



2010 Oregon Youth Authority Government-to-Government Report on Tribal Relations

Submitted in accordance
with Senate Bill 770
ORS 182.162-166 by the
Oregon Youth Authority



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Our Commitment to Oregon's Tribes



Colette S. Peters
Director
Oregon Youth Authority

I am pleased to be able to present the Oregon Youth Authority's 2010 Government-to-Government report detailing our relations with Oregon's tribes.

OYA is committed to ensuring all youth in our care and custody receive culturally appropriate services. To that end we work closely with the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon to ensure Native American youth offenders receive culturally appropriate supports that enhance the effectiveness of their treatment.

Tribal communities have a great impact on the success of youth returning to their communities and serve as a vital link between youth who are adjudicated and their families and culture. OYA recognizes that tribes are uniquely able to address risk factors that could contribute to a youth's delinquency.

As sovereign nations, tribal governments are crucial partners in the public safety arena. They coordinate and collaborate on delivery of services for youth in OYA's custody, enabling our agency to better provide culturally relevant treatment and intervention opportunities. And, once tribal youth return to their communities, tribes help provide a continuum of services that offer additional support for youth accountability and public safety.

We are pleased with the progress made during 2010 to serve Native American youth in OYA's custody and look forward to working with tribes in the year ahead to build on those successes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colette S. Peters', written in a cursive style.

Colette S. Peters
Director

Report Highlights

Highlights of this year's Government-to-Government report include:

- OYA continues to maintain MOUs with seven tribes, page 9.
- OYA continues to co-chair the Public Safety Cluster meetings, page 11.
- OYA Deputy Director Fariborz Pakseresht met with Klamath Tribe Chairman Gary Frost and Vice Chair Don Gentry, page 13.
- Tribal chiefs of police met with representatives of the Governors Office and Department of Public Safety Standards and Training to discuss the statutory definition of a peace officer, page 14.
- OYA's Native American Advisory Committee is working with OYA to implement a youth recognition practice for youth in the custody of OYA, page 15.
- OYA staff and volunteers continue to provide cultural services for Native American and tribal youth in OYA custody, page 17.
- OYA received a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to improve community re-entry for youth leaving OYA custody, page 19.
- OYA's Tribal Liaison provided cultural competency training for Cow Creek tribal staff members, page 21.
- The Klamath and Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw tribes participated in the Oregon Juvenile Justice Symposium, page 21.

Oregon Youth Authority

The mission of the Oregon Youth Authority is to protect the public and reduce crime by holding youth offenders accountable and providing opportunities for reformation in safe environments.

OYA does this by exercising legal and physical custody of offenders adjudicated to OYA by juvenile courts, and physical custody of young offenders sentenced by adult courts. The agency serves the state's most delinquent youth ages 12 through 24 who commit crimes before their 18th birthday.

OYA manages approximately 2,000 youth offenders at any given time. Fifty-four percent of OYA youth offenders — approximately 1,100 youth — are in communities on probation or parole. The remainder — approximately 900 youth — live in secured facilities. Approximately 3 percent of youth in OYA's custody are Native American.

Research shows that the most effective way to encourage youth to lead crime-free lives is through the appropriate combination of culturally specific treatment and education. To that end, OYA engages tribal governments in four significant ways:

- Individually, through government-to-government relationships, as established in a memorandum of understanding with each tribe;
- Collectively, through the OYA Native American Advisory Committee;
- Collaboratively, through implementing and coordinating culturally relevant treatment services for Native American youth in OYA custody; and
- Through the coordination and chairing of the Public Safety Cluster meetings.

This annual "Government-to-Government Report on Tribal Relations" describes the ways in which OYA and the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon worked together during 2010 to improve outcomes for Native American youth in the juvenile justice system.

The nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon are the:

- Burns Paiute;
- Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde;
- Confederated Tribes of Siletz;
- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation;
- Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs;
- Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw;
- Coquille Tribe;
- Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians; and
- Klamath Tribes.

