

# Oregon Criminal Justice Commission

Racial Equity Impact Statement

2023-25 Agency Request Budget

# Restorative Justice Grant Program

## OVERVIEW

- Established via HB 2204 (2021) this funds community-based alternatives to the criminal-legal system that aim to center the needs of harmed parties and foster accountability within responsible parties without resorting to incarceration or criminal conviction.
- Public and private entities are eligible to apply for funding to implement and/or operate restorative justice programs
- Initial awards of \$3.14M made as of July 2022 to one federally recognized tribe and five community-based organizations.

# Justice Reinvestment Initiative

## GRANT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Originally established in 2013 (HB 3194), this program funds programs that reduce prison usage and recidivism while protecting public safety and holding individuals accountable.

### JRI Formula Grant

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Provides \$43.5M in grants to fund county-based programs meeting JRI Goals

### Downward Departure Grant

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Provides \$7.6M in grants to fund county-based prison diversion programs

### Justice Reinvestment Equity Program

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Provides \$10M in grants via NWHF to fund various community-based JRI programs

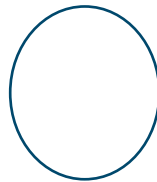
# Agency Team

## THE COMMISSION AND KEY AGENCY STAFF



### **Jerome Brooks, Chair**

Nike, Social & Community Impacts  
Manager

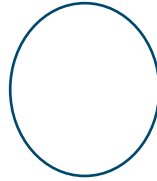


*Vacant Seat (Voting)*



### **Rob Bovett, Vice Chair**

Sr. Assistant County Counsel,  
Washington County



*Vacant Seat (Voting)*



### **Jeff Auxier**

Columbia County District Attorney



### **Floyd Prozanski**

Dist. 4, North Douglas and South  
Lane Counties (Non-Voting)



### **Jessica Beach**

Director, Yamhill County  
Department of Community Justice



### **Rick Lewis**

Dist. 18, Clackamas and Marion  
Counties (Non-Voting)



### **Jessica Kampfe**

Director, Multnomah Defenders

## Key Agency Staff

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Ken Sanchagrin  
Executive Director

Alex Pichel  
Operations Manager

Ryan Keck  
Director of Programs

Kelly Officer  
Director of Research

# Level of Engagement

WHAT DID WE DO?

Level: CJC strives to *involve* community partners in decision making



## Restorative Justice Grant Program

- Rules Advisory Committee
- Public Hearings on Rules Development
- Grant Advisory Committee
- Outreach to Grant Applicants
- Public Meetings with Comment Periods

## Justice Reinvestment Initiative

- Grant Review Committee
- Site Visits & Community Presentations
- Interviews with community development experts re: capacity building grants
- Collaborative learning process with Northwest Health Foundation
- Public Meetings with Comment Periods

# Level of Engagement

HOW HAVE WE CHANGED?

- Cultural Shifts:
  - Prioritize funding for programs that support community-based organizations and/or culturally responsive service providers
  - Expand representation and access to decision-making on advisory and review committees
  - Evaluate procedural improvements that enhance equity in grantmaking

# Overview of Feedback

## RESTORATIVE JUSTICE GRANT PROGRAM

- Existing programs will continue to expand (ex: eligibility/referrals, services, innovations);
- Due to anticipated program growth, sustainable general fund support is needed from the State;
- Planning grants could be offered to develop readiness and additional capacity within community-based organizations
- Current and future programs would benefit from statewide collaboration and education
- Decision-making and related processes need to remain representative and open/accessible to communities

# Program ARB Proposal

## RESTORATIVE JUSTICE GRANT PROGRAM

- Agency budget proposes a POP to fund this program in the 2023-25 biennium at \$10 million.
- Request reflects feedback that
  - The program supports promising community-based alternatives to criminal legal systems and prison usage; and
  - Will require additional funding to educate and expand on restorative justice practices in Oregon.



