



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Oregon Youth Authority

Office of the Director

530 Center Street NE, Suite 500

Salem, OR 97301-3765

Phone: 503-373-7205

Fax: 503-373-7622

www.oregon.gov/OYA



March 25, 2025

Co-Chair Evans, Co-Chair Broadman, and Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Safety:

The Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) received two questions during day one of our agency testimony on March 24, 2025. The first on the number of youth in OYA who have gang affiliation and the second on how many community partnerships we have around the state.

Gang affiliation

- The data for gang involvement comes from the Risk Needs Assessment that is completed on all youth within 30 days of commitment to OYA. The most recent data as of 1/1/25 shows that 35% of youth have some type of current or former gang involvement (30% in the community and 42% in the facility).
- We have a new Conflict Resolution Program, of which gang management is one of the three elements. There is not a specific curriculum or approach to work with gang impacted youth, so we have many strategies to meet the needs of the youth.
- To learn more about the strategy, please see this article <https://insideoya.com/2024/12/06/oyas-gang-management-strategy/>

Community partnerships

- We have numerous examples of partnerships with community programs or providers across most of our facilities, below are examples but is not an exhaustive list:
 - MacLaren YCF
 - Project Pooch
 - Fences for Fido
 - Ike Box
 - HOPE Partnership
 - Eastern Oregon (Burns) and Tillamook YCF
 - School program partnerships
 - Rogue Valley YCF (Grants Pass)
 - Dutch Bros – barista training
 - Rogue Valley Barbers
 - Workforce Oregon
 - Oak Creek YCF (Albany)
 - Key Beats and Bars – music studio
 - Radical Reversal – music studio
 - A Village for One – human trafficking intervention
 - Oregon State University Women’s Basketball – youth basketball camp 1-2 times per year

- Jackie Winters Transition Program
 - Insight Alliance – insight to well-being
 - Oregon Freeze Dry
 - City of Albany parks
 - Safe Haven Dog Shelter
- Camp Riverbend
 - Behlen Country
 - R&C Fire
 - Chandler Construction
 - Pennington Construction
 - Oregon State Parks
 - Oregon Department of Forestry
 - Oregon Department of Transportation
 - Wildland Firefighting Program
- Camp Florence
 - Central Coast Humane Society
 - Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Salmon Trout Enhancement Program
 - Habitat for Humanity
 - Florence Food Share
 - Oregon State Parks
- Camp Tillamook
 - Tillamook Estuary Program
 - Bureau of Land Management
 - US Fish and Wildlife
- We have limited formalized community partnerships for OYA youth living in the community. This is because those youth have access to all the same community programs that any other youth would have. We do have a few, including:
 - Marion County
 - Ike Box – internship and employment
 - Home Boy Industries – catering targeted for gang impacted youth
 - NW Bike Hub – internship and employment
 - Washington County
 - Working Theory Farm
 - Portland Opportunities Industrialization Center