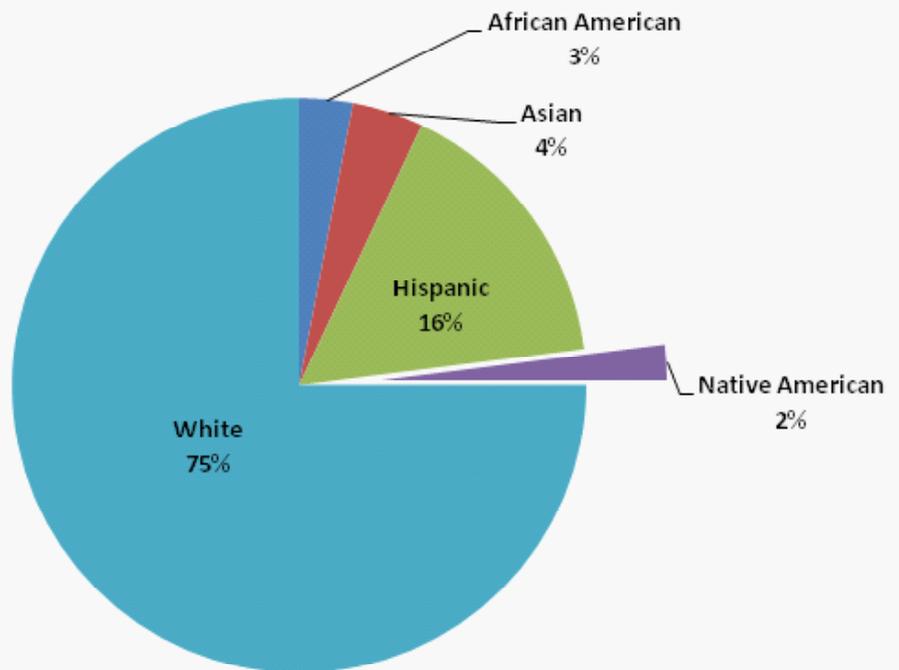
Native American Youth

OYA has legal or physical custody of nearly 2,100 youth offenders, of whom approximately 67 are identified as Native American. Of those, 55 are juvenile commitments and 12 are adult commitments sentenced under Measure 11 or waived to adult court. Additionally, of the 67 commitments approximately 20 are Oregon tribal youth.

Relative to Oregon's population, Native American youth are over-represented in the juvenile justice system and in OYA. Native American youth make up approximately 2 percent of Oregonians ages 10-17, but 3 percent of the youth committed to OYA.

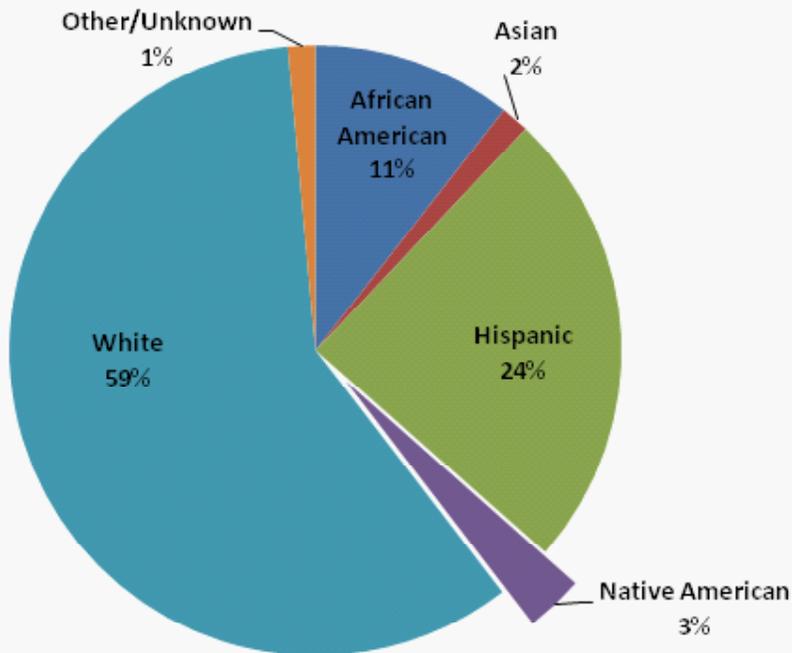
The following charts provide more information about Native American youth in Oregon and OYA.