# Resource Allocation

## WHO BENEFITS FROM THE RESTORATIVE JUSTICE GRANT PROGRAM?

- Grant Program Services:
  - Focus on both the harmed and responsible parties of felony and misdemeanor crimes.
  - Funding preferences can be given to programs focusing on prison presumptive person crimes.
  - Programs also provide opportunities for community involvement and/or resolution
- Funded entities to-date including 1 federally recognized tribe and 5 community-based organizations (geographically diverse)
- Feedback:
  - Funded programs will continue to expand. Additional community outreach and education is needed to cultivate new programs in additional jurisdictions.
  - Increased funding should be requested to support program expansion and capacity-building within community-based organizations.

# Overview of Feedback

## JUSTICE REINVESTMENT INITIATIVE

- Continued funding is needed to sustain decreased prison usage and recidivism rates
- Given historic criminal justice system inequities, equity should be a co-equal goal of the grant program
- JRI's recent focus on culturally responsive practices is helping advance conversations about awareness, inclusion, and access to services in local jurisdictions
- The JRI Grant Review Committee needs broader representation including community members and/or individuals with lived experience
- Additional efforts need to be made to identify gaps, inefficiencies, and disparities within Oregon's criminal legal system as a whole

# Program ARB Proposal

## JUSTICE REINVESTMENT INITIATIVE

- Agency Budget Requests:
  - \$26.96M for current service level through June 30, 2024 built into the ARB.
  - \$26.96M POP to sustain funding through end of the current biennium due to current program sunset.
- LC 386 (2023) Proposals:
  - Extend program sunset to 2033,
  - Add equity as a program goal, and
  - Increase community representation on the JRI Grant Review Committee.
- Request reflects feedback that the program has been impactful in reducing prison populations, and can further evolve to support culturally responsive services and address disparities

# Resource Allocation

## WHO BENEFITS FROM THE JUSTICE REINVESTMENT GRANT PROGRAM?

- The Justice Reinvestment Grant Program focuses on providing both front and back-end services to non-violent justice involved individuals. In 2021-23, 33 counties were funded (including 55 victim service providers). Programs include:
  - Reentry services post-conviction, including peer mentoring, housing assistance, education, and job seeking assistance, among others;
  - Treatment services and support;
  - Pretrial release programming;
- Feedback:
  - Recently implemented questions and accountability focused on culturally responsive practices helped advance conversations about awareness, inclusion, and access among grantees.
  - Continued funding should be requested to extend program success and support additional progress.

# Data Analysis

## GENERAL INTRODUCTION

- CJC possesses administrative criminal justice data for traffic stops, arrests, court cases, individuals on probation/parole, and incarcerated individuals.
- Where data gaps exist, we work to backfill by collaborating with grantees and collecting new quantitative and qualitative data
- CJC maintains numerous public data dashboards, publishes research reports to the agency website, and makes every effort to provide timely, accurate and useful analyses when responding to requests from communities for information and data.

# Data Analysis

## RESTORATIVE JUSTICE GRANT PROGRAM

- Funded programs are currently launching and will soon be enrolling participants.
- At this time, data has yet to be collected, but in the future CJC will analyze program impacts along with system impacts.
- It is anticipated that programs could have an appreciable impact on historic inequities in the Oregon prison population because of the focus on person crimes.

