



# Director's Message

November 24, 2010

Dear Colleagues,

Once again it is the season to reflect on the past year, give thanks for what we have, and share time with family and friends. And, within the family that is OYA, we want to share our thanks with you.

As we visit our many facilities and field offices, we continue to be so impressed by the amazing generosity of spirit we see in so many of you – in your desire to help youth offenders become accountable, responsible citizens, and in your work to help youth connect with their families and communities. Each day you step up to encourage youth to build better lives and to reach for a future your guidance makes possible.

You help youth not only in your jobs, but you also volunteer time to help with the annual toy drive, food drive, and other charitable activities. We are so thankful for being able to work with such caring, thoughtful people, and we appreciate your efforts in upholding our agency's core values of integrity, professionalism, accountability and respect.

It can be easy to focus on what goes wrong at work and in life, from little to big events. But, as you celebrate Thanksgiving this year – whether you are at work, home, or visiting others, we encourage you to take a few moments to reflect on the many things that have gone right. And, we encourage you to take the opportunity to thank those around you who have touched your life in a positive way.

We wish all of you a happy and safe Thanksgiving season, and we thank you for being part of the OYA family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Colette S. Peters".

Colette S. Peters  
Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fariborz Pakseresht".

Fariborz Pakseresht  
Deputy Director

**INTEGRITY \* PROFESSIONALISM**  
**\* ACCOUNTABILITY \* RESPECT \***