



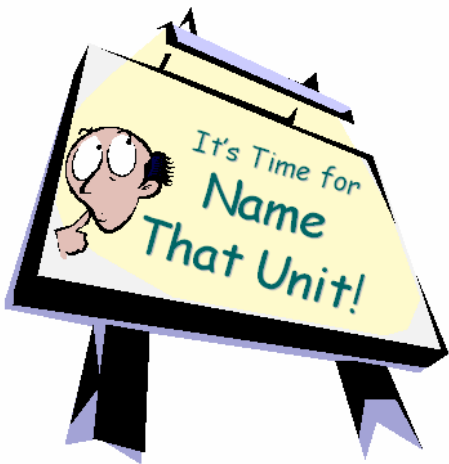
# Oak Creek

Youth Correctional Facility  
September 14, 2007

## Oak Creek Reopening Progress

The Oak Creek Reopening Project is well under way. A rich, qualified, and experienced group of OYA staff and partners has been assembled to plan, implement and guide the process, with a steering committee formed to oversee the overall project. Regular and timely communication is important, in that the project impacts our youth, and many OYA staff and partners. Each monthly OYA bulletin will contain project updates, and mid month we will release a special edition bulletin focused on the project.

This is a very busy time preparing final decisions for building modifications and courtyard landscape design; and facility workgroups are moving forward with preparations to reopen the facility to serve young women.



## Help Name the Oak Creek Living Units

Staff, partners and youth will have an opportunity to participate in naming the three Oak Creek living units. So, what are your suggestions??? Maybe they could be named after famous women or take on the environment similar to the Oak Creek that runs behind the facility.

**Please submit your ideas to [Shirlee.Pierce@OYA.state.or.us](mailto:Shirlee.Pierce@OYA.state.or.us) by October 8.** The Oak Creek Steering Committee will review suggestions on October 9 and will forward recommendations to the Director's Office for final selection.

## Remodel Progress

Momentum is building toward preparing the Oak Creek facility to accommodate girls. In order to shorten the design timelines, two consultant teams have been hired. Work on the outside areas, including the courtyard, active area field, and security fencing, is led by Otto Poticha. Work on the interior, including restrooms, day rooms, kitchens, and associated work is being led by Michael Beaman. The project received a jump start with an all day charette meeting, or intense review of the project needs, September 4 with OYA representatives, education and county staff reviewing the proposals from the consultant teams.

Both teams are beginning work on the design documents to bid the work and hire contractors. Many things need to go smoothly to meet the target date of January for substantial completion, but the consultants and staff are working diligently toward meeting the goal. The final scope of the project and design changes will be discussed with Director Jester on September 14.

# Facility Workgroup Progress



## Facility Occupancy Readiness

This workgroup conducted a half day walk through at Oak Creek to better determine and evaluate potential supplies and equipment necessary to prepare the facility for occupancy. Notations were made and these will be reviewed at the next meeting scheduled for September 19.



## Hiring/Personnel

Interviews for the Superintendent position were delayed to allow additional time for applicants to qualify. First round Superintendent interviews are scheduled to take place September 24 and 25. Finalist selection process is expected to follow and be completed in early October.

Recruitment efforts are underway for the other positions assigned to Oak Creek and [recruitment announcements are posted on the OYA website](#). 🖱️ There are 68 positions to fill and the majority of the positions are GLC's. Hiring timeframes have been established and are on a very tight schedule.

The Training Academy created a one page [general flyer](#) to attract potential applicants to OYA. 🖱️

[Current staff can tour Oak Creek](#) 🖱️ **on their off-duty work hours on September 17 from 1-4 p.m. or September 20 from 12-3 p.m.**

These opportunities came from workgroup discussions and may help staff better understand the regional YCF environment and help them determine if they would like to be considered for open positions.

An [email communication](#) 🖱️ went out to all staff today to remind them of the transfer and promotion process. **Current staff working at Hillcrest will not automatically transfer with the girls to Oak Creek.** The process for transfer and promotion will be guided by contract language and will require that staff proactively communicate their interest in Oak Creek positions.



## Training

The Training Workgroup met on August 30 and discussed anticipated training needs. In addition to the Basic Facilities Training for new staff, training will be provided to all staff for team building, gender specific training and other areas to be identified. Training related outcomes from the Gender Specific Programming and Hillcrest Refocus workgroups will drive some of the training focuses. The next meeting is scheduled for September 13.



## Facility Furnishings

This workgroup has been focusing on recommending outdoor furniture for sitting areas, dorm furniture for sitting areas and administration area furniture to replace furniture that was relocated to field and facility offices when Oak Creek closed. On September 4, Norix (the same company that provided most of the dining/day room furniture in the regional facilities) brought their traveling showroom and provided a display of their products for the workgroup to see. This workgroup will meet again on September 19 and will prepare recommendations for furniture preferences.



## Contract/Purchase Order

This workgroup has met several times and continues to review purchase order and contracts for services needs. Solicitations for services in the medical and mental health areas will be posted in ORPIN in the near future.



### **Gender Specific Programming**

This workgroup has been spending time brainstorming and identifying what they believe are important to include in a gender specific program, which ties into what we want the Oak Creek culture to look and feel like. Also, discussions have centered on current curriculums and potential effective treatment geared for a female population. This workgroup will be meeting every two weeks.



### **Education/Vocational Services**

Oregon Department of Education recently selected Linn, Benton, Lincoln Education Service District (ESD) as the contracted provider for educational services at Oak Creek. LBL ESD was the previous provider at Oak Creek prior to the facility closure and they are the current provider to Corvallis House and Camp Florence. They are currently in the process of hiring the school principal. First workgroup meeting is scheduled for October 8.



### **Young Women Involvement**

Young women currently at Hillcrest will be involved in providing general input and ideas as we plan for Oak Creek. They will be asked to provide specific input into their vocational interests, recreation and leisure time activities, menu preferences (as we begin to build a menu tailored around young women's calorie needs and preferences), suggestions for living unit names and other areas. A regular check in schedule has been established for updates and sharing of information as well as opportunity for them to ask questions.



### **Hillcrest Living Unit Refocus**

When Oak Creek opens and the young women move from Hillcrest to Oak Creek our close custody population will increase from 850 beds to 925. Data will be gathered to look at our current close custody population profile and juvenile departments will be surveyed to assist in determining the profile of youth they anticipate being committed in relation to an increase in their portion of additional discretionary beds. OYA field staff will also provide information relating to probation and parole youth profiles that are currently at risk for commitment or revocation. This information will help us plan for the three additional living units serving the male population and how to deploy the resources in the facility system to serve males.



### **Steering Committee**

The Steering Committee met for the first time on September 11. Remodel and workgroup progress was shared with the committee. Laura Beaman, with the Architect firm responsible for the building portion remodel, presented color scheme concepts for the interior and courtyard buildings for consideration. The Steering Committee will regularly review progress from each work group and provide input to OYA as we move forward through the project. The Steering Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month.

