



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES
Office of Family Assistance

OFA Regions V-VIII State TANF Virtual Meeting

July 19–21, 2022 • 11:00 a.m.–2:30 p.m. CT

Housing in Crisis: Tools for Addressing Housing Insecurity

Day 3: 11:10 p.m. - 12:15 p.m. CT



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Speakers for Today's Session

Chris Warland, Director of Field Support, Heartland Alliance

Phil Harris, Assistant Director, Arkansas Department of
Workforce Services

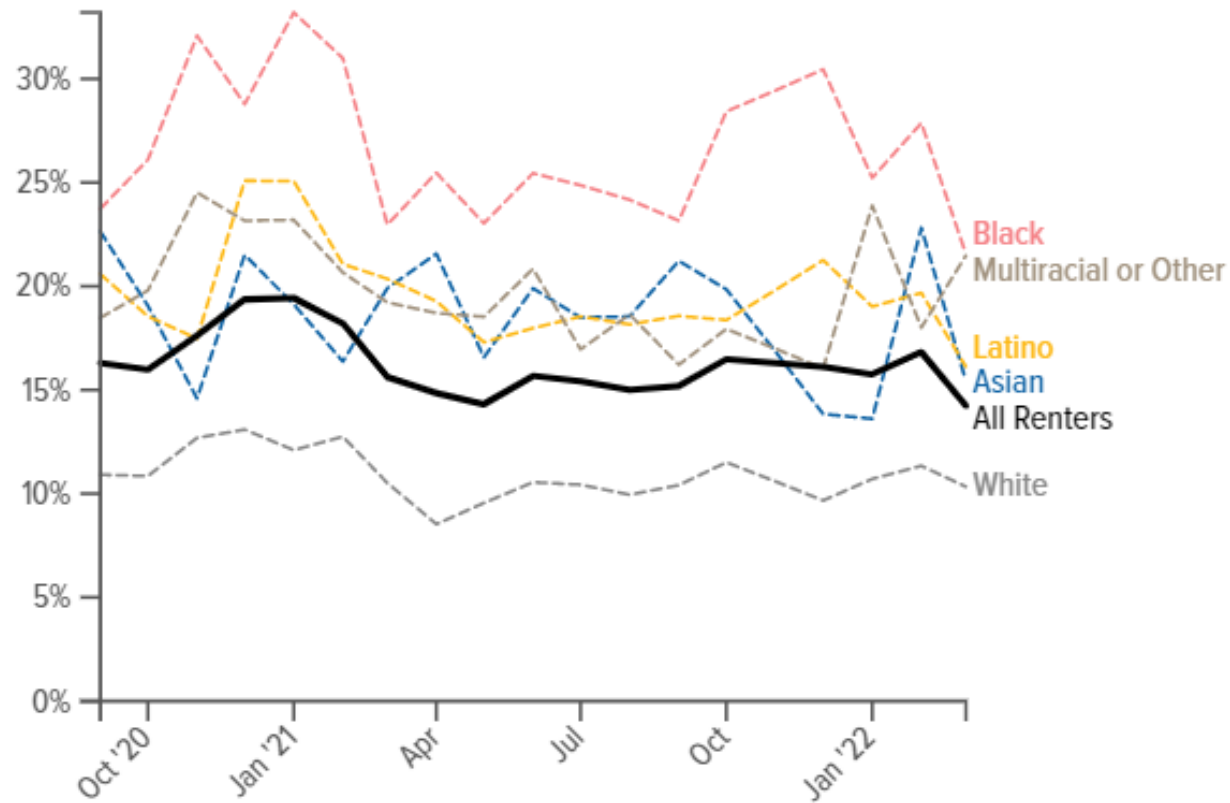
Claire Seguin, Deputy Director of Self Sufficiency
for the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS)

State of Homelessness and Housing Instability

- The [2020 Point in Time Count](#) estimated more than 580,000 people experiencing sheltered or unsheltered homelessness nationally
- Nearly 50% of renters in the US are cost-burdened (paying more than 30% of household income on rent and utilities) and more than 17 million households estimated to be severely housing cost-burdened (Harvard University's [State of the Nation's Housing 2020 report](#))
- Homelessness and Housing Instability are the result of grossly inadequate investment in affordable housing, income inequality, racial inequities and discrimination, and fragmentation among systems including housing, health care, criminal justice, child welfare, education and others.

