

Christina L. McMahan DIRECTOR

#### JUVENILE DEPARTMENT

JUVENILE INTAKE AND ASSESSMENT CENTER 2121 KAEN ROAD | OREGON CITY, OR 97045

March 26,2025

Chair Broadman, Chair Evans Members of the Committee,

My name is Tracey Freeman, and I serve as a Juvenile Division Manager with the Clackamas County Juvenile Department, and I have over 30 years of experience working with justiceinvolved youth, The Clackamas County Juvenile Department strongly supports HB5041 for continued funding of the Oregon Youth Authority's (OYA) Basic and Diversion Funds, which are critical to county juvenile departments, including Clackamas County. These funds provide essential rehabilitative services that reduce recidivism, address the root causes of delinquent behavior, and keep youth in their communities rather than in costly detention or Oregon Youth Authority placements and correctional facilities.

Clackamas County effectively utilizes OYA Basic and Diversion Funds to support key programs that improve outcomes for youth and enhance public safety:

• **Community Monitoring Program (CMP)**: Serves 185 youth annually, providing electronic and home monitoring as an alternative to detention, 24 hours a day 7 days a week and 365 days a year, which allows youth to safely remain in their community, continuing to attend school, participate in activities, and engage in treatment. Without the funding for the Community Monitoring Program, Clackamas County would need to rely more on costly detention and OYA incarceration, increasing taxpayer expenses while negatively impacting youth and families who could otherwise be served locally.

• **Project Payback**: Provides opportunities for youth to complete meaningful work in the community to earn money for victim restitution. Since June 2024, Clackamas County youth have contributed **over \$11,000** in restitution through Project Payback. Beyond financial accountability, youth engage in community service, assisting seniors and individuals with disabilities with lawn care and other essential tasks. This program embodies restorative justice by fostering responsibility and giving youth an opportunity to make meaningful contributions while repairing the harm they caused.

• Healing, Engagement, Advocacy, Reciprocity, Training Program (HEART): Latino Network provides family navigation services to youth referred to the juvenile department reducing the challenges and barriers of accessing services, helping families of justice involved youth in helping their child be successful through culturally responsive parenting programming, and skill building addressing interfamily violence. These programs work—Clackamas County has the **lowest juvenile recidivism rate among Oregon's 10 largest counties (populations greater than 100,000)** at 19.3%, which is 31% **below the statewide average of 27.8%**. In 2024 Clackamas County disposed of 504 juvenile referrals involving one or more criminal allegations. Less than 3% of those cases resulted in a commitment to the Oregon Youth Authority.

- Less than 2% of cases led to OYA commitment for a residential placement,
- Less than 1% resulted in OYA correctional facility commitment.

The outcomes achieved by the Clackamas County Juvenile Department demonstrate that youth can be safely supervised in the community, and for the vast majority of youth, do not need to be committed to the Oregon Youth Authority and can remain connected to their natural supports in their home communities.

Investing in OYA Basic and Diversion Funds is both compassionate and fiscally responsible. Without these funds, more youth would face incarceration, increasing long-term costs and reducing opportunities for successful reintegration.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and your leadership in making decisions that support the well-being of our state's youth.

Sincerely,

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Tracey Freeman Juvenile Division Manager Clackamas County Juvenile Department

### **COMMUNITY MONITORING** PROGRAM







The Community Monitoring Program (CMP) provides equitable alternatives to detention for youth, allowing them to meet their conditions and case plans while maintaining connection with their natural support systems and community. CMP offers equitable options to address public safety and the needs of youth with regular monitoring and reporting that is designed to encourage youth success and promote accountability.

Prevent new criminal offenses for CMP youth.

CMP youth will attend all scheduled court appearances.

Provide equitable opportunities for alternative to detention.

Utilize the least restrictive and most appropriate setting for CCJD youth.

Foster & strengthen connections of the CMP youth with their support systems & the community.

> Promote trauma-informed and youth/family centered responses.

#### **YOUTH ELIGIBILIT**



- Ages 23 or younger.
- Judicial approval.
- Resides within Clackamas County for Electronic Monitoring with Home Monitoring.
- Youth may be placed in CMP who have pending serious offenses, including all levels of felonies, all weapons possession/use, and all assaults, as well as misdemeanors when appropriate.

#### **TYPES OF REFERRALS**

- Referrals can occur anytime from the prelim hearing throughout probation for pre-adjudicated or post-adjudicated youth.
- Common referrals may be for a new law violation, violation of conditions of release & probation violation.

