

JUVENILE JUSTICE IN OREGON

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Few laws and administrative rules in Oregon specifically address a youth offender's transition from the juvenile justice system. Below is a summary of relevant Oregon law. For the complete text of these statutes and rules, visit <http://www.leg.state.or.us/ors/> and <http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/banners/rules.htm>.

I. 419C.00. Purpose of juvenile justice system in delinquency cases:

The purposes of the Oregon juvenile justice system are to protect the public and reduce juvenile delinquency and to provide fair and impartial procedures. . . . The system is founded on the principles of personal responsibility, accountability and reformation within the context of public safety and restitution to the victims and to the community. The system shall provide a continuum of services that emphasize prevention of further criminal activity by the use of early and certain sanctions, reformation and rehabilitation programs and swift and decisive intervention.

II. ORS 419C.005 Jurisdiction.

Generally, the juvenile court has exclusive original jurisdiction in any case involving a person who is under 18 years of age and who has committed an act that is a violation, or that if done by an adult would constitute a violation, of law.

The court does not have jurisdiction after a minor has been emancipated.

The court's jurisdiction over a person continues until one of the following occurs:

- (a) The court dismisses a petition filed under this chapter or waives the case.
- (b) The court transfers jurisdiction of the case
- (c) The court enters an order terminating jurisdiction.
- (d) The person becomes 25 years of age.

III. ORS 419C.504 Duration of probation.

In any case, the court may place the youth offender on probation to the court for a period not to exceed five years. However, the period of probation shall not extend beyond the date on which the youth offender becomes 23 years of age.

IV. Educational Surrogate

There is often quite a bit of overlap of the issues affecting youth in the juvenile justice system, the foster care system, and special education. This set of laws governs the treatment required when a youth offender is also in need of special education services.

ORS 419C.220 Evaluation of needs; appointment of surrogate.

Before finding a youth to be within the jurisdiction of the court, a preliminary evaluation shall be conducted to determine if the youth may be eligible for special education. [See section in these

materials on IDEA & ORS Chapter 343].

The court shall appoint a surrogate for a youth offender if the court finds that the offender may be eligible for special education programs.

ORS 419C.223 Duties and tenure of surrogate.

A surrogate appointed for a youth offender has the duty and authority to protect the youth offender's rights to a free appropriate public education. The surrogate shall immediately apply to the attending school district for an evaluation of the youth offender's eligibility for special education and shall participate in the development of the youth offender's educational plan.

The surrogate's duties and responsibilities continue until whichever of the following occurs first:

- (1) The youth offender is 21 years of age;
- (2) The youth offender is determined to be no longer eligible for special education; or
- (3) The juvenile court terminates jurisdiction of the youth offender and determines that the youth offender's parent or guardian is known and available to protect the special education rights.

ORS 339.115 Admission of students; waiver; denial.

The district school board shall admit free of charge to the schools of the district all persons between the ages of 5 and 19 who reside within the school district.

A district must admit an otherwise eligible person who has not yet attained 21 years of age prior to the beginning of the current school year if the person is:

- (a) Receiving special education and has not yet received a regular high school diploma; or
- (b) Shown to be in need of additional education in order to receive a diploma.

The obligation to make a free appropriate public education available to individuals with disabilities 18 through 21 years of age who are incarcerated in an adult correctional facility applies only to those individuals who, in their last educational placement prior to their incarceration in the adult correctional facility:

- (a) Were identified as being a child with a disability; or
- (b) Had an individualized education program.

V. Mental Health Treatment

ORS 419C.441. Mental health evaluation, care and treatment.

The juvenile court may, in addition to any other exercise of jurisdiction over the youth offender, order that he or she undergo psychiatric, psychological, or mental health evaluation. The court may then order appropriate care or treatment.

ORS 419C.507. Additional options; consultation.

The court may, in lieu of or in addition to any disposition under this chapter, direct that a youth offender be examined or treated by a physician, psychiatrist or psychologist, or receive other special care or treatment in a hospital or other suitable facility. If mental health treatment should be provided, the department shall determine the appropriate placement or services in consultation with the court, the OYA and other agencies.

VI. Authority of Court Over Parent or Guardian

Often times, for a youth offender to have a successful transition back into the community, it is

essential that his or her family make the appropriate changes to facilitate that transition. The following laws govern the juvenile court's authority to see that those changes occur.

ORS 419C.573. Court may order education or counseling.

The court may order the parent or guardian to participate in any educational or counseling programs as are reasonably directed toward improvement of parenting skills and the ability of the parent to supervise the youth offender if the court finds:

- (A) Deficiency of parenting skills has significantly contributed to the circumstances bringing the youth offender to court; and
- (B) That participation would be consistent with the best interests of the youth offender.