Renters of Color Face Greatest Hardship

Share of adult renters reporting that their household was not caught up on rent, by race



Rent Hardship Remains Widespread and Disproportionately Impacts People of Color

Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities:

<https://www.cbpp.org/research/housing/relief-measures-reduced-hardship-for-renters-during-pandemic-but-many-still#scene-7>



Housing Insecurity and Employment
Models and Practices for TANF Families
2022 OFA Regions V-VIII State TANF Virtual Meeting

Chris Warland, Heartland Alliance

July 21, 2022

Heartland Alliance

Equity. Opportunity.
For ALL.

We believe society is better for everyone when all of us can participate, prosper, and reach our full potential.

Direct service efforts in 100 communities nationwide and 12 countries internationally, research & evaluation, policy & advocacy, and systems change.



National Center on Employment & Homelessness (NCEH)

Ensuring that every person experiencing homelessness who wants to work achieves employment and the income needed for long-term housing stability.



Employment and housing stability for TANF families

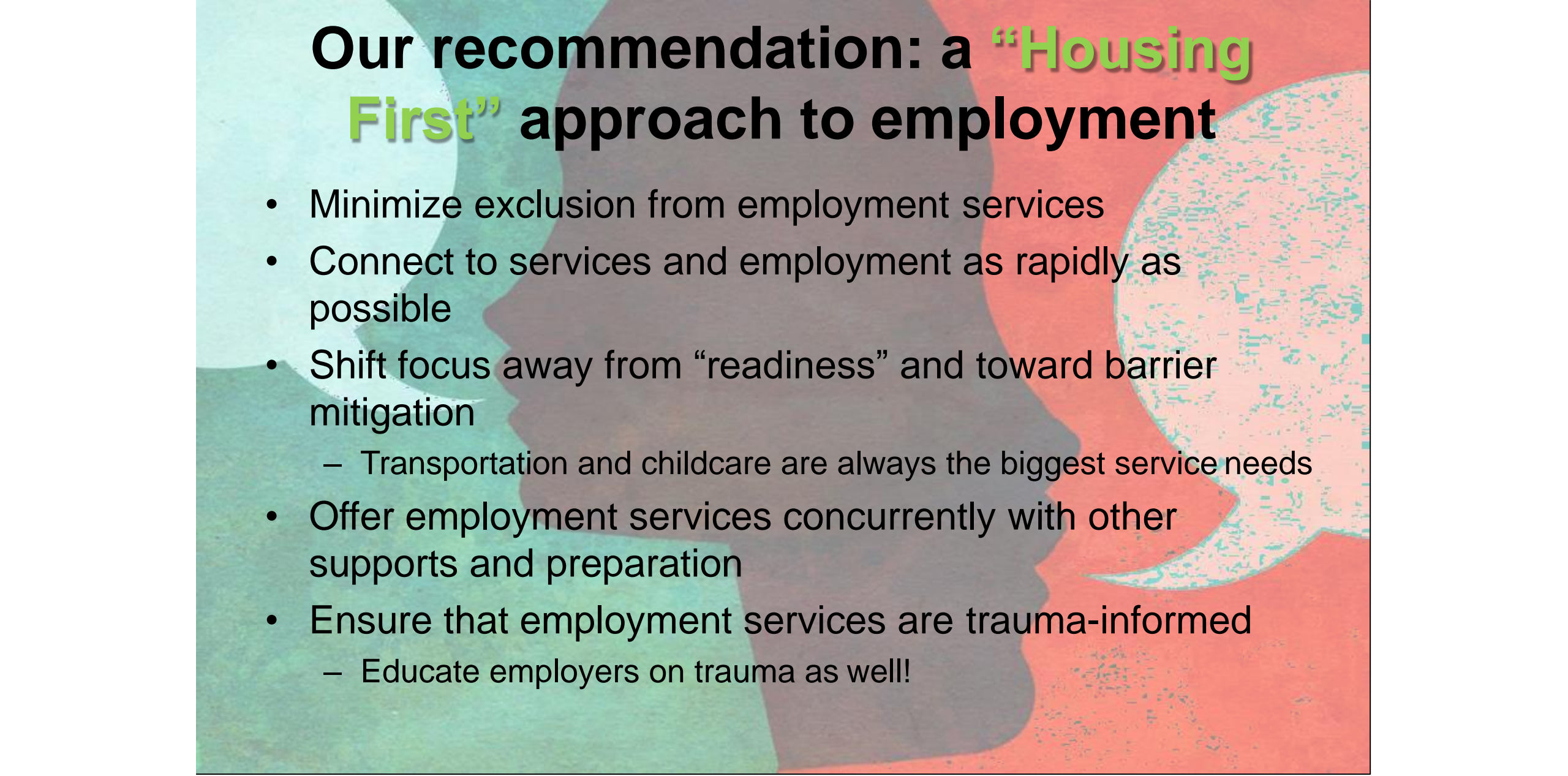
- Recent increases in homelessness and housing instability are largely due to economic factors, i.e., there is increasing misalignment between incomes and housing costs.
- Improving access to employment and increasing earned income is an essential part of ensuring housing stability for TANF households
- Employment is an important piece of the puzzle, but it is not a panacea—many people experiencing homelessness already work
- There are evidence-based models and practices to help housing-unstable TANF households connect to employment



