



**Date:** April 16, 2025

**Re:** Support of Department of Justice Policy Package #331

Dear Chair Broadman, Chair Bonham, and Members of the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Safety,

I am writing today on behalf of the Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN) in support of Department of Justice Policy Package #331, which will provide continued funding to Community Violence Intervention (CVI) programs here in Oregon. COIN is a coalition of over 50 local Indivisible groups throughout Oregon that cooperate and amplify their joint efforts to advance important federal and state legislation such as CVI and engage with elected officials to promote progressive causes for the benefit of all Oregonians.

In reaction to the upswing in gun deaths during and immediately after the COVID-19 pandemic, the American Rescue Plan focused funding on gun violence prevention and intervention programs. These programs use community resources to identify those at greatest risk and provide comprehensive support to de-escalate situations that typically lead to gun violence. Preliminary results suggest these programs can have significant impact with the most successful reducing gun violence by 30% on average.<sup>1</sup>

Unfortunately, the freeze in federal funding and staff reductions at the federal level have left state governments scrambling to continue community services vital to vulnerable populations. COIN supports a two-pronged approach to providing assistance. Legislators must continue funding for those populations that are in danger, including victims of domestic and sexual violence, abused children, and crime victims who all desperately need assistance to move forward with their lives. However, COIN feels strongly that it is also critical for legislators to dedicate funding to violence prevention that promises long-term reduction in harm for entire communities.

Please fully fund Community Violence Intervention programs for a safer Oregon.

Respectfully,

Cheryl Conway  
COIN Legislation Team member

1. [Community Violence Intervention, Johns Hopkins](#)