



Jeffrey Fleming, Home Provider Coordinator of Lincoln County

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Our Mission:

Second Home is a home sharing program with the goal of providing safe and stable housing and ongoing support for unaccompanied students experiencing homelessness, so that they can focus on completing their secondary education and discover and realize their gifts and potential.

How Do We Do This? – Host Homes!

Second Home finds volunteers in the community who have the capacity to provide room and board by hosting a student in their home while they work toward their educational goals.

We work with the Lincoln County School District, Dispute Resolution Center and Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon to connect students to hosts.

History of Second Home

- Began serving students in 2010 in Beaverton, OR
- Now have programs in Washington, Clackamas, East Multnomah, and Lincoln Counties
- Claire Johnson (Regional Coordinator) and Jeffrey Fleming (Home Provider Coordinator) relaunched Second Home in February 2024.
- Deliberate program building, developing community relationships and trust

Unaccompanied Houseless Youth in Oregon

- Oregon has the highest rate of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness of any state.
- (Unaccompanied means that the young person is not living in the physical custody of their family.)
- The number of homeless students in Lincoln County is one of the highest in the state = 842 students experienced homelessness during the 2023-2024 academic year (15% of school population).
- Reasons for this might include high levels of conflict, the student being forced to leave, a parent's unstable housing situation, deportation of a parent, safety, etc.

Why Host Homes?

- Provide a stable living environment and more “normalized” high school experience
- Safer and more stable than most other options
- Rooted in community and relationships
- Cost-effective
- A more trauma-informed response
- Students leave program with a rental history
- Eligible for Oregon state college tuition and fee waiver

Second Home Priorities

- Student-lead program: empower students to make decisions about their own lives with guidance and encouragement
- Culturally sensitive and trauma-aware home environments
- Focus on students' individual needs
- Relationships and connection, for students certainly, but also for the entire partnership

Program Flow

Home Provider Preparation

Student Referral from L.C.S.D.

Interviews x 3

Facilitated Discussion/Mediation

Move-In, Follow-Up and Support

Graduation!



Second Home Students...

- Are high school students of L.C.S.D. between the ages of 16-21 or 15 and pregnant.
- Are self-motivated to graduate.
- Commit to remain drug/alcohol free.
- Have no history of violent behavior.
- Make decisions about which home provider to interview. Staff does not "place" a student with a home provider.
- Will work with home provider and a mediator to put together a rental agreement and determine house expectations.

Home Providers...

- Care about teens and their futures.
- Have a desire to help and to be involved in a student's life to the extent the student would like.
- Can provide a room and meals for a student (some students qualify for SNAP benefits).
- Are not expected to parent (not foster care).
- Are willing to go through the home provider onboarding process including interview, home visit, homework, training, and background check processes.

Can't host? There are other ways to help!

- Be part of a care team
- Talk about the program with people you know
- Help raise awareness about unaccompanied youth
- Donate funds or supplies students can use
- Urge your representatives to support legislation that address youth homelessness

Students, in their own words...

"Second Home matched a family for me twice in 2 years. Each family I stayed with really helped me. They came to my school to see my choir concert and graduation. And they had me come to their family's holiday parties."

"I've experienced different types of homelessness most of my teenage life...Within one week of asking for help, I was [matched] with a beautiful host family and I felt safe and comfortable and supported...Second Home has helped me get a job and focus on my classes in a safe, stable environment."

"Second Home provided more than just safe housing, it connected me with people who loved, supported and believed in me. It provided me with another family to be part of..."

Thank you!

If interested in hosting, please fill out the Home Provider Application form at:

<https://emo-secondhome.org/forms/>

Or for more information contact:

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