

Monday, May 21

**Part IV:
Supporting Students Experiencing Unaccompanied
Homelessness**

.75 CEU

Housing Solutions for Unaccompanied
Students Experiencing Homelessness



Department of Commerce

Office of Homeless Youth Overview

My-Le Tang
Program Coordinator

May 21st, 2018

Guiding Vision



Every family and youth in Washington State has the individualized support they need so that no young person has to spend a single night without a safe and stable home. Every community has services that are equitable, accessible, effective, responsive, and coordinated.



OHY Established via 2015 Homeless Youth Act



- Provide statewide oversight to programs that serve homeless youth through grant agreements
- Transferred HOPE, S/CRC, Street Youth Services programs from DSHS to Commerce
- Established OHY advisory committee
- Required 2016 report to Governor and Legislature with recommendations



Set Five Priority Areas



- Stable Housing
- Family Reconciliation
- Permanent Connections
- Education and Employment
- Social and Emotional Well-Being



Who are homeless youth?



- *Youth (under age 18) and young adults (18-24) “who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence” –McKinney-Vento Act*
- *Youth who are living on their own, unaccompanied without a parent or guardian, and/or are without a safe, stable living arrangement.*



How we serve homeless youth



Programs for youth under age 18

Crisis Residential Centers provide short-term, semi-secure, and secure facilities for runaway youth and adolescents in conflict with their families.

HOPE Centers provide temporary residence, referrals and permanency planning for street youth.

Street Youth Services connect youth to services and housing through street and community-based outreach.





Host Homes:

An Innovative,
Cost Effective Model For Housing Unaccompanied Youth

Presenter:
Lori Cavender Executive Director
Ryan's House For Youth



Host Home Programs

Why are they needed?
How does it work?

SHB2440

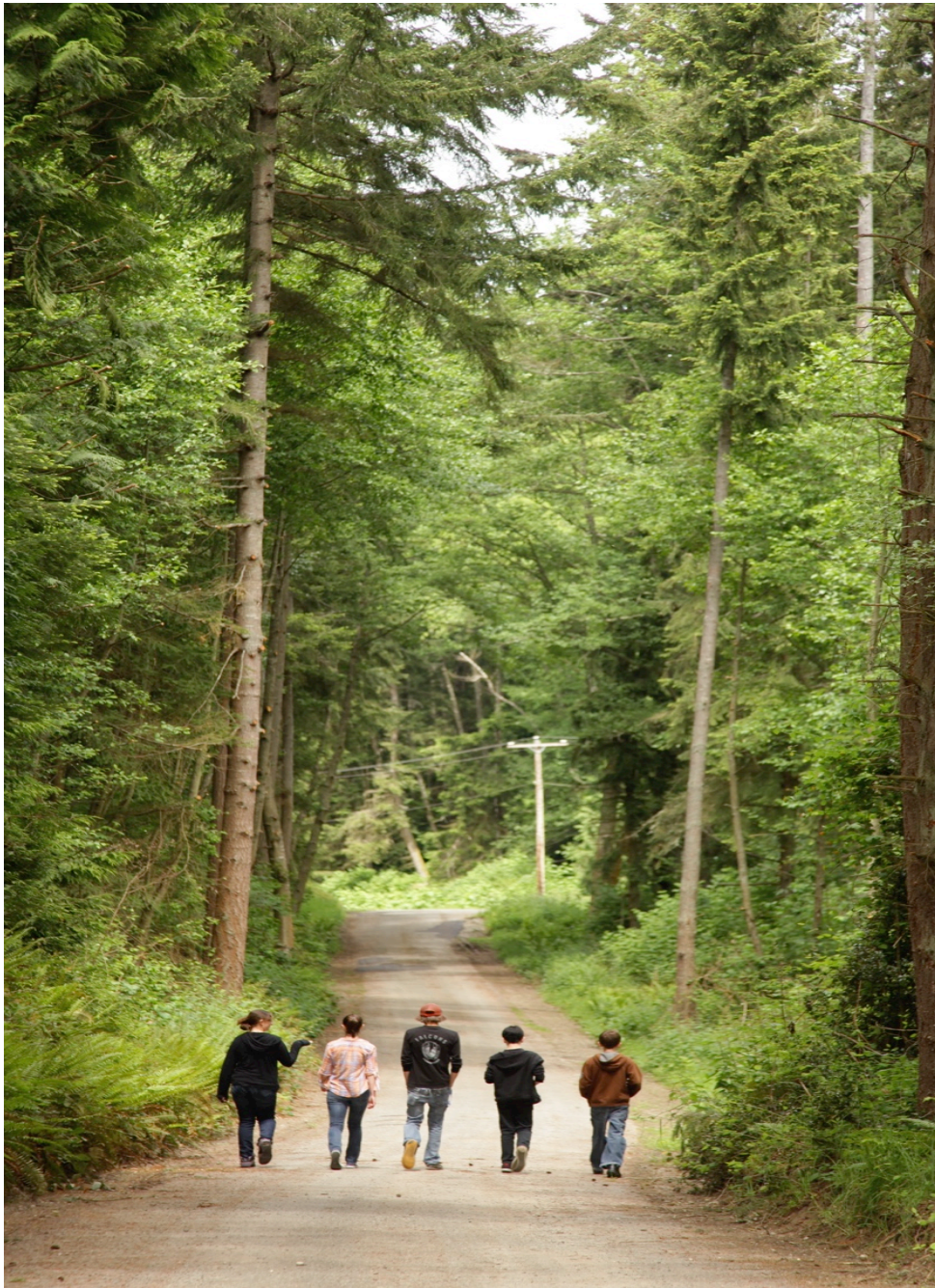
A host home program, and host home, operated by a tax exempt organization for youth not in the care of or receiving services from the department, if that program: (i) Recruits and screens potential homes in the program, including performing background checks on individuals over the age of eighteen residing in the home through the Washington state patrol or equivalent law enforcement agency and performing physical inspections of the home; (ii) screens and provides case management services to youth in the program; (iii) obtains a notarized permission slip or limited power of attorney from the parent or legal guardian of the youth authorizing the youth to participate in the program and the authorization is updated every six months when a youth remains in a host home longer than six months; (iv) obtains insurance for the program through an insurance provider authorized under Title 48 RCW; (v) provides mandatory reporter and confidentiality training; and (vi) registers with the secretary of state as provided in section 3 of this act.

SHB2440 Cont.

A host home is a private home that volunteers to host youth in need of temporary placement that is associated with a host home program. Any host home program that receives local, state, or government funding shall report the following information to the office of homeless youth prevention and protection programs annually by December 1st of each year: The number of children the program served, why the child was placed with a host home, and where the child went after leaving the host home, including but not limited to returning to the parents, running away, reaching the age of majority, or becoming a dependent of the state. A host home program shall not receive more than one hundred thousand dollars per year of public funding, including local, state, and federal funding. A host home shall not receive any local, state, or government funding.

Local Partners

- Funders
- Service Organizations
- Churches and Faith Based Groups
- Hospitals, Law Enforcement, etc.
- Drop-in Centers



Liability

Challenges / Lessons Learned

Positive Outcomes





Department of Commerce

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