2008 Oregon Youth Populaton - Ages 10-17 - N = 389,457

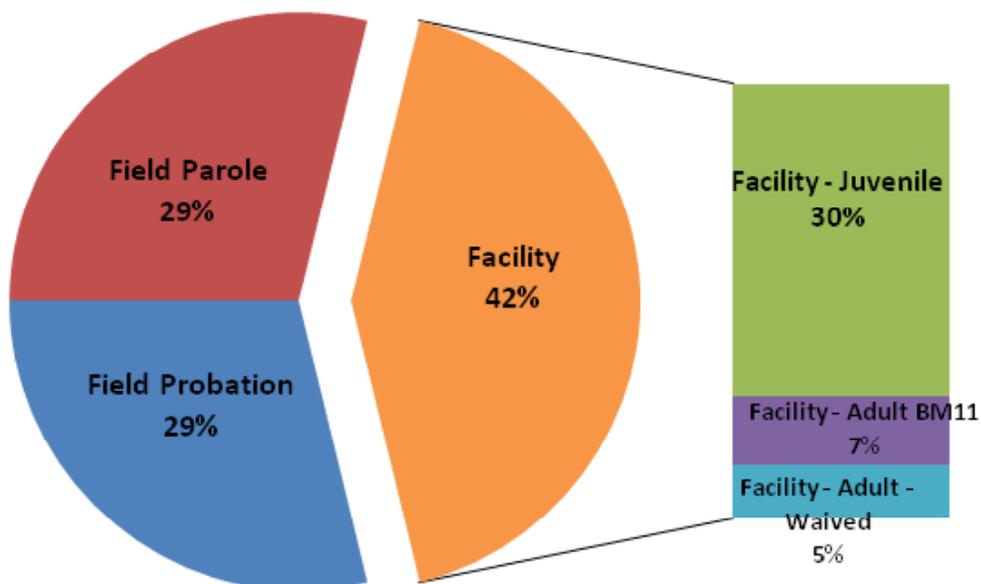


Native American Youth

OYA Commitment Population - as of 10/4/2010

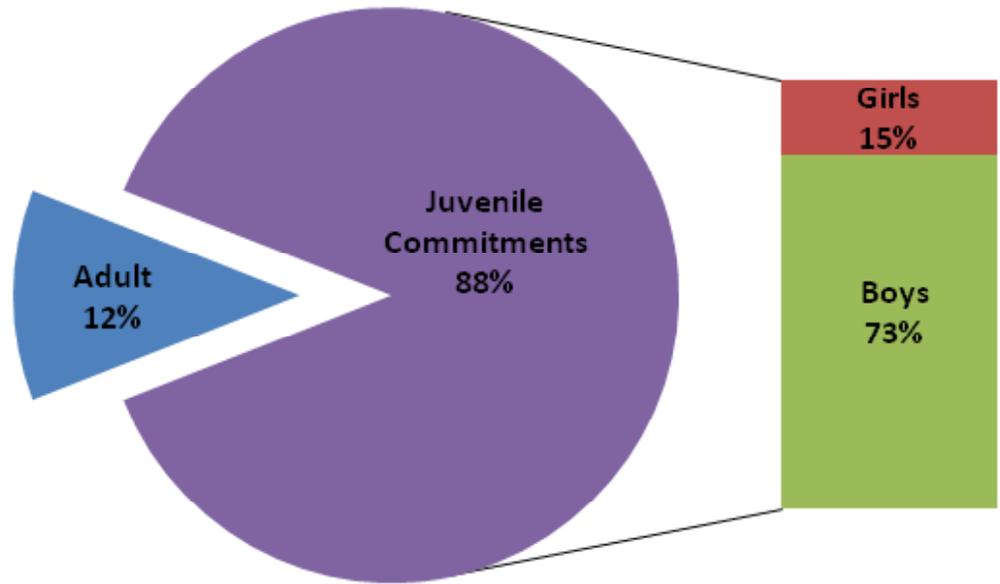


OYA Commitments - Native American Youth by Location - N = 59

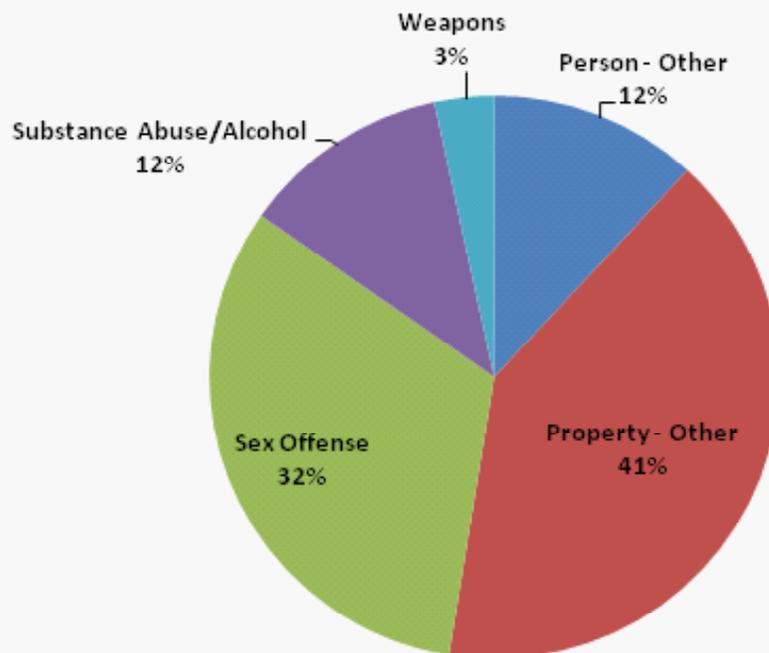


Native American Youth

OYA Commitments - Native American Youth
by Commitment Type - N = 59



OYA Commitments - Native American Youth
by Most Serious Crime - N = 59



Tribal and OYA Relations

Communication liaisons

The government-to-government relationships between tribes and OYA support OYA's mission of public safety, accountability and reformation for youth offenders. These relationships also enhance community safety by increasing the opportunities for successful reintegration of tribal youth returning to their communities.