### 2021 Prison Intakes for Person Crimes

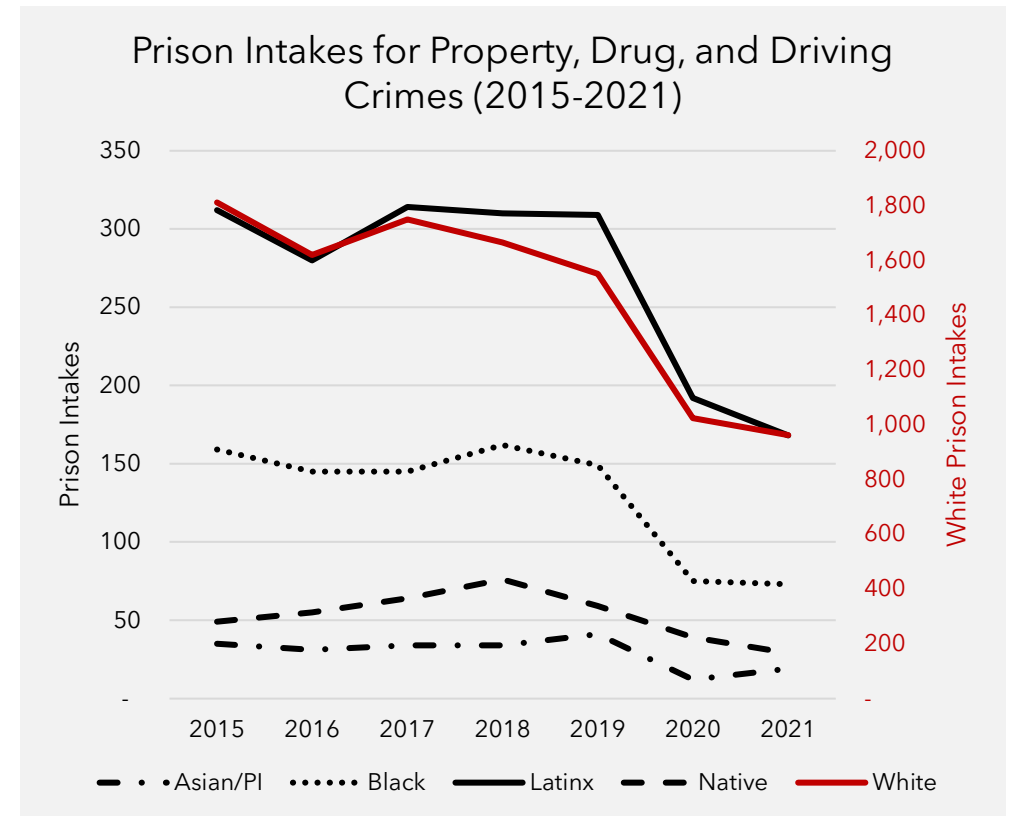
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>2021 Census†</b>
Asian/PI	30	1.6%	5.5%
Black	172	9.4%	2.3%
Latinx	328	17.9%	14.0%
Native	47	2.6%	1.9%
White	1,255	68.5%	74.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,832</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	

† 2021 U.S. Census Population Estimates; table above does not include 4.2% of Oregonians indicating they are multiracial due to the lack of a comparison category.

# Data Analysis

## JUSTICE REINVESTMENT GRANT PROGRAM

- Overall, Justice Reinvestment has not had a substantial impact on historic justice system inequities from a population standpoint.
- The shifting focus of the JRI program has been toward the provision of culturally responsive and now culturally specific programming.

