



Director's Message

May 23, 2012

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to be able to share with you that yesterday the Oregon Senate confirmed my appointment as Director of the Oregon Youth Authority. I am honored to be selected for this role and am looking forward to continuing to work with all of you.

A key goal, as we move forward, will be to find ways to cost-effectively achieve our mission in an era of increasingly limited resources. As you know from this week's revenue forecast, Oregon's economy continues to be fragile, and it is our obligation as a state agency to find ways to improve outcomes while reducing the cost of doing business.

For this reason, it will be important to stay focused on achieving the two key initiatives under way within OYA – full implementation of the OYA Performance Management System and creation of the Youth Reformation System. Both of these initiatives use research-driven and data-based measures to ensure we are spending taxpayer dollars on the most efficient and cost-effective programs and services available.

Our Performance Management System measures more than 100 processes within OYA to determine how well we are doing at achieving our goals. As this initiative continues to roll out throughout all work areas, we will be able to do a better job of tracking results and adjusting our processes and services based on what we learn.

The Youth Reformation System expands the use of data and research to make our intake and treatment system more cost-effective and efficient. We continue to develop and test new measurement tools to better determine each youth's specific treatment needs and risk factors. With that information, we are designing more appropriate close-custody and community placements, treatment programs, and release plans.

I am committed to continuing to implement these initiatives throughout the agency, and to working with you to positively influence the lives of Oregon's youth and reduce future crime and victimization.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Fariborz Pakseresht".

Fariborz Pakseresht
Director