



Oregon

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NEWS RELEASE

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Oregon Youth Authority events celebrate Corrections Employees Week

Corrections employees working in the Oregon Youth Authority's 11 youth correctional facilities and transitional camps are being recognized May 2-8, which Governor Ted Kulongoski has designated National Corrections Employees Week in Oregon.

"The Oregon Department of Corrections and Oregon Youth Authority are vital components of the state's criminal justice and public safety system," Governor Kulongoski said in a proclamation honoring employees of the two agencies. "Corrections and Youth Authority employees carry out their agencies' missions, values and goals with enthusiasm, innovation and pride."

A variety of staff events are scheduled for OYA employees across the state:

- Employee recognitions at Eastern Oregon, Hillcrest and Oak Creek youth correctional facilities in Burns, Salem and Albany, respectively;
- Employee health screenings at MacLaren Youth Correctional Facility in Woodburn;
- A staff appreciation luncheon and food for night-shift staff at North Coast Youth Correctional Facility in Warrenton;
- Placing of a wreath as a memorial to deceased correctional employees at Oak Creek Youth Correctional Facility in Albany; and
- A potluck prepared by administrative staff at RiverBend transitional facility near La Grande.

Staff barbecues, potlucks, foods prepared by management staff or a combination are planned at all facilities. OYA executive staff members are visiting the facilities this week to recognize employees with "coin awards," silver dollar-size coins

bearing the state seal and OYA logo given for excellence in reflecting agency values.

“I am grateful for the effective work of employees who blend genuine caring with high expectations to hold youth offenders accountable and help them find the path to productive, crime-free lives,” said Colette S. Peters, OYA director.

In OYA’s 11 facilities, corrections employees advance the agency mission to protect the public and reduce crime by holding youth offenders accountable and providing opportunities for reformation in safe environments. Among their duties are to support offenders in their treatment, education and other daily activities; to be responsible for safety, security, health and responding to emergency situations; and to protect offenders’ rights, supervise work crews, provide offender transportation, and monitor offender interaction with families and others.

OYA has custody of approximately 900 offenders ages 12-24 in correctional and transitional facilities in Albany, Burns, Florence, Grants Pass, La Grande, Salem, Tillamook, Warrenton and Woodburn, and agency employees supervise approximately 1,100 offenders on parole and probation in communities throughout Oregon. OYA has approximately 1,135 employees.

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