ORS 419C.575. Court may order drug or alcohol treatment.

The Court may also order the parent or guardian to participate in drug or alcohol treatment if the same factors as above are present.

VII. Descriptors

OAR 416-430-0000. Purpose.

Certain types of offender behavior exhibited prior to or following placement in OYA custody are identified as sensitive and cause a sensitive case descriptor to be attached to a case file.

OAR 416-430-0010. Reason for Descriptors.

The purpose of the descriptor is to alert staff to unique situations that can affect the following areas of case management and program planning:

- (a) Safety, security, and order of facilities and communities. Awareness of unique situations ensure that staff fully consider placement options (both in the facility living unit and in the community), ensuring that safety, security, and order of facilities and communities are maintained;
- (b) Offender treatment opportunities. Collection of accurate and consistent information will prompt appropriate assessment to identify unique treatment needs where they exist. Such information notifies staff to link offenders with available programming and spurs the development of new programs to meet offender needs;
- (c) *Transition planning for offenders: The case descriptor will cue staff to consider specific community services available to support the unique needs of the offender;*
- (d) Effective networking with stakeholders: The case descriptor will ensure that pertinent and accurate information is passed along to stakeholders when offenders transition in and out of the OYA system, and in response to requests for information from stakeholders;
- (e) Agency planning. Accurate definition of populations served by the OYA is necessary to present statistical reports in support of current and future programming.

Youth Correction Facilities & Programs in Oregon

I. Oregon Youth Authority (OYA)

www.oregon.gov/OYA

OYA exercises legal and physical custody over youth offenders between the ages of 12 and 18 who have been committed to the OYA by county juvenile courts. Juvenile court-committed youth offenders may remain in OYA's legal and physical custody up to age 25. Juveniles, ages 15, 16 or

17, who commit crimes for which they have been waived to and convicted in adult court or for which the State's mandatory minimum sentences (Measure 11) apply, are in the legal custody of the Oregon Department of Corrections (adult corrections), but can be placed in the physical custody of the OYA up to age 25.

OYA provides a continuum of services to protect the public and reduce juvenile crime through programs and partnerships with local communities and counties. Services emphasize decisive intervention in delinquent behavior, certain sanctions for crimes committed by youth, restitution to victims, and effective and innovative rehabilitation programs for youth offenders. OYA's mission is accomplished through the provision of rehabilitation and treatment programming in a multi-tiered system of secure custody facilities. In addition, the OYA provides community-based parole and probation services to youth committed to the OYA for out-of-home placements. According to its website, the "mission of the Oregon Youth Authority is to protect the public and reduce crime by holding youth offenders accountable and providing opportunities for reformation in safe environments."

ORS 420A.010 Oregon Youth Authority Creation and duties.

The youth authority shall:

- (a) Supervise the management and administration of youth correction facilities, state parole and probation services, community out-of-home placement for youth offenders committed to its legal custody and other functions related to state programs for youth corrections;
- (b) Provide capital improvements and capital construction necessary for the implementation of all youth correction facilities;
- (c) Carry out dispositions of youth offenders committed to its legal custody;
- (d) Exercise custody and supervision over those youth offenders committed to the youth authority by order of the juvenile court and persons placed in the physical custody of the youth authority until the time that a lawful release authority authorizes release or terminates the commitment or placement;
- (e) Provide adequate food, clothing, health and medical care, sanitation and security for confined youth offenders and others in youth authority custody;
- (f) Provide youth offenders and others in youth authority custody with opportunities for self-improvement and work; and
- (g) Conduct investigations and prepare reports for release authorities.

II. OYA Facilities & Programs

The following laws and regulations govern which types of facilities and programs OYA may establish for youth offenders in Oregon:

ORS 420A.145 Regional youth accountability camps.

The Oregon Youth Authority may establish up to eight regional youth accountability camps. A regional youth accountability camp shall:

- (a) Be based on a military basic training model that includes discipline, physical work, physical exercise and military drill;

- (b) Provide for cognitive restructuring in conformance with generally accepted rehabilitative standards; and
- (c) Include a drug and alcohol treatment component.

ORS 420A.147 Placement in regional youth accountability camps.

The Director of the OYA is solely responsible for determining which persons committed to, or placed in the custody of, the youth authority are eligible to participate in a regional youth accountability camp. The juvenile court may recommend to the Oregon Youth Authority that a youth offender be placed in a regional youth accountability camp, but the recommendation is not binding on the youth authority.

ORS 420A.155 Regional residential academies.

