



## KLAMATH COUNTY JUVENILE DEPARTMENT

April 25, 2025

Co-Chairs Senator Lieber & Representative Sanchez  
Oregon Legislature Ways and Means Committee

Testimony of Dan Golden, Director, Klamath County Juvenile Department  
**In Support** of the Oregon Youth Authority Budget – **HB 5041**

Co-Chairs Senator Lieber, Representative Sanchez, and members of the committee:

The Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) is the agency that brings together the county juvenile departments across Oregon. In rural parts of the state; in eastern, central, and southern Oregon, OYA provides essential services for youth and families that counties cannot provide.

Please keep in mind that our county juvenile departments provide mandated services to the Oregon juvenile courts, mandated by state law. See ORS 419A.012.

As such, county juvenile departments, particularly in rural counties, rely on OYA to initiate, convene, coordinate, and carry out vital services that binds the juvenile justice system together.

OYA provides Juvenile Crime Prevention (JCP) funding for important preventative programs and vital functions of county juvenile departments. JCP funding needs to be doubled to increase county efforts to insure transparency and accountability in our partnership with OYA.

The OYA division, the Community Resource Unit (CRU) assists many community-based rehabilitation programs across Oregon. Most youth in the OYA system are in the care of these community-based foster homes, proctor placements, and residential rehabilitation programs like the Klamath Crimson Rose (KCR) program in Klamath Falls.

OYA has provided leadership in coordination with the tribal governments across Oregon. One such initiative here in Klamath County fostered an MOU between the Klamath Tribal Court, the Klamath County Juvenile Department, and the 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Juvenile Court to cooperate in case management of tribal affiliated youth and families.

Finally, OYA has implemented one of the nation's comprehensive juvenile data bases, the JJIS system, to bring all juvenile departments together. The JJIS modernization project needs your support. Please support **HB 5041** and the OYA.

Also, please support Klamath County's request for Lottery funds to complete the KCR Construction project by building the Shasta House transitional home for OYA clients.

Thank you, Dan Golden, Director, Klamath County Juvenile Department