OYA is represented in these relationships by Jack Lawson, the agency's Tribal Liaison. Each of Oregon's nine federally recognized tribes also has identified a key contact to be the first link in communications between OYA and the tribes. Each key contact is a vital liaison who provides opportunities to identify mutual concerns, resources for youth offenders, and activities in OYA and communities. These individuals are instrumental in enhancing communications between OYA and the respective tribes, and also serve on OYA's Native American Advisory Committee.

Memoranda of understanding

To establish formal relationships with Oregon's tribal governments, OYA has entered into or is in the process of negotiating, memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with each tribe, pursuant to ORS 182.162-166. While each MOU is tailored to meet the individual needs and concerns of each tribe, the agreements generally identify areas of mutual concern including services to Native American youth, mutually agreed upon roles and responsibilities, and methods for promoting effective communications and positive relationships.

Each MOU generally includes assurances that tribal youth are identified when they enter OYA custody, that tribal and Native American youth in OYA receive culturally appropriate assessments and services, and that tribes have opportunities to participate in planning the reformation efforts and transition services for tribal youth as the youth change placements or leave OYA custody.

OYA currently has MOUs with seven Oregon tribal governments:

- Burns Paiute;
- Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw;
- Coquille Tribe;
- Confederated Tribes of Siletz;
- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation;
- Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians; and
- Klamath Tribes.

Tribal and OYA Relations

Although OYA has yet to finalize MOUs with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, the agency continues to pursue agreements with these tribes. OYA's Tribal Liaison has met with the Warm Springs Chief Operations Officer and Secretary Treasurer, and continues to meet with Grand Ronde's Chief Executive Officer and Key Contact.

In addition, in the absence of formal agreements, OYA continues to conduct its relationship with the Grand Ronde and Warm Springs tribes as if agreements exist. This ensures consistent support for all nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon.

Some of the challenges in coming to an agreement have been the tribes' advocacy for conditions OYA is unable to meet under current law. These include access to OYA close custody beds at no cost to the tribes, relative foster care payment, and acceptance of tribal foster home certification for OYA placement:

- Although ORS 420A.040 allows tribes to place youth in OYA custody, the statute states that tribes must pay reasonable expenses associated with the incarceration and treatment of the youth offender. OYA has sought an opinion from the Attorney General's Office on this issue and has been informed that, unless there is a change in Oregon statute, OYA is unable to provide free access for tribes to close custody beds.
- ORS 420.888 disallows relative foster care payments. The statute, which defines a foster home, states that the foster parent must be unrelated to the person by blood or marriage and unattended by the youth offender's parents or guardian.
- ORS 420.890 states that a person may not operate a youth offender foster home without a certificate of approval issued by the Oregon Youth Authority.

Although OYA is unable to reimburse families for relative foster care or accept tribal foster home certification, the agency has offered the tribes an opportunity to identify a tribal home as an OYA foster home, after which OYA would train, reimburse and support the identified home. This offer remains under discussion.

It is important to note that, while the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) does not apply to delinquency cases and youth in juvenile corrections, OYA works to make every accommodation to ensure tribes are involved with their youth while the youth are under the jurisdiction of OYA. This includes tribal notification of each youth's status as well as ongoing communication and collaboration for treatment, intervention and transition services.

Tribal and OYA Relations

Public Safety Cluster

The Public Safety Cluster (PSC) convenes state public safety agencies and tribal officials to discuss and address tribal-specific public safety issues and issues of mutual concern. OYA Tribal Liaison Jack Lawson serves as the chair of the Public Safety Cluster.

PSC met four times in 2010. The meetings were hosted by the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw; Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation; and twice by Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST). These meetings brought together state and tribal public safety agencies, departments, commissions and judicial systems.

The PSC meetings provide a forum for identifying issues affecting public safety in tribal and Oregon communities. These meetings enable participants to share ideas, information and strategies to promote safer communities throughout Oregon. In addition, these meetings enhance the government-to-government relationships among state agencies and tribal public safety partners.

OYA looks forward to continuing as chair of the PSC in 2011 and plans to continue to make the meetings productive and meaningful for the members.