Evidence-based models and best practices

Many of the evidence-based employment models and best practices are the same for TANF recipients and people experiencing homelessness.

- Models include Transitional Jobs, Individual Placement and Support, Social Enterprise, and Sector Training
- Practices include:
 - Motivational interviewing and cognitive-behavioral interventions
 - Job clubs and other peer support strategies
 - Individualized job search assistance



Our recommendation: a “Housing First” approach to employment

- Minimize exclusion from employment services
- Connect to services and employment as rapidly as possible
- Shift focus away from “readiness” and toward barrier mitigation
 - Transportation and childcare are always the biggest service needs
- Offer employment services concurrently with other supports and preparation
- Ensure that employment services are trauma-informed
 - Educate employers on trauma as well!

Check out our (free!) toolkits



heartlandalliance.org/nationalinitiatives

Contact Information



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“Housing in Crisis: Tools for Addressing Housing Insecurity”



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services

Partner Background



- **Our House, Inc. Brief History**

- Our House was incorporated in September of 1987 following two years of study into the ever-growing problems of the homeless in Central Arkansas. Since then, Our House has grown to be a 7-acre campus with a variety of wrap-around services for homeless and near homeless individuals and families—Housing, Children's Programs (Early Childhood and Out-of-School), Family Case Management Support, Career Center. Serves 3,000 people/year, serves 200 adults and 300 children each day, provides housing for 110 people each night.
- **TANF + Our House Partnership:** Dates back to 2017, when we initiated a Pipeline to Employment Project to connect clients to employment and build relationships with local employers.

Power of Partnership



Mutual Goals

- Our House empowers homeless and near-homeless families and individuals to succeed in the workforce, in school, and in life through hard work, wise decision-making, and active participation in the community. The Arkansas Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program seeks to help families stay together by empowering family leaders with job skills, resources, and supportive services.

Partner Challenges

- Complexities of Family Homelessness
- Safe, Affordable, Adequate Housing
- Our House Shelter Limited Capacity
- Navigate Systems

TANF Project(s)



- Work-Based Learning Program
 - Up to 9 months of paid work experience
 - Positions at Our House Campus & Resale Store
 - Case Management, Training, Supportive Services
- Pipeline to Employment – Our House Career Center
 - Case Management, Supportive Services, Short-term Training, Reentry Services, Employment Referrals

