

# Economic Opportunity Program

## *A Home for Everyone*



### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Economic Opportunity Program (EOP) is a cornerstone of our community-based approach. EOP focuses on **breaking down barriers for those who need it most**, including low-income residents, those experiencing homelessness or housing instability, and individuals with prior justice involvement. By combining long-term, relationship-based career coaching with employment resources, EOP helps participants achieve stability, job readiness, and sustainable careers.

**The A Home for Everyone Economic Opportunity Program (AHFE EOP) is a community-wide initiative to address homelessness in Multnomah County.**

Career Coaches support EOP participants at risk of homelessness or in the continuum of care, prioritizing those earning 0-30% of area median income (AMI).

AHFE provides each participant with a robust and complementary suite of services that exceeds what any organization could do individually.

### SERVICES INCLUDE

- Career coaching
- Career mapping and resource planning
- Support services for job training and job search activities
- Facilitated access to WorkSource centers and the downtown Express Center
- Centralized support services like rent assistance
- Training scholarships at WorkSource centers

## BY THE NUMBERS: July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

**568** Participants served

**74%**

Identify as Black, Indigenous, or People of Color

**42%**

Homeless  
(58% housing insecure)

**57%**

Receive SNAP benefits

**83%**

Exited AHFE EOP with a job that improves their housing stability through employment income

**195**

Participants received rent assistance

**68%**

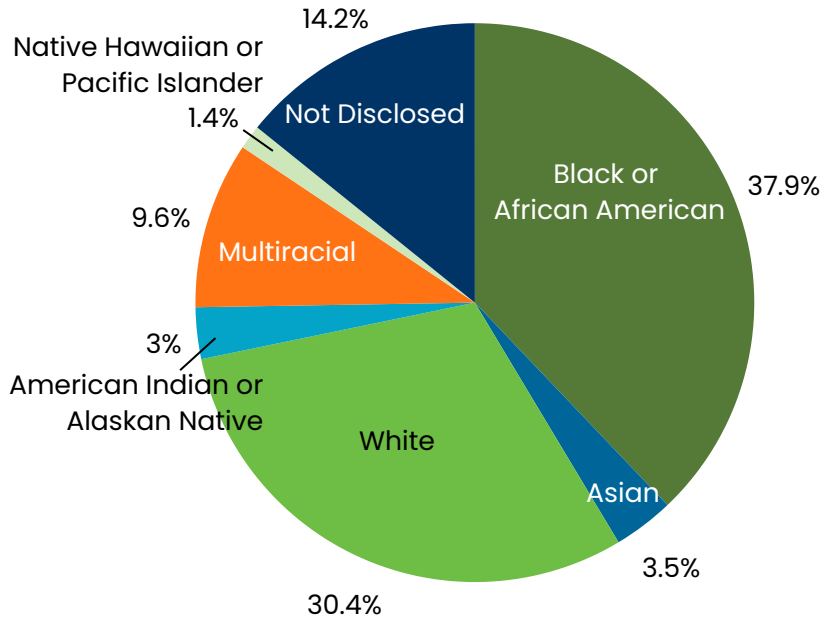
of those who received rent assistance identify as BIPOC

