

Juvenile Justice System Work Group

This work group will focus mostly on examining policies, principles and purpose areas of Oregon's juvenile justice system. Topics for discussion will include, but not be limited to the following:

1. Clarify how and why the juvenile justice system is different from the adult system (*risk-based vs. offense-based, cost of OYA vs. DOC beds, etc*);
2. Review the purpose of Oregon's juvenile justice system as stated in ORS 419C.001:
 - *Review/clarify how the juvenile justice system incorporates the principles of personal responsibility and accountability for criminal behavior in its processes and procedures;*
 - *Review/clarify how the juvenile justice system incorporates the principles of swift and decisive intervention in delinquent behavior;*
 - *Review how accountability to victims and how principles of restorative justice occur in the juvenile justice system;*
3. How does the limited number of detention beds in many counties affect the ability of juvenile departments to provide community safety? How should the use of limited detention beds be prioritized? What community based alternatives are effective for youth offenders who present differing levels of public safety risk to victims, witnesses and the community?
4. In 2003, the number of secure beds in the Oregon Youth Authority was reduced by 40%. With the revenue shortfall anticipated in the 2011-2013 biennium, cuts to the current level of secure beds are expected to be between 15%-20%. How will this limited number of secure beds impact and reshape the system? How should the limited number of OYA secure beds be prioritized?

5. Review/clarify how we are currently measuring system effectiveness in terms of costs and system outcomes (SB267, audits, research reports, etc) – *Is our current definition of “recidivism” clear for the purposes of measuring system effectiveness? What other measures of effectiveness and efforts are needed and why?*

6. Review/clarify where we are with assuring that Oregon has a fair and equitable juvenile justice system? *What does demographic data say about the gender and ethnicity of youth referred to or who are already in the juvenile justice system? Is data available on ethnicity of victims? What progress are we making in these areas? What areas continue to be problematic?*

7. The 1994 Juvenile Justice Task Force drafted a comprehensive and specific blueprint for reform of Oregon’s juvenile justice system. That blueprint as well as recommendations developed during the 1994 summit were based on the following seven standards and principles:
 - Accountability and responsibility for an individual's conduct;
 - Community and family protection and safety;
 - Certainty and consistency of response and sanctions.
 - Effective and closely supervised reformation and rehabilitation plans and programs;
 - Early intervention and prevention;
 - Parental involvement and responsibility;
 - Highest and best use of available resources;

Should any of these bulleted statements be modified or changed; and, are there additional standards, principles or policies that should be added to be considered as current system standards and principles?

8. What other policies, principles, and purpose areas or issues should be addressed by the 2010 Summit/Symposium?