Key Aspects of Model



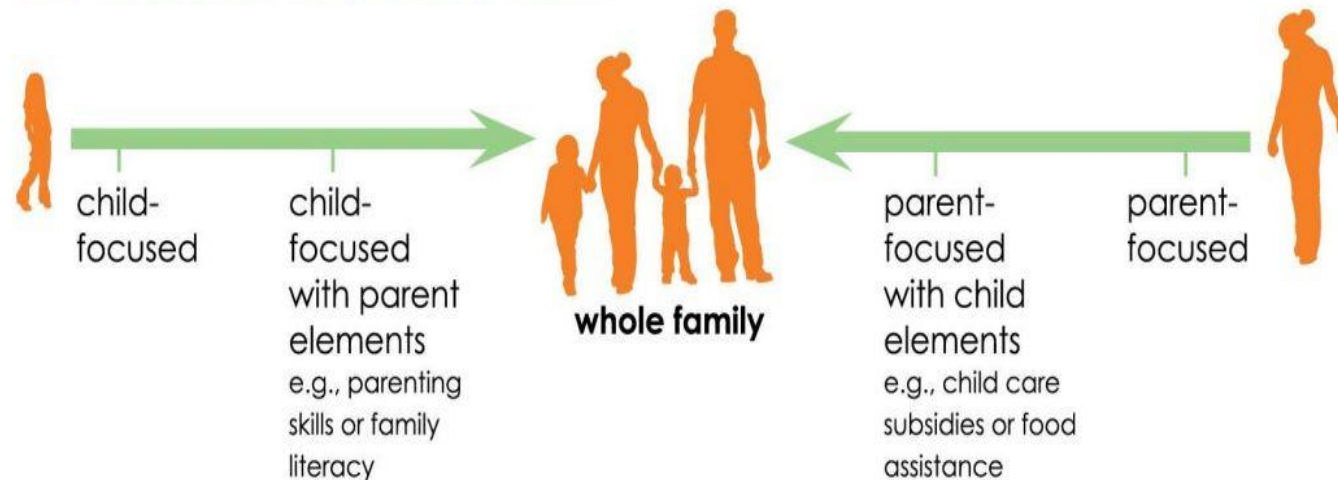
- One-Stop Shop
- Infrastructure Set-Up for Two-Gen
- Central Arkansas Family Stability Institute (CAFSI)
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Career Center+ Outcomes – FY 2021
 - 400 clients found jobs
 - 289 employer partners
 - \$13/hour average wage
 - Served 1,659 adults

Key Aspects of Model

- **Two-Generation Approach:** Two-generation strategies intentionally and systematically connect adult/child investments for larger, longer-lasting impacts on family economic success.

Dr. Christopher King, University of Texas

The Two-Generation Continuum



Contact Info



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OREGON DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

TANF PROGRAM HOUSING INNOVATIONS

July 21, 2022



PRESENTERS

Claire Seguin

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Ashley Marshall

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HOUSING STABILIZATION PROGRAM

- Partnership with state housing agency
- Funds transferred to Oregon Housing and Community Services, who administers contracts to Community Action Agencies (CAAs)
- Referrals from local offices to CAAs
- Funds rental/mortgage assistance, eviction prevention, move-in costs and other related supports
- Categorized as non-recurring short term. Eligibility includes TANF recipients and non-TANF recipients under 250% federal poverty level
- Requesting to expand program in 2023-2025 biennium



