



Oregon

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Long-time juvenile corrections professional hired to lead Eastern Oregon Youth Correctional Facility in Burns

A veteran juvenile corrections leader in Washington state has been hired as superintendent of the 50-bed Eastern Oregon Youth Correctional Facility in Burns.

Dan Robertson has 29 years' experience in both youth facilities and central administration.

Robertson, who will assume the OYA job in January, is deputy assistant secretary in the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration of the Washington Department of Social and Health Services, where for the past eight years he has been responsible for areas such as strategic planning, organizational development and media relations.

OYA is the state's juvenile corrections agency charged with protecting public safety and reducing crime by holding youthful offenders accountable and providing opportunities for reformation in safe environments.

Robertson spent the first 20 years of his career working in residential facilities, including five years in a leadership role at Washington state's largest juvenile corrections facility. For a number of years he was a Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission trainer in areas such as offender supervision and crisis prevention and intervention. He has served on the Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee in Washington since 2002.

Robertson holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from St. Martin's University in Lacey, Wash.

"Dan Robertson is a highly respected professional who brings to Oregon a rich background of working both directly with youth and with public policy issues in

central administration,” said Colette S. Peters, OYA director. “Oregon youth will benefit from the experience, expertise and caring of a juvenile corrections professional who not only knows the work but has also successfully trained others.”

As superintendent of the Burns facility, Robertson will succeed Jim Nanson, who retired, and report to Joan Palmateer, OYA assistant director for facilities services. Sid Thompson, superintendent of the RiverBend Youth Correctional Facility in La Grande, is also serving as interim superintendent at the Burns facility.

OYA has custody of approximately 900 youthful offenders ages 12 to 25 in correctional and transitional facilities in Albany, Burns, Florence, Grants Pass, La Grande, Salem, Tillamook, Warrenton and Woodburn, and the agency also supervises approximately 1,000 youth on parole and probation.

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