



## Oregon Alliance to End Violence Against Women

---

### Safe, Affordable Housing for Domestic Violence Survivors

#### Emergency Housing Account, Short-term Rental Assistance Program, and State Homeless Assistance Program

RETURN FUNDING FOR THESE PROGRAMS TO LEVELS FROM THE 2007  
BIENNIUM, PLUS INFLATION, IN THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT BUDGET (HB 5015)

---

#### **THE NEED FOR SAFE, AFFORDABLE HOUSING IS GREAT:**

- According to the 2011 National Domestic Violence Census, 70% of unmet requests for service in Oregon were for housing.
- Over 80% of survivors entering shelters identified “finding housing I can afford” as a need, second only to “safety for myself” (85%).
- According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition, for every 100 extremely low income (ELI) renter households, only 30 rental units are readily available and affordable.

#### **LACK OF SAFE, AFFORDABLE HOUSING PUTS WOMEN AND CHILDREN AT RISK:**

- Lack of affordable housing and long waiting lists for assisted housing mean that many victims and their children are forced to choose between abuse at home or life on the streets.
- The average stay at an emergency homeless shelter is 60 days, while the average length of time it takes a homeless family to secure housing is 6-10 months.
- As long-term housing options become scarcer, victims and their children are staying longer in emergency domestic violence shelters. As a result, shelters are frequently full and must turn families away.

#### **EVERYONE DESERVES TO HAVE A SAFE HOME:**

- Since 2009, there have been more than 150 domestic violence related deaths in Oregon, including at least 10 children.
- Victims and children must have a safe, affordable place to live so that they do not have to choose between returning to an abusive situation or being homeless.
- Oregon can save lives by providing victims and their children with safe, affordable housing.

| SYBIL HEBB – OREGON LAW CENTER – 503.743.8318 – SHEBB@OREGONLAWCENTER.ORG |

| KERRY NAUGHTON – PARTNERSHIP FOR SAFETY AND JUSTICE – 503.335.8449 – KERRY@SAFETYANDJUSTICE.ORG |

| NIKI TERZIEFF – OREGON COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE – 503.480.9771 – NIKI@LEADINGEDGEPUBLICAFFAIRS.COM |