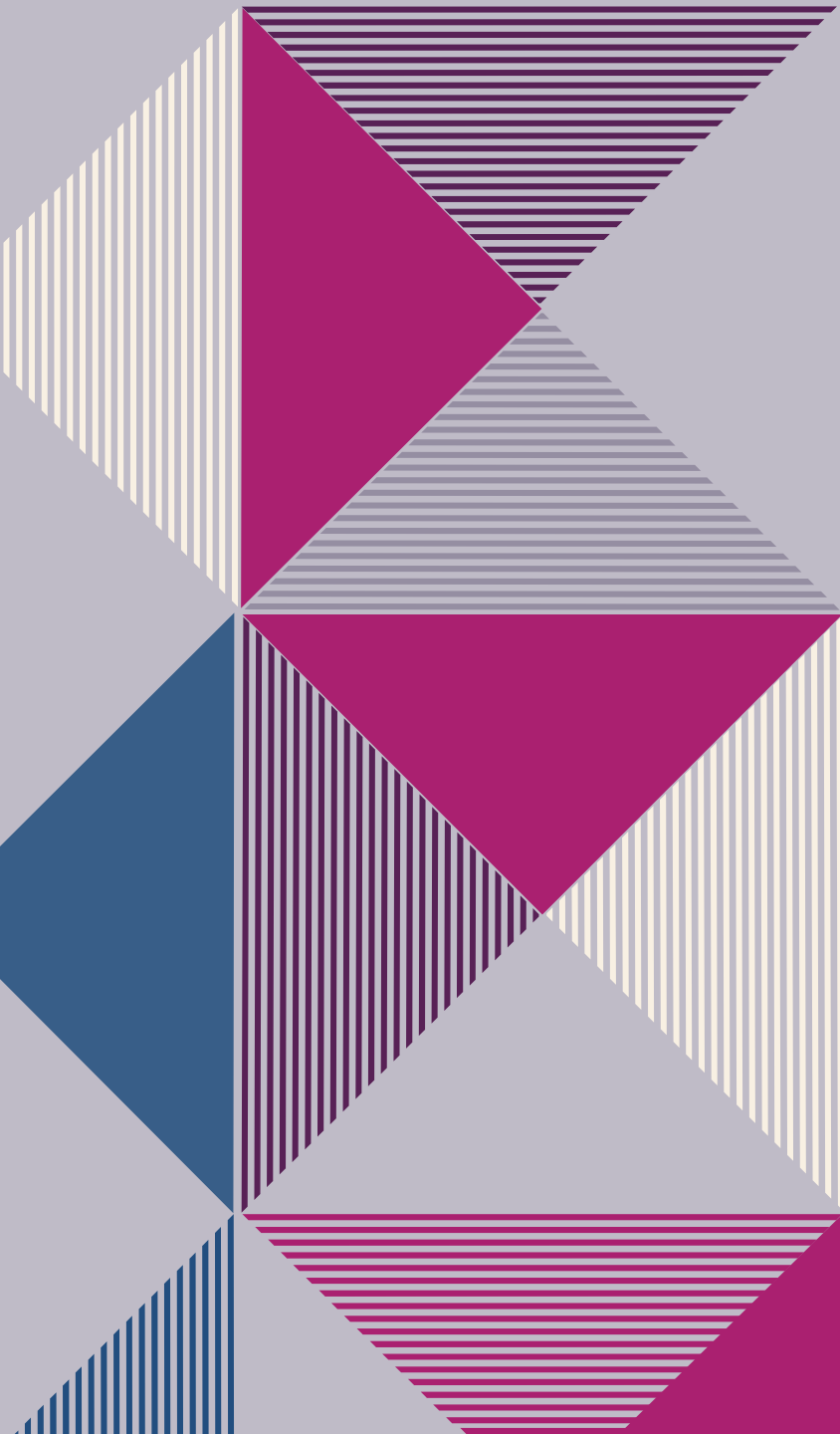
REFUGEE HOUSING

- Historic numbers of refugees moving to Oregon
- Emphasis on housing needs
- Close partnership with resettlement agencies
- State legislative investments in rental assistance



SUPPORT SERVICES

- Rethinking the way we use support service dollars, keeping them responsive to family needs
- Doing away with unnecessary restrictions
- Engaging community partners to spread awareness of resources and reduce barriers to access
- Launching a work group as part of TANF Redesign



QUESTIONS



THANK YOU

Claire Seguin

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N Equity North Star

INCLUSIVITY | EQUITY
SERVICE | WELL-BEING



The Oregon Department of Human Services inclusively leads with race and intersectionality in order to address the roots of systemic oppression that impact all protected classes.



We are dedicated to making services, supports and well-being accessible to all.



We are committed to partnering with communities to develop and deliver policies and programs that are equitable and improve community conditions.



Staff and communities will know services and supports are working when all who live in Oregon, regardless of identity or place can achieve well-being.



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Q&A Session





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Thank you!