The Oregon Youth Authority may establish up to four regional residential academies. A regional residential academy shall:

- (a) Provide a secure, closed residential campus;
- (b) Provide year-round education, job and life skills training, vocational training and apprenticeship programs; and
- (c) Include a drug and alcohol treatment component.

The Director of the OYA is solely responsible for determining which persons committed to, or placed in the physical custody of, the youth authority are eligible to participate in, and are accepted for, a regional residential academy. The juvenile court may recommend to the Oregon Youth Authority that a youth offender be placed in a regional residential academy, but the recommendation is not binding on the youth authority.

Deschutes County Delinquent Youth Demonstration Project

(Temporary provisions relating to this Project are compiled as notes preceding ORS 420.005)

Deschutes County may establish a demonstration project that assumes local management responsibility for certain adjudicated delinquent youth to reduce reliance on the state's close custody system. The guiding principles of the project are to:

- (a) Ensure youth and parental accountability, safety of the public and consideration of needs and interests of victims;
- (b) Emphasize investments with long-term benefits for public safety, community justice and the development of healthy, responsible and educated youths;
- (c) Establish incentives for the county to manage resources in an effort to reduce the likelihood that local youth will become wards of the state;
- (d) Maximize community resources and involvement through greater local responsibility for a continuum of preventative and remedial services and supports; and
- (e) Demonstrate an effective state and local partnership on an issue of statewide importance, that of improving outcomes for youths while reducing the long-term burden on the state's youth and adult corrections systems of the cost of crime.

For more information on the Project, and the results of its evaluation, visit:

<http://www.rwjf.org/portfolios/resources/grantsreport.jsp?filename=044660.htm&iaid=131> and

<http://eli.pdx.edu/erc/morgan/documents/Bendjuvenilejusticecaseeditedversion.pdf>.

ORS 420.060. Employment Programs.

Upon finding that the education and training of a youth offender placed in a youth correction facility will be furthered if the youth offender is permitted to work, the superintendent may enter into an agreement with any suitable employer for the temporary employment of the youth.

ORS 420.210 to 420.235 Work & Training Camps

The Director of the OYA may establish at any place in this state one or more work and training camps for any youth offenders determined to be qualified and amenable as security risks in such camps.

Youth Care Centers

ORS 420.855. Definitions

“Youth care center” means a facility established and operated by a public or private agency or a combination thereof, primarily to provide care and rehabilitation services for youths committed to the custody of the youth care center by the juvenile court or placed by the youth authority. It does not include detention facilities except when a county operates a combined facility to provide both care and rehabilitation services and detention facilities.

ORS 420.865. Commitment to youth care center.

Placement in a youth care center does not terminate the juvenile court’s wardship over the youth or the custody of the youth authority. The center may retain such youths in full- or part-time residential care or, with the consent of the youth authority, may place them on a full- or part-time basis in foster homes.

OAR 416-315-0000. Youth Care Centers

Oregon statute vests with the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) the responsibility to approve youth care center (YCC) programs operated within county secure facilities, based on reasonable and satisfactory assurances that minimum standards are met. The purpose of these rules is to define the process detention facilities will use to request approval and designation of such programs, and the criteria the OYA will apply to review the requests.

OAR 416-315-0010. Program Review

YCC programs are designed to offer treatment and rehabilitation services to the population served. Such programs may be operated within juvenile detention facilities only when:

- (a) Youth enter the YCC program through a referral and screening process that assumes that placement of the youth in a treatment environment best meets the needs of the youth and is the least restrictive placement for the youth based on review of assessments and other supporting documentation;
- (b) Treatment and rehabilitation services are offered to youth separate from those offered to youth placed in detention;
- (c) YCC programs are reviewed and approved by the OYA prior to implementation.

The YCC treatment and rehabilitation program to ensure that it includes, at a minimum:

- (i) A clearly articulated program based on research and sound theory.
- (ii) A referral process that identifies a target population to be served (including definition of those youth not appropriate for placement) and a screening process to ensure appropriate placement of youth;

- (iii) A written, individualized service plan for each youth that outlines the treatment goals the youth must work toward during his/her stay and the youth's transition needs. This plan will differ from those of other youth served;
- (iv) A treatment environment that integrates each youth's service plan goals into the program's daily routine. This environment should be unique to each youth served;
- (v) A physical environment that clearly distinguishes the YCC program from the detention environment;
- (vi) A system that involves the youth's service worker closely monitoring the youth's progress in the program and participating in the youth's planning process; and
- (vii) A clearly defined length of stay based on the youth's attainment of service plan goals. The youth's length of stay in the YCC program may not be influenced by space needs within the detention facility.

ORS 420.810 to 420.840. Youth Offender Foster Homes

420.888(3). Definitions.