Native American Advisory Committee

George Nagel, a Siletz tribal employee, and OYA Tribal Liaison Jack Lawson continue to serve as co-chairs of the OYA Native American Advisory Committee (NAAC). Committee members meet regularly to articulate the priorities of each tribe and identify ways in which the committee may better serve tribal and OYA interests and needs. The tribes and OYA agree NAAC should focus on system issues, policy reviews and development of resources for youth.

NAAC is formulated to assist OYA with matters concerning Native American communities throughout Oregon. The committee is comprised of representatives from the nine federally recognized tribes within Oregon and identified community representatives throughout the state. NAAC's primary functions are to:

- Establish community links between OYA and the Native American community;
- Recruit volunteers to support services offered by OYA for Native American youth within OYA close custody;
- Consult regarding transition and aftercare services for Native American youth;
- Develop staff training on Native American culture and tribal structure;

Tribal and OYA Relations

- Recruit and retain Native American staff within OYA to sustain an employee workforce that reflects the diversity of the youth offender population;
- Consult on the cultural competency of programs, services and policies regarding Native American youth within OYA; and
- Establish resources for out-of-home placements (foster homes).

Topics of advisory committee meetings have included:

- Priorities of the tribes,
- Review of Native American youth in OYA custody,
- OYA's Tribal Notification Policy, and
- Services to Native American and tribal youth.

Statewide Advisory Committee

OYA maintains an advisory committee of juvenile justice partners and stakeholders to provide input and information on issues and events affecting juvenile justice, as well as to advise OYA on its policies and practices. The tribal NAAC co-chair continues to represent tribal concerns on the Statewide Advisory Committee and share tribal issues that need to be addressed by all of the agency's stakeholders.

Ongoing support

OYA's leadership remains committed to maintaining ongoing, open communications with the tribes in Oregon, and to developing ways to ensure better outcomes for Native American youth in the custody of OYA.

Tribal and OYA Relations

Meetings with individual tribes

December, 14, 2009 (shortly after submission of the 2009 Government-to-Government report), representatives from the Warm Springs Reservation's Community Counseling, Probation and Tribal Court met in Warm Springs with OYA's Field Supervisor for Central Oregon, Juvenile Parole and Probation Officer, and Tribal Liaison to strengthen the partnership and collaboration between the tribe and OYA, and to establish a continuum of services for tribal youth offenders as they prepare to re-enter the Warm Springs community. The group discussed collaborative services for Warm Springs tribal youth, reviewed Warm Springs tribal youth cases, and agreed to continue to identify and collaborate on resources and strategies for the youth. Another meeting is scheduled for December 16, 2010, and the tribe and OYA plan to explore the possibility of establishing this as a quarterly meeting.

June 9, 2010, OYA Deputy Director Fariborz Pakseresht and Tribal Liaison Jack Lawson met with Tribal Chair Gary Frost and Vice Chair Don Gentry of the Klamath Tribes. This meeting was designed to strengthen agency-tribal relations. Mr. Pakseresht reiterated the agency's desire and commitment to work with the tribe regarding tribal youth in OYA custody. This meeting also provided the Tribal Chair and Vice Chair an opportunity to discuss their ideas and commitment to working with tribal youth and exploring strategies to keep their youth from entering the juvenile justice system.

October 5, 2010, Dan Robertson, Superintendent of the Eastern Oregon Youth Correctional Facility in Burns, and Tribal Liaison Jack Lawson met with Burns tribal representatives regarding services for youth offenders in the Eastern Oregon Youth Correctional Facility and to introduce the superintendent to the tribe and promote the ongoing relationship between the tribe and OYA.

Statutory Issues

Statutory definition of a peace officer

The March 18, 2010, PSC meeting in Florence, hosted by the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Tribes, saw the largest meeting of the PSC to date, with approximately 60 participants. In attendance were several tribal chairs, council members and administrators. A key issue raised by many of those in attendance was the status of tribal police in Oregon statute. Participants advocated for legislative change that would include tribal police in the definition of peace officer.