The Community Monitoring Program (CMP) consists of Electronic Monitoring, Home Monitoring, and Passive Electronic Monitoring.

#### **ELECTRONIC AND HOME MONITORING INCLUDE:**

- Random CMP staff visits at home, school and/or work between 1-9 pm, 7 days a week & all holidays.
- Required check-in phone calls everyday.
- 8 pm curfew.
- 24 hour advance assigned Juvenile Counselor approval to leave their property or have friends over.
- For approved outings youth are required to call CMP staff to inform when they are leaving and returning. This does not count toward check-in calls.
- Youth must follow all court orders regarding communication, contact with others and use of electronics.

Youth on Home Monitoring are allowed up to 3 hours of free time on weekends, depending on their level.

#### **PASSIVE ELECTRONIC MONITORING INCLUDES:**

- Youth living outside of Clackamas County in the neighboring Counties of Multnomah, Clark, Marion, and Washington may be eligible.
- To determine eligibility youth will be staffed with a juvenile supervisor prior to court recommendation.
- CCJD staff will conduct weekly home visits to youth residing outside of the County.

Device issues will be handled by CCJD staff at their visits or the youth will be required to come to the Juvenile Intake & Assessment Center for maintenance.

### Antfarm

#### THE GOAL

OUNT

Project Payback will provide restorative community service for Clackamas County Juvenile Department (CCJD) youth who reside within Clackamas County to complete work projects in partnership with Ant Farm to provide CCJD youth with paid work crew opportunities to pay restitution to victims.

#### OUTCOMES

Increase restitution paid to victims by youth involved in work crews, through paid work crew opportunities, provided by these restorative community services program.

CCJD youth will participate in meaningful work that increases access and exposure to nature and/or nature related career opportunities which translates to valuable work experience and job skills to support future employment.

Support ongoing collaboration with Ant Farm and the Community Connect Program to provide habitat restoration, wood donation and yard service for elders and disabled in Clackamas County.

Life Skills Development: work ethic, teamwork, community support, communication, leadership skills, and more.

#### RESULTS

Last summer, CCJD partnered with Ant Farm and BLM to provide work crew opportunities. Since June of 2024 youth have paid over \$11,000 to victims.

#### PROJECT PAYBACK WILL

Weekend work crews comprised of up to 8 justice involved youth help elders and people with disabilities with home management tasks that they struggle with own their own, such as yard care.



Youth will receive daily stipend up to \$108 for work completed to be used to pay restitution to their victims.

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Youth will gain valuable job skills, will receive education about natural resources, explore career pathways related to land conservation and give back to the community by restoring wild lands.

N E S

Youth will be provided transportation by Ant Farm crew leaders, from CCJD to the job site and will return to CCJD at the end of the work day. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.



2 work crew leaders will be provided by community partner Ant Farm to supervise youth work crews and provide skill building.



## **Our Mission**

The mission of the HEART Program is to restore hope in youth and their families impacted by Juvenile Justice involvement and youth who have displayed high-risk behaviors. This is possible through our relationship-based approach with the family that values trust, autonomy, and family voice. We envision communities that have meaningful opportunities for youth and families to thrive, are safe, welcoming and equitable. Moreover, we envision community members who are invested in their well-being and have the tools to be advocates for themselves and their families.

## Our Goals

Support the families of justice involved youth in helping their child be successful To reduce the challenges and barriers of accessing resources To empower family independence and strengthen family relationships

Help family identify strengths and set goals with family members

Build trust and meaningful relationships with the community

# Our Classes

Offered in English & Spanish

### Step Up

Weekly 2 hour sessions where youth and parents are engaged in skill building sessions. Step-up utilizes a family centered approach to engage youth and their caregivers in intentional conversation around behavior change related to interfamily violence. This class requires both youth and parent participation.

### Cara y Corazon

12 lessons that will be delivered weekly for 2 hour sessions. Cara y Corazon is a family strengthening, leadership development program for parents that maintains that at the base of every culture, community, family and parent are the resiliency factors that can be tapped to assist parents and family members to build positive, healthy relationships with their children and themselves.

# Parents Helping Parents

A weekly series of 2 hour long culturally responsive parenting classes that address the disconnection many parents experience when their youth exhibit risky behaviors and challenge their authority. Group topics have included: self-care, conflict resolution, family strengths, youth developmental stages and how to support, resource presentation, etc.