“Youth offender foster home” means any home maintained by a person who has under the care of the person in the home a youth offender for the purpose of providing the youth offender with supervision, food and lodging. The youth offender must be under 18 years of age, unrelated to the person by blood or marriage and unattended by the youth offender’s parent or guardian. “Youth offender foster home” may include, but need not be limited to, a foster home under the direct supervision of a private child-caring agency or institution providing services by contract with the Oregon Youth Authority. “Youth offender foster home” does not mean:

- (a) A boarding school that is essentially and primarily engaged in educational work; or
- (b) A home in which a child is provided with room and board by a school board.

For more detailed information about Youth Offender Foster Homes in Oregon, see the Oregon Youth Authority website at <http://www.oregon.gov/OYA/foster.shtml>.

The following are the facilities and programs currently available for youth offenders in Oregon:

Residential & Foster Care

Residential and Foster Care Services provide out-of-home resources that protect the community while affording assessment and evidence-based services that facilitate the return of youth to a constructive community and family life. Youth placement and services are guided by a risk assessment and case plan.

Residential Services

The OYA purchases a variety of residential treatment services from both private and public sectors. These include services in settings ranging from the family environment of proctor homes to staff-secure residential settings. Residential alcohol and drug programs provide 24-hour-per-day residential services focusing on intensive alcohol/drug abuse treatment to youth offenders at high risk of placement in a youth correctional facility. This also includes 24-hour-per-day services focusing on specialized sex offender treatment, structure, and supervision. OYA contracts for residential treatment services through a combination of state general fund and a

federally-supported Medicaid program known as Behavior Rehabilitation Services (BRS)

Foster Care Services

Family foster care is a placement option for youth offenders in a family environment certified by the OYA. Foster care is a planned and time-limited alternative living arrangement for youth in the absence of a viable family resource. Foster parents are trained to supervise youth offenders with serious social and/or behavioral maladaptive characteristics. A network of support and 24-hour-crisis response is provided. OYA provides transitional housing for high-risk, high-need youth 17 years and older transitioning to independent living. This includes supervised room and board and independent living skill development.

Individualized Community Services

Each offender committed to OYA custody receives an assessment designed to identify his/her unique supervision and intervention needs based upon risk to re-offend. The result of the risk/needs assessment is used to most appropriately match services to the reformation needs of each youth offender. These programs target high-risk/high-need youth offenders:

The Offender Intervention Services Program

Provides funding for the purchase of services to meet widely varied needs, ranging from simple one-time services to complex, case management services necessary to maintain a youth offender in the community and prevent placement in a youth correctional facility.

The Offender Transition Services Program

Provides short-term, intensive services to youth offenders immediately upon release from a close custody facility. The Offender Transition Services program provides for enhanced supervision, educational/vocational assistance, and aftercare treatment services, including mental health and substance abuse treatment for youth who are not eligible for those services from some other funding source.

The Sex Offender Transition Program

Provides transitional supervision and treatment services to adjudicated sex offenders returning to the communities from a youth correctional facility. The Sex Offender Transition program is designed to allow youth offenders to practice in the community those skills learned in a close custody setting, while ensuring public safety through enhanced supervision and monitoring.

The Minority Youth Transition Program

Designed to promote a positive transition from OYA youth correctional facilities by establishing connections between minority youth offenders and their home community. A transition specialist works directly with the parole and probation officer to develop a community-reintegration plan for each youth offender that ensures access to culturally-specific providers and support services. The purchase of culturally-specific services is also provided by the Minority Youth Transition program.

Martin Luther King Education Center

A cooperative program run by Lane Community College, Lane Education Service District, Lane County Department of Youth Services and Lane Workforce Partnership to provide skill building and educational support to juvenile offenders who have had multiple failures in traditional schools in order to increase their community safety.

To learn more, visit http://www.co.lane.or.us/YS_MLKEC/default.htm.

Federal Policy

I. Workforce Investment Act of 1998

The Workforce Investment Act provides the framework for a unique national workforce preparation and employment system designed to meet both the needs of the nation's businesses and the needs of job seekers and those who want to further their careers. Title I is relevant to youth offenders. **Title I** authorizes the new Workforce Investment System. State workforce investment boards will be established and new youth councils will be set up as a subgroup of the local board to guide the development and operation of programs for youth. Title I requires that standards for success be established for organizations that provide training services and outlines a system for determining their initial eligibility to receive funds. It establishes the funding mechanism for States and local areas, specifies participant eligibility criteria, and authorizes a broad array of services for youth, adults, and dislocated workers.

