



Director's Message

July 22, 2013

Dear Colleagues,

Earlier this month, OYA honored seven Community Services employees who routinely exceed expectations in performing their duties. These employees – Craig Contreras, Richard Hendricks, Chris Jensen, Steve Mayo, Ron Sandler, Jan Seiler, and Tara Williams – represent the many needs met by Community Services staff ([click here](#) for more on their accomplishments).

Those who work in Community Services contribute directly to our quality of life in Oregon. As Governor Kitzhaber [said in his proclamation](#) designating July 21-27 as Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week, these professionals “constitute a genuine force for positive change and public safety in their communities.”

Community Services, under the leadership of Assistant Director Philip Cox, uses a unique approach to improve outcomes for youth: OYA’s case management system. From the day a youth is placed in our care and custody, a juvenile parole/probation officer (JPPO) is assigned to guide his or her progress.

Our JPPOs participate in quarterly planning meetings for youth, visit them regularly, and help ensure they are receiving treatment and other assistance, whether in close-custody or community settings. Other Community Services staff recruit, train, and monitor foster parents, and work with community residential programs to ensure treatment is being effectively delivered.

Community Services employees also help youth receive financial support, such as Social Security payments and medical benefits, to which they are entitled; ensure parents’ child support obligations are met; process funding provided to counties; and manage Oregon’s role in administering the Interstate Compact on Juveniles, which allows adjudicated youth to be supervised in a state other than the one of jurisdiction.

This varied and vital work builds the foundation for our kids to lead better lives, while promoting public safety and reducing future victimization – all outcomes supported by the culture of Positive Youth Development we are developing at OYA.

This week offers us an opportunity to honor the many dedicated members of our Community Services team. Please join us in thanking them for helping make Oregon a better place.

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