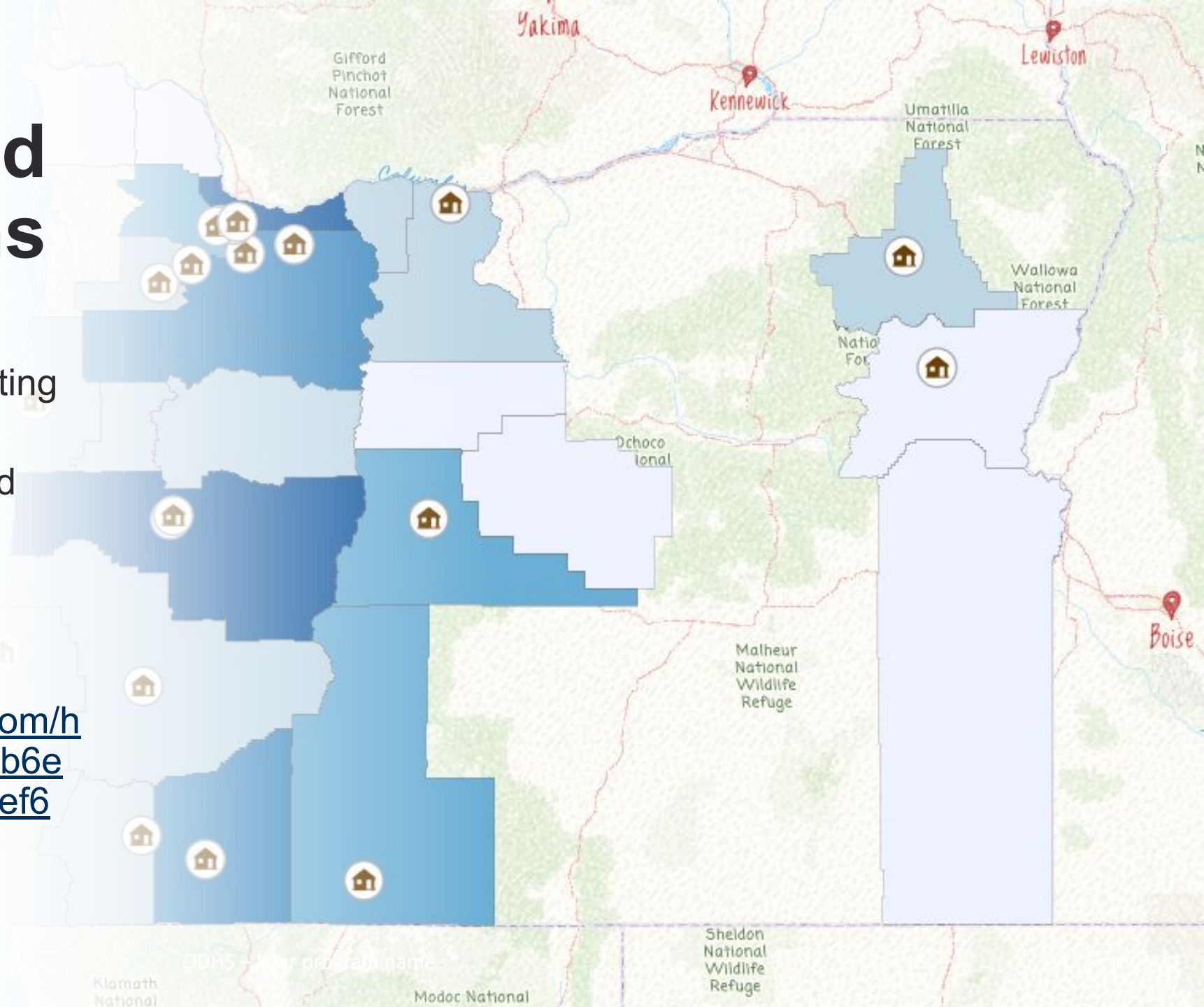


What makes Oregon unique?

- ORS 109.697
 - Allows youth the right to contract for dwelling in Oregon
 - (a) Eligible youth are 16 or 17,
 - (b) Under 16 years of age and the parent of a child or children who are living in the physical custody of the person; or
 - (c) Under 16 years of age, pregnant and expecting the birth of a child who will be living in the physical custody of the person.
- ORS 417.803
 - (a) “Host home project” means a project that facilitates an arrangement under which a youth experiencing homelessness resides in the home of a private individual, pursuant to the terms of a contract between the private individual and the youth, for free or at below-market rent.
 - (b) “Long-term host home project” means a host home project run by an organization that has a memorandum of understanding or a letter of agreement with one or more school districts and in which participating youth experiencing homelessness, on average during the most recent two years, resided in host homes for a minimum of 180 days, as reported by the relevant school district.
 - (c) “Short-term host home project” means a host home project in which participating youth experiencing homelessness, on average during the most recent two years, resided in host homes for a maximum of 180 days, as reported by the relevant school district.

13 Contracted Organizations

- Some of which are operating with parental consent
- One of which is a licensed child-caring agency
- Some of which are using contract for dwelling as a basis for their programs
- <https://geo.maps.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=7117f5b6e4614330b2ed8545da3d7ef6>



Evaluation and Impact

- National Network for Youth. (2016). *Policy and Practice Recommendations for Serving Homeless Youth*.
- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children & Families. (2019). *Evaluation of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Program: Final Report*.
- Homeward Bound Evaluation, Seattle. (2008). *Evaluation of Host Home Programs for Homeless Youth*. University of Washington.
- Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services (2016). *Host Home Initiative: A Report on Outcomes for Homeless Youth in Massachusetts*.
- The True Colors Fund (2018). *Youth Homelessness: A Framework for Action*
- Urban Institute (2014). *Youth Homelessness: The Role of Housing and Supportive Services*.
- Higher rates of **housing stability** after exiting the program compared to youth who stayed in shelters or group homes.
- Improved **mental health** and **social skills** due to the more individualized attention and supportive environment.
- Greater success in **education** and **employment outcomes**, as host home youth often had access to more resources, guidance, and a stable home environment during their transition to adulthood.