Eligible youth are low-income, 14 to 21 year olds who face one or more of the following challenges to successful workforce entry: (1) school dropout; (2) basic literacy skills deficiency; (3) homeless, runaway, or foster child; (4) pregnant or a parent; (5) an offender; or (6) need help completing an educational program or securing and holding a job. At least 30 percent of local youth funds must help those who are not in school.

Youth will be prepared for postsecondary educational opportunities or employment. Programs will link academic and occupational learning. Service providers will have strong ties to employers. Programs must also include tutoring, study skills training and instruction leading to completion of secondary school (including dropout prevention); alternative school services; mentoring by appropriate adults; paid and unpaid work experience (such as internships and job shadowing); occupational skills training; leadership development; and appropriate supportive services. Youth participants will also receive guidance and counseling, and follow-up services for at least one year, as appropriate.

To learn about Oregon's Workforce Investment Board, visit:
http://www.oregon.gov/WORKSOURCE/OWIB/about_us.shtml

And for Youth Services in Oregon, visit: <http://www.laneworkforce.org/LINKS/youth.html>.

There have been several attempts in Congress to coordinate services for youth. The Second Chance Act and the Federal Youth Coordination Act both provide good models for interagency cooperation, but have yet to become law.

II. Second Chance Act of 2005 (H.R. 1704/S. 1934)

The Second Chance Act links federal funding for reentry demonstration projects to coordination of services. States and local governments applying for funding must "provide extensive evidence of collaboration with...agencies overseeing health, housing, child welfare, education, substance abuse, and employment services, and local law enforcement." Applicants must also coordinate

with public and private agencies to develop a strategic reentry plan and a reentry task force to reduce recidivism rates for returning prisoners.

This bill was proposed in a previous session of Congress, and at the end of each session all proposed bills and resolutions that have not passed are cleared from the books. This bill never became law. For the text of the bill, visit <http://thomas.loc.gov> (search for Second Chance Act or H.R. 1704).

III. Federal Youth Coordination Act (H.R. 856/S. 409)

The Federal Youth Coordination Act establishes a Federal Youth Development Council that will enable the federal government to implement multifaceted approaches to reaching youth by leveraging and coordinating the existing resources of different federal agencies. The Act also supports state-level coordination efforts through technical assistance and grants, subject to the availability of appropriations. Priority will be given to states that have already initiated an interagency coordination effort focused on youth and demonstrate the inclusion of nonprofit organizations and young people in their coordination efforts.

The Act builds on recommendations from the 2003 White House Task Force for Disadvantaged Youth, which found that federal youth programs are administered across 12 departments and agencies with little communication or coordination among them. Currently, there are federal funding streams designed to meet varying needs of youth, but they are administered in silos, independent of one another. Youth's needs, however, are complex and interdependent.

The legislation was passed by the House in November 2005 by a vote of 353 to 62 and has bipartisan support in the Senate. For more information, visit www.youthcoordinationact.org.

Additional Information

I. Oregon Youth Authority – Oregon’s Juvenile Justice System

Provides a summary of the juvenile justice system in Oregon. Available at <http://www.oregon.gov/OYA/jssystem.shtml>

II. Oregon Youth Authority Quick Facts January 2007

For demographics and quick facts about youth offenders in Oregon, view the OYA Quick Fact Sheet. Available at http://www.oregon.gov/OYA/docs/quick_facts.pdf.

III. Oregon Initiative for Reintegrating Adjudicated Youth

This article, by Constance Lehman, describes a process in Oregon to provide support and safety for adjudicated youth by developing, implementing, and evaluating coordinated transition practices for youth returning to their communities from juvenile correctional facilities.

Available at <http://www.cyc-net.org/cyc-online/cyc01-0104-lehman.html>.

IV. Chafee National Youth in Transition Database

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is proposing to add regulations at 45 CFR part 1356 to require States to collect and report data to ACF on youth who are receiving independent living services and the outcomes of certain youth who are in foster care or who age out of foster care. This proposed rule implements the data collection requirements of the

Foster Care Independence Act of 1999 (Public Law 106–169) as incorporated into the Social Security Act. The proposed rule is available at <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20061800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2006/pdf/06-6005.pdf>.

V. National Child Welfare Resource Center on Legal and Judicial Issues

A summary of the Oregon Juvenile Court Improvement Project (JCIP) and the programs it has developed. Available at <http://www.abanet.org/abanet/child/statesum/state.cfm?state=OR>.

VI. The Neglected Delinquent Technical Assistance Center (NDTAC)

The NDTAC has hosted four regional conferences to highlight innovative practices and effective systems that improve the transition of students between juvenile detention and correctional facilities, schools, and communities. To learn more