This issue also was raised in several other venues during 2010:

- The PSC chair coordinated a meeting April 14, 2010, between tribal Chiefs of Police, representatives of the Governor's Office, and members of DPSST to discuss and strategize the tribes' efforts to seek a change in Oregon statute that would include tribal police in the definition of law enforcement officers in Oregon.
- Prior to the June 23, 2010, PSC meeting, a pre-meeting was held with the tribal Chiefs of Police, tribal attorneys from Umatilla and Warm Springs, representatives from several tribes, DPSST, and OYA to discuss and provide feedback on a draft proposal on the change of definition of a peace officer.
- Warm Springs Public Safety Manager Jim Soules presented the proposal at the nine tribes' meeting in June. He reported meeting with Senator Prozanski, Chair of the Judiciary Committee, who agreed to make this a committee bill. The tribal Chiefs of Police are seeking resolutions for support from their tribal councils.
- Umatilla Chief of Police Tim Addleman presented information on the proposal at the December 6, 2010, Oregon State Sheriffs Association meeting.
- The tribal Chiefs of Police met December 14, 2010, following the Public Safety Cluster meeting to prepare for the December 15, 2010, Judiciary Committee meeting, at which they presented a discussion of this issue.

Youth Services

Reconnecting Native American youth with tribal traditions

Services provided to Native American youth in OYA custody promote personal responsibility, accountability, community safety and reintegration into family and community. Services include transitional services, culturally relevant treatment and interventions, culturally relevant social and spiritual activities, and tribal support resources.

Many of the Native American youth who enter OYA have not had contact with their tribes and cultural and/or spiritual traditions prior to entering the juvenile justice system. While these youth will receive interventions from the ongoing cognitive behavioral programs offered by OYA, the exposure to and practice of Native American values and traditions provides an important and unique opportunity for many Native American youth to become acquainted with their culture and heritage for the first time. OYA views these services as crucial to the treatment and reformation needs of Native American youth in OYA.

The tribes began working on a youth recognition practice in 2010 to recognize the positive efforts of Native American youth in OYA custody. OYA wholly supports this effort to engage youth from all tribes and Native American descendants. The tribes will be meeting to work out the details of the recognition and defining the process.

Coordinating treatment services

OYA juvenile parole and probation officers (JPPOs) located in OYA field offices are responsible for both the direct supervision of youth offenders in the community and for case management of youth in close custody facilities. They coordinate multi-disciplinary team (MDT) meetings for youth to develop and monitor treatment plans.

In coordinating treatment services for youth offenders, the JPPOs have direct contact with tribes. OYA's Tribal Notification Policy directs JPPOs to notify the tribes and the OYA Tribal Liaison when a youth in OYA's custody is identified as a tribal youth. Additionally, tribes are included as core members of the MDT for their youth, enabling them to participate in planning and delivering services to tribal youth.

OYA's Tribal Liaison attended an MDT meeting January 21, 2010, in Roseburg with the Cow Creek tribal representative regarding one of their youth.

Youth Services

OYA's Tribal Liaison will be meeting with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation to discuss and assist the tribe in implementing OYA's Street SMARTS gang intervention curriculum. This effort will include meeting with tribal staff to discuss the roles of law enforcement, treatment providers, courts, and the tribes' Law and Order Committee. OYA plans to identify and train tribal staff to facilitate the curriculum and provide ongoing quality assurance and implementation support to the tribe.

Providing culturally relevant services

OYA recognizes that treatment and reformation efforts are more effective when provided in the context of each youth's culture. OYA is the only juvenile justice agency in the United States with an Office of Minority Services (OMS) dedicated to meeting the specific cultural and linguistic needs of minority youth. OMS coordinates a variety of cultural events, provides culturally specific support groups, provides staff training, and coordinates and provides gang intervention services through a curriculum developed by OMS.

OMS services provide Native American and tribal youth opportunities to participate in Sweatlodge and pipe ceremonies, Talking Circles, culturally relevant support groups, and individual meetings with staff, contracted providers and volunteers. Also included in these services is the opportunity for Native American youth to participate in cultural events such as Pow Wows.

These services provide youth with positive identity development, strengthen resistance to negative peer associations, offer increased options for positive thinking and behavior, and generally support and enhance other treatment opportunities in OYA. Participation in these programs provides youth with opportunities to incorporate values from Native American cultures into their thinking and beliefs, which then become part of the youths' treatment and reformation.

Supporting minority youth transition

OYA's OMS continues to employ two full-time transition specialists, Christina Puentes and Johnny Demus, who coordinate treatment and aftercare for youth returning to their communities from close custody facilities. Ms. Puentes provides transition services for youth residing in Marion, Polk and Yamhill counties. Mr. Demus provides transition services for youth from Clackamas, Washington and Multnomah counties.

Youth Services

Native American youth eligible for these transition services include not only enrolled youth from Oregon's tribes, but also youth whose tribes are outside Oregon. The transition program has several community contractors who provide specific services for youth as they return to their respective communities.

The goal of the Minority Youth Transition Program is to have minority youth be successful in their community following incarceration in a youth correctional facility. Reducing recidivism rates of minority youth is a primary function of the transition program. This is accomplished through a collaborative effort that includes tribes, contracted service providers, the youth's parole officer, and other community resources.

