



Director's Message

June 7, 2013

Dear Colleagues,

OYA's budget for the 2013-15 biennium beginning July 1 continued its path through the legislative process Thursday. The full Ways and Means Committee approved the budget, which the Public Safety Subcommittee recommended. The budget will go before the House and Senate chambers later this month.

We are pleased to report that the \$324.8 million budget approved by the committee would maintain current service levels in the new biennium, including funding for 753 close custody beds and 658 residential treatment beds. This will help OYA continue to fulfill its core mission of reducing victimization by helping at-risk youth lead productive, crime-free lives.

We are also pleased that the committee strongly supports the good work we are doing with the Youth Reformation System (YRS). Committee members asked us to report to them in February on the progress we are making with YRS, including a business plan that details its implementation.

How to most efficiently manage our facilities with limited resources is an ongoing challenge, and one that is faced by many state agencies. To help meet that challenge, the committee directed OYA to evaluate its facilities in terms of funding, maintenance needs, and the projected need for fewer close custody beds. This directive also includes the development of a 10-year, or longer-term, plan for facilities.

The budget remains subject to adjustments by the Legislature before final passage. We will continue to update you on significant developments as the legislative process continues.

We deeply appreciate the support we have received from the Governor, Legislature, and many other stakeholders, including our employees, for the direction OYA is taking. Please accept our gratitude for your ongoing dedication to improving the lives of the youth in our care and custody. Your work is making a positive difference for all Oregonians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fariborz Pakseresht".

Fariborz Pakseresht
Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe O'Leary".

Joe O'Leary
Deputy Director