# A Home for Everyone

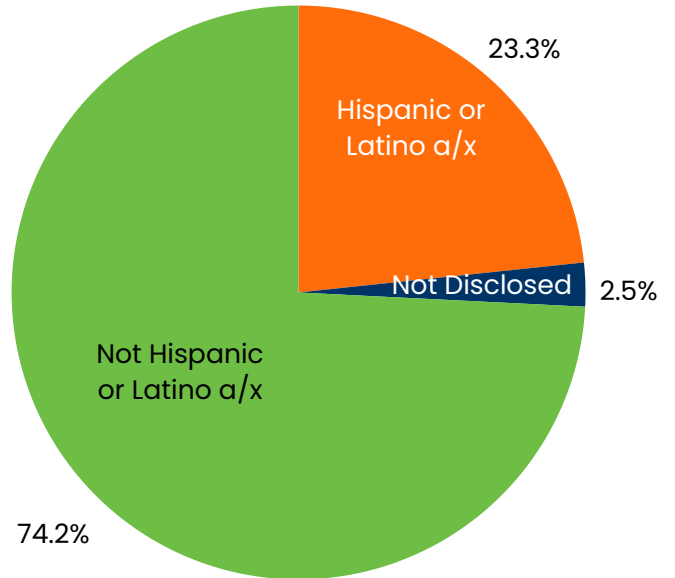
## Demographics



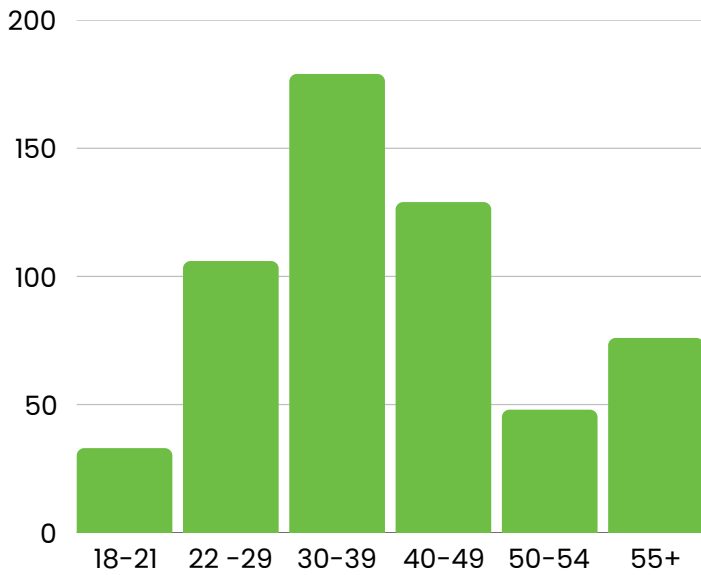
### RACE



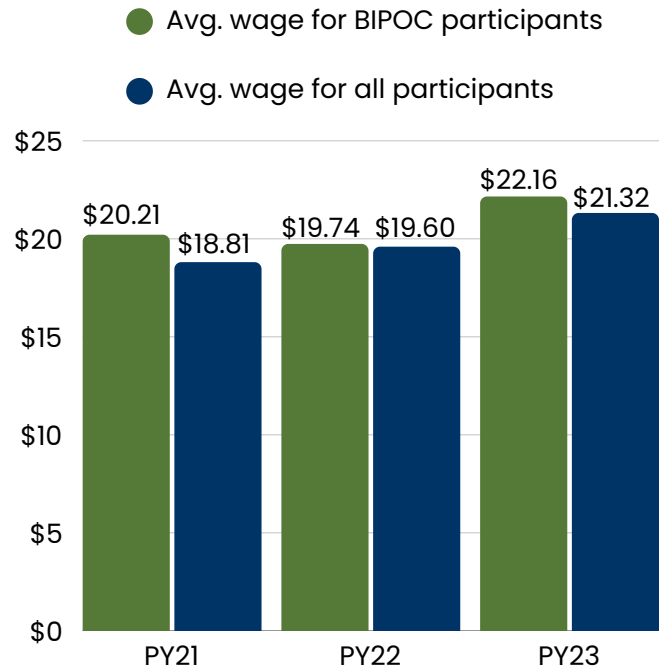
### ETHNICITY



### AGE



### AVERAGE WAGES UPON EXIT



For more information, visit [worksystems.org](https://worksystems.org) or contact Deanna DSouza, Worksystems Community Programs Manager at [ddsouza@worksystems.org](mailto:ddsouza@worksystems.org) or 503-478-7359.

# A Home for Everyone Funding, Partners & Participants



FUNDER	BUDGET
Joint Office of Homeless Services	\$1.6M
Worksystems	\$886,922
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,486,922</b>

## COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICE PROVIDERS



Latino  
Network

POIC



AHFE career coaches regularly engage with shelters and programs including Banfield Shelter, Behavioral Health Resource Center, Blanchett House, Burnside Shelter, Chestnut Tree, Clark Center, Clinton Triangle Alt Shelter, Doreen's Place, Gresham Women's Shelter, North Portland Alt Shelter, Peninsula Crossing, PEAR, Shepherd's Door, and Walnut Park.

## SUCCESS STORIES

### *Empowering Self-Sufficiency*

KT came to AHFE struggling with rent and feeling stuck in her career. With the help of her AHFE Career Coach, she explored new opportunities while receiving three months of rental assistance, allowing her to maintain transitional employment and enroll in doula training.

AHFE covered training costs and provided gas assistance, ensuring KT could attend. She excelled, earning certification as a Traditional Healthcare Worker in Oregon and gaining approval to serve OHP and Medicare clients.

Now, KT has launched her own doula business and is a thriving, self-sufficient entrepreneur. **AHFE's vital services equipped KT with the tools and support she needed to change her life.**

### *From Shelter to Stability*

In 2024, DR joined AHFE while living in a NW Portland shelter. He was eager to rebuild his life, but struggling to find stable employment.

With his AHFE Career Coach's guidance, he updated his resume, practiced interviews, and identified more sustainable job opportunities. However, missing his Social Security card was a roadblock. His coach helped him navigate the replacement process, and he soon secured a temp job near his shelter.

AHFE also provided essential support, including work attire and a phone for timekeeping. While at his temp job, DR began a welding program at PCC, a career path inspired by his passion for bike building. With the help of AHFE, he is now working to secure an apartment near his job and public transit to PCC.

**DR acknowledges that without AHFE, he would not have made as much progress toward starting work and finding housing.**