Collaborating on facility programs

Many staff, contractors and volunteers work together to meet the objective of incorporating services for Native American youth throughout the OYA system.

MacLaren and Hillcrest youth correctional facilities

Steve Llanes, the Native American Services coordinator at MacLaren Youth Correctional Facility in Woodburn, coordinates and conducts Sweatlodge ceremonies; meets with youth individually; facilitates Talking Circles and support groups, mentorship groups and drumming groups; attends MDT meetings with youth; and coordinates the annual MacLaren Pow Wow. In addition, Steve supports training activities and works with community partners.

Dusty McKay, the contracted provider for Hillcrest Youth Correctional Facility in Salem, coordinates Sweatlodge ceremonies, Talking Circles, support groups, individual youth meetings, and assists with the coordination of Hillcrest's annual Pow Wow.

MacLaren and Hillcrest youth correctional facilities continued to host annual Pow Wows. The Pow Wows provide opportunities for community participation by tribes and Native American organizations, allow youth contact with their tribal and cultural values, and educate all youth offenders on Native American culture. OYA appreciates the generosity of the Native American Rehabilitation Association (NARA) for the drums and singers for the MacLaren and Hillcrest Pow Wows. Youth offenders and OYA staff gain a lasting benefit from participating in the Pow Wows.

Eastern Oregon Youth Correctional Facility

A resident of the Burns Paiute Reservation facilitates Sweatlodge ceremonies for the Eastern Oregon Youth Correctional Facility in Burns.

Youth Services

Camp Florence, North Coast Youth Correctional Facility, Camp Tillamook and Tillamook Youth Correctional Facility

Dusty McKay provides contracted Sweatlodge services at Camp Florence in Florence, Camp Tillamook and Tillamook Youth Correctional Facility in Tillamook, and the North Coast Youth Correctional Facility in Warrenton.

Rogue Valley Youth Correctional Facility

Rogue Valley Youth Correctional Facility, located in Grants Pass, has continually had a Sweatlodge on its grounds since 2001. Members of the Southern Oregon Indian Center (SOIC) in Grants Pass assisted in the construction of the Sweatlodge. Although SOIC no longer is in operation, Nick Hall and other former members of the center continue to be active participants in the lives of the young men in the facility. Services they provide include bi-weekly Sweatlodge ceremonies, regular Sunday meetings, other spiritual ceremonies, and training with an emphasis on connecting the youth with their cultures. These volunteers also help coordinate the facility's semi-annual Pow Wows.

Oak Creek Youth Correctional Facility and the Young Women's Transition Program

Oak Creek Youth Correctional Facility and the Young Women's Transition Program, both located in Albany, are OYA's all-female close custody facilities. Volunteers Jan Smith and Michelle Bouvia-Emeott visit the facility to conduct Sweatlodge ceremonies and meet with the young women on a regular basis. Both are dedicated to the Native American culture and serve as positive influences for the girls in the facility.

Oak Creek hosted its third annual Pow Wow July 31, 2010. Nick Sixkiller, an employee of the Siletz Tribe, was the M.C. for the event. The Warm Springs tribe provided salmon for the Pow Wow, as well as a drum and dancers.

RiverBend Transition Program

The RiverBend Transition Program in LaGrande has a Sweatlodge. David Hugg, a community member from Baker, recently agreed to conduct Sweatlodge ceremonies for the young men in the facility. Mr. Hugg had an opportunity to introduce himself to the youth while attending a ceremony at the facility with OYA's Tribal Liaison.

Outcomes

Supporting successful re-entry

OYA received a grant award in late 2009 from the Bureau of Justice Assistance Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. The purpose of the Second Chance Re-entry Grant is to improve outcomes for youth released to parole from OYA youth correctional facilities. The overall goal is the continued development of a comprehensive infrastructure to provide youth with needed alcohol and drug treatment and other transitional supports, such as access to appropriate mental and physical health services, education and vocation training, employment, housing, independent living skills, and other re-entry services needed for positive re-engagement.

The project design establishes two primary council structures: the Statewide Re-entry Advisory Council and three local/regional re-entry committees. A Grand Ronde tribal representative has been invited to serve as a member on the Statewide Re-entry Advisory Council. Other tribes will be invited to serve on the regional advisory committees.

Reducing recidivism

OYA tracks recidivism as a key performance measure. The official measure that OYA reports to the Oregon Legislature is a felony adjudication or adult conviction with a disposition of formal supervision by the state or county calculated at 36 months after release from close custody. The tables on the following page represent the 36-month recidivism rate by race/ethnicity for youth who were released from close custody from July 1, 2003, through June 30, 2006.

