

PHOTO BY NATHANIEL SCHWAB

Foster youth leaders convened this summer to formulate solutions for Oregon's foster care system.

## Foster Youth Speak O

Current and former foster youth improving foster care in the state.

The solutions call for exincreasing funding for court appointed special advocates and prioritizing housing needs of youth at risk of homelessness. They were developed this summer by youth attending the Oregon Foster Youth Conference.

in Oregon have a prescription for tions have the potential to create ward to continuing to work with needed change in Oregon's foster care system," said Marilyn panding mental health services, Jones, child welfare director at the Oregon Department of Human Services. "Foster youth are foster youth conference has been the experts when it comes to passed into law and signed by the how we can improve foster care. governor for the past five biennia, The Oregon Department of Human Services values the insight OFYC Policy Conference, offiand leadership of Oregon Foster cials said.

"These policy recommenda- Youth Connection and looks foryouth leaders to better serve children in care."

In the past, every piece of legislation proposed by members of the and it all starts with the bi-annual

Betty Jones helps a child with reading as a volunteer with Experience Corp, a local mentorship program.

## Trusted, Caring Adults Needed

## Mentor a child this school year

Are you age 50 or over, and trusted, caring adult can help many children thrive academically. This is where you can come in as a men-

small groups with young children Gresham public schools. in elementary schools, mentors Volunteer mentors commit tention for students to succeed.

Metropolitan Family Service, want to help children succeed? A a non-profit serving the Portland little bit of extra support from a area for over 67 years helping move people beyond limitations of povery, inequity and social isolation, is actively recruiting voltor. AARP Experience Corps is an unteers for the program. AARP intergenerational program that fo- Experience Corps provides opporcuses on helping children become tunities for adults 50 and over to grade. Working one-on-one and in lect eastside, north Portland and

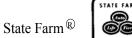
provide the needed support and at- to four or more hours per week throughout the school year. Those able to commit eight hours or more may receive a monthly stipend. No formal experience is needed, just the desire to help children succeed. Training and ongoing support are provided.

Volunteer today for the 2018-19 school year by calling 503-290-9427, or email: volunteer@ great readers before finishing third mentor and tutor children in se- mfs.email. For more info visit metfamily.org

Providing Insurance and Financial Services Home Office, Bloomington, Illinois 61710

## Ernest J. Hill, Jr. Agent

311 NE Killingsworth St, Portland, OR 97211 503 286 1103 Fax 503 286 1146 ernie.hill.h5mb@statefarm.com 24 Hour Good Neighbor Service (R)







Need to publish a court document or notice? Need an affidavit of publication quickly and efficiently? Please fax or e-mail your notice for a free price quote!

> Fax: 503-288-0015 e-mail: classifieds@portlandobserver.com The Portland Observer



www.portlandobserver.com