



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

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NEWS RELEASE

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RiverBend employee recognized for exemplary service to OYA

An employee of the Oregon Youth Authority's 50-bed RiverBend transitional facility has been recognized for exemplary support of the state juvenile corrections agency's mission.

Shirley Chrusoskie, an executive support specialist, received an OYA coin award, a silver dollar-size medal bearing the state seal. OYA facilities presented the awards as part of the observance of National Corrections Employees Week in Oregon.

"Shirley has been a constant in this agency and has garnered the respect of everyone with whom she comes in contact," said RiverBend Superintendent Brian Blisard. "She is accurate, diligent and works tirelessly to epitomize the agency's core values of integrity, professionalism, accountability and respect."

"Shirley Chrusoskie and other OYA professionals offer compassion, demand accountability, and support treatment and education that help former offenders find the promise of productive, crime-free lives," said OYA Director Colette S. Peters. "They play a key role in minimizing the number of OYA youth who reoffend."

RiverBend is a transitional facility that prepares youth, who previously received treatment and education in a close-custody facility, to return to the community.

In his proclamation of National Corrections Employees Week in Oregon, Governor John Kitzhaber said employees in juvenile and adult corrections are highly trained, productive and vital members of the state's criminal justice and public safety

systems. Effective work by OYA staff members helps the agency fulfill its mission to protect the public and reduce crime by holding youth offenders accountable and providing opportunities for reformation in safe environments.

OYA has custody of approximately 900 youth offenders ages 12-24 in correctional and transitional facilities in Albany, Burns, Florence, Grants Pass, La Grande, Salem, Tillamook, Warrenton and Woodburn, and the agency supervises approximately 1,100 youth on probation and parole in communities across Oregon.

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