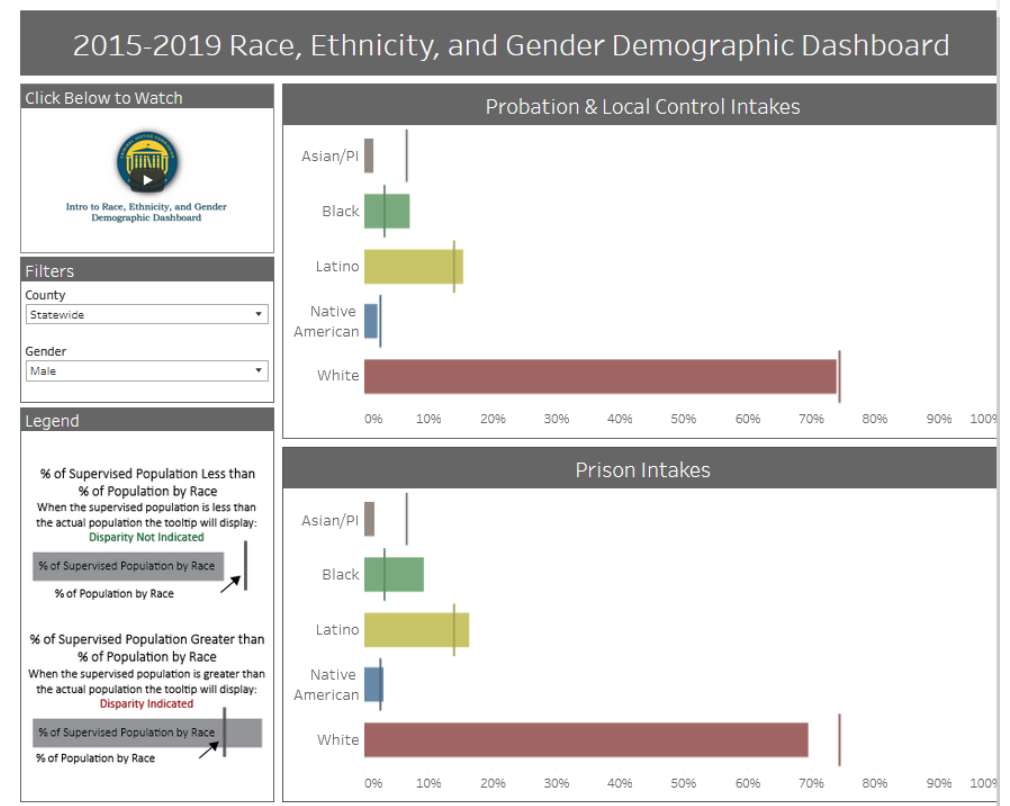


# Data Analysis

## JUSTICE REINVESTMENT GRANT PROGRAM

- CJC's Equity Dashboard, which provides county-specific demographics related to prison and supervision intakes contributes to efforts to understand and apply equity in JRI-funded programs
- Recently, SB 1510 (2022) required additional analyses of demographics related to specific sanctions and services funded by JRI.

### Equity Dashboard





# Accountability to Community Partners

- How will CJC remain accountable to and engaged with community partners?
  - Expanded representation on committees for system impacted individuals and community partners
  - Regular outreach and follow-up
  - Publicly accessible meetings, including space for comment and feedback
- CJC is committed to the following proactive efforts:
  - Identifying and studying disparities, and their root causes, within the public safety system
  - Requiring grant applicants to demonstrate awareness and inclusion in the planning and provision of services
- This process has helped CJC:
  - Prioritize continued or increased funding for programs that support community-based organizations and culturally responsive services
  - Identify areas where representation and accessibility to decision-making can be expanded
  - Acquire feedback and resources to continuously improve grantmaking practices to promote equity

# What is working?

## NEW AND CONTINUING AGENCY STRATEGIES

- Greater interaction with applicants throughout the application process, including outreach to successful, unsuccessful and incomplete applicants
- Meaningful opportunities for public comment in public meetings at all levels
- Accessible webinars/Q&A sessions (with recordings for later viewing too)
- Direct, one-on-one feedback with grantees
- Site visits by grant team
- Dashboards and making data publicly available
- Accessible Interested Parties subscription and frequent updates

# What is working?

## FEEDBACK ON THE ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

- In prioritizing feedback from tribes and organizations working with historically underserved, CJC was told that the conversations were mutually beneficial and meaningful, and that there were opportunities to learn each other's perspectives, cultures, and operations.
- In meeting individuals in their own communities or spaces, CJC was told that this made the agency more accessible while generating a safe place for genuine feedback and conversation.
- All involved expressed appreciation for CJC's willingness to:
  - Observe/listen and learn about their objectives and needs,
  - Engage in honest and open dialogue, and
  - Provide flexibility to address local needs.



# Thank you

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Presenter name



Email address



Website