OREGON ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS DIRECTORS



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Committed To, And Value, Offender Reformation, Services to Victims, Crime Prevention, And Community Restoration

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Co-Chair Sollman, Co-Chair Evans, and members of the Joint Subcommittee On Public Safety,

My name is Aaron Hartman and I am the Director for Klamath County Community Corrections. I am here to speak on behalf of the Oregon Association of Community Corrections Directors (OACCD) and voice our collective, resounding support for the Criminal Justice Commission (CJC)'s Fiscal Year 23-25 Biennial Budget.

The CJC provides direct funding to many successful programs including the IMPACTS grant program, Specialty Court funding, and the Justice Reinvestment Initiative. These programs provide a holistic approach to public safety that include life changing services in communities throughout Oregon, while saving taxpayers money.

For Community Corrections, I want to highlight the importance of Justice Reinvestment. I understand you'll also be hearing from several people who have participated in JRI programs.

JRI funding allows Community Corrections agencies to continually invest in critical programs for the betterment of each county. In the 10 years since JRI began, we successfully helped the state avoid building new prisons. We've also learned valuable lessons about what works in public safety and have seen considerable reductions in recidivism rates.

Oregon residents want solutions that work. JRI meets that call, balancing much needed system reform with practical public safety solutions. Programs are predicated on the idea that community collaboration around social supports reduces the need for costly prison, jail, state hospital, and emergency room resources.

To do this, counties throughout Oregon provide evidenced-based services and supports such as: supervision; risk, need and responsivity assessment; drug and alcohol treatment; mental health services; housing; educational and employment assistance; mentoring; and parenting skill learning. JRI funding also provides direct services to victims and survivors.

The CJC routinely collaborates with individual counties and organizations like OACCD to ensure each program is delivered with fidelity and accountability. CJC dashboards are helping counties reach their individual goals for Diversity, Equity and Inclusiveness in programming by delivering research and data in timely, easy-to-understand formats. They are a leader in providing local and state decision-makers with accurate insight to our performance over time.

Members of the committee, I request that you continue funding Justice Reinvestment, and the Criminal Justice Commission. This is a system that is working, and Oregonians are relying on us.

Thank you for your time and consideration.