Oregon Commission on Black Affairs
Est. 1983

JOINT MEETING OF THE
ADVOCACY COMMISSIONS

AUGUST 2014
Commissioners

- James Manning, Chair, Eugene
- James Morris, Vice Chair, Portland
- Robin Morris Collin, Legislative Chair, Salem
- Julie Grey, Advocacy Chair, Medford
- Karol Collymore, Portland
- Kayse Jama, Portland
- Gwen Trice, Enterprise
- Senator Rod Monroe
- Representative Lew Frederick
Statutory Mission

Work for the implementation and establishment of economic, social, legal and political equality for blacks in Oregon
GOALS

Long-term goals:

1. **Advocacy** for equity in legislative and administrative policy
2. **Public policy research** leading to remedies for disparities and over-representation.
3. **Growing leadership** of black Oregonians in gov’t
4. **Partnership and community engagement**
Commission Program Areas

Our current initiatives

Proposing policy: The Commissions authored and are championing HB 2226 on confidential name change for domestic violence survivors, and an Executive Order on gender parity for Oregon Boards.

Education equity briefs: We're writing a series of key policy briefs with the Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB) on dysproportionate discipline, English Language Learners, and teacher diversity.

Wage equity and status report: In partnership with BOLI, we researched new census data for factors influencing wage equity including race, education, and job class. We reported our findings to BOLI’s Council on Civil Rights and in the ODFW 2019 Status of Oregon Women’s Report.

Equity analysis: With community partners, the Commissions are talking with legislators and testifying on issues essential for success of all Oregonians.

Growing tomorrow's leaders

The Advocacy Commissions work to grow the number and influence of leaders of color and women within all branches of state government, its key initiatives, departmental leadership, and policy work. To do that, the Commissions reach out to youth, communities of color, and women to instill the desire to serve and create pathways to leadership.

The Oregon Women’s Initiative poster highlighting Oregon’s diverse group of Women Leaders throughout its history and distributed to every middle school statewide. OGW is in sponsorship with the PSU Center for Women, Politics and Policy.

The New American Voters Project: Commissioners and community partners collaborated over three thousand new voters during naturalization ceremonies and community events. ODEA and OCAPA working with the Secretary of State’s Office.

Advocacy

Growing tomorrow’s leaders

The Advocacy Commissions work collaboratively with community and governmental partners to pursue their missions. Together, they plan legislative advocacy, host joint legislative days at the Capitol, conduct voter registration, hold community and business forums, and conduct research.

Our partners include:
- Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO)
- Urban League of Portland
- Oregon Latino Health Coalition
- Oregon Latino Agenda for Action (OLAA)
- League of Women Voters
- American Association of University Women (AAUW)
- Center for Intercultural Organizing (CIO)
- Governor’s Office on Diversity and Inclusion

Success with community partners

Our current initiatives

Policy research and analysis

The Advocacy Commissions provide Masters, PhD, and Law students with public policy internships addressing our priority areas. Topics include:
- Hate crime protections
- Minority procurement contracting
- Health outcomes
- Wage equity
- Education gaps
- Fair housing

The internships are conducted jointly with state partners and the Governor’s Office to research statistics, best practices, or policies, analyze gaps and trends, produce reports used by the Advocacy Commissions and their partners to inform new policies, strategic approaches and legislation.

“As a law student, the internship on hate crimes was important to me because it helps my goal of creating positive change in society with visible results.”

— WESLEY GALBRAITH, WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW intern for OCAPA and OCFW

Advocacy Leadership Partnership Internship
Accomplishments

OCBA Testimony Submitted 2013-2014

- Justice, Safety & Policing: 42%
- Education: 47%
- Health: 11%
19 Bills and other policy supports 2013-14

- **9 Education bills including**
  SB 755: Minority Teachers Act. Passed

- **8 Justice, safety & policing bills including**
  HJR1: Amend Constitution to End Death Penalty
  SB 560: End Racial Profiling

- **2 Health and Healthcare bills**
  HB 2661: Culturally Competent Care. Passed.
  SB 1569A, OHA to Establish a List of Chemicals Harmful to Children
Public Policy Research

OCBA Policy Research on Apprenticeship to Journeyman Disparities

- Jobs & Economy: 33%
- Education: 25%
- Health: 17%
- Justice, Safety & Policing: 25%
OCBA Policy Research on Disproportionate Discipline

- Jobs & Economy: 33%
- Health: 17%
- Justice, Safety & Policing: 25%
- Education: 25%
Partnerships

OCBA’s Policy Research partners:

- Oregon Department of Education
- Bureau of Labor and Industry
- PSU Hatfield School of Public Administration
- Lewis and Clark Law School
- Governor’s Office of Workforce and Office of Diversity and Inclusion
- Urban League of Portland
Leadership development

OCBA student internships:

"As a law student, the internship on hate crimes was important to me because it helps my goal of creating positive change in society with visible results."

– Wesley Garcia
Willamette University College of Law student Intern for OCHA and OCBA
Connect with OCBA

http://www.oregon.gov/ocba