Outcomes

Dashes (--) replace percentages where there are fewer than 30 base cases.

OYA Probation

Oregon Youth Authority Recidivism Rates through June 30, 2010 OYA Probation Commitments During the Cohort Year by Race/Ethnicity Recidivism Tracking: Months Since Commitment to OYA Probation				
Fiscal-Year Cohort	Race/Ethnicity	# In Cohort	36 Months	
			#	Rate
FY07	African American	18	7	--
	Asian	3	0	--
	Caucasian	283	79	27.9%
	Hispanic	85	26	30.6%
	Native American	10	2	--
	Other/Unknown	4	1	--

OYA Parole

Oregon Youth Authority Recidivism Rates through June 30, 2010 First-Time OYA Parole Releases During the Cohort Year by Race/Ethnicity Recidivism Tracking: Months Since Release from Close Custody				
Fiscal-Year Cohort	Race/Ethnicity	# In Cohort	36 Months	
			#	Rate
FY07	African American	28	7	--
	Asian	5	1	--
	Caucasian	253	73	28.9%
	Hispanic	64	21	32.8%
	Native American	17	4	--
	Other/Unknown	10	2	--

DOC Youth Released to Post-Prison Supervision from OYA Close Custody

Oregon Youth Authority Recidivism Rates through June 30, 2010 First-Time DOC Releases from OYA Close Custody During the Cohort Year by Race/Ethnicity Recidivism Tracking: Months Since Release from Close Custody				
Fiscal-Year Cohort	Race/Ethnicity	# In Cohort	36 Months	
			#	Rate
FY07	African American	9	:	--
	Asian	0		--
	Caucasian	41	:	22.0%
	Hispanic	13		--
	Native American	5	:	--
	Other/Unknown	0		--

A Shared Commitment

Training opportunities for OYA staff

OYA staff attended Tribal Information Day May 13 and 14, 2010, at the Oregon Capitol. Those attending were Deputy Director Fariborz Pakseresht, MacLaren Youth Correctional Facility Native American Services Coordinator Steve Llanes, OMS Manager Lonnie Jackson, and Tribal Liaison Jack Lawson.

All new employees of OYA receive an orientation on tribal governments and Senate Bill 770. Training on tribal governments during new employee orientation (NEO) ensures that all OYA employees will have a basic awareness of tribes within Oregon and OYA's government-to-government relationships with them.

Cultural competency training is required for all OYA staff working with youth offenders. All new OYA employees are expected have a basic awareness of Native American cultural values, beliefs, social norms and customs. This training begins laying the foundation for new employees to work with minority youth and describes the need for culturally relevant services.

Training class for tribal staff

OYA's Tribal Liaison was invited by the Cow Creek tribe to conduct cultural competency training for all tribal staff. The training was provided over the course of two full days, May 21, 2010, and September 16, 2010, with half the staff attending each day.

Comments from the Cow Creek staff about the training were unanimously positive and included interest in future training to expand on the information provided.

Oregon Juvenile Justice System Symposium

The Oregon Juvenile Justice System Symposium was conducted in Eugene October 11-12, 2010. The purpose of the Symposium was to bring stakeholders and partners of Oregon's juvenile justice system together to brainstorm ideas and explore innovations to move the juvenile justice system forward in an era of reduced financial resources.

Two tribes sent representatives to the symposium. Don Gentry, Vice Chair of the Klamath Tribe, and Margaret Melvin, Peace Giving Court Coordinator for the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Tribes, attended. OYA greatly appreciated the attendance of the tribes and valued their participation and feedback.

A Shared Commitment

Looking ahead

OYA's Native American Coordinator continues to meet with the tribal communication liaisons to share information, coordinate services, resolve concerns, review and negotiate memoranda of understanding, and provide updated reports to tribal councils. OYA continues to be actively committed to building and supporting strong government-to-government relations with Oregon's nine federally recognized tribes.

Additional Resources

Additional resources

More information about tribal and state government relations is available from the following sources.

OYA Tribal Liaison Jack Lawson
503-378-6973 or jack.lawson@oya.state.or.us

Tribal Key Contact Directory:
http://www.leg.state.or.us/cis/key_contacts/agencies_and_clusters.pdf

Oregon Tribal Evidence-Based and Cultural Best Practices
<http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/mentalhealth/ebp/tribal-ebp-report.pdf?ga=t>

Oregon Youth Authority

530 Center Street NE, Suite 200

Salem, OR 97301-3765

Reception: 503-373-7205

En Espanol: 503-373-7434

www.oregon.gov/OYA

