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From the Desk of Representative Jennifer Williamson SB973

IMPACTS

A grant program of the Behavioral Health Justice Reinvestment Initiative

Oregon is facing significant challenges to its behavioral health system, which, in turn, impact the state's criminal justice system. The state has one of the highest rates in the nation of people with mental illnesses and substance addictions, and the death rates from drug overdoses and suicides are growing. The Oregon State Hospital is currently unable to keep up with referrals. At the same time, a few thousand people with mental illnesses and substance addictions are cycling through Oregon county jails, courts, and emergency departments, resulting in millions of dollars in local and state expenditures, often with little benefit for either the people suffering from these conditions or their communities.

IMPACTS (Improving People's Access to Community-Based Treatment, Support and Services) grant program was developed to reduce recidivism and improve health outcomes for this small but important group of people who repeatedly cycle through Oregon's county jails and emergency rooms, costing local communities and the state millions of dollars.

The grant program is designed to support counties and tribal nations in developing a stronger community-based continuum of care for people with serious mental illnesses and substance addictions, as well as reduce the public health and public safety impacts of this population. Local, regional, and/or tribal nations will demonstrate meaningful financial contributions to the program and work with the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission and Oregon Health Authority to expand and sustain community-based supports and services. The grant program will also track outcomes for people being served with IMPACTS funding to ensure that state and local investments are reducing jail and hospital use for this population.

IMPACTS will serve people who are high utilizers of county jail and emergency department resources in locations across the state, with the goal of reducing pressure on law enforcement officials and criminal justice resources while making meaningful improvements in people's lives.



We Support IMPACTS, a grant program of the Behavioral Health Justice Reinvestment Initiative



Association of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs
Bay Area First Step, Inc.



Disability Rights Oregon

District Attorney Kevin Barton, Washington County
FolkTime



Mental Health & Addiction Association of Oregon
Morrow County Board of Commissioners



Oregon Association Chiefs of Police

Oregon Association of Community Corrections Directors
Oregon Association of Counties

Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems
Oregon Council For Behavioral Health

Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association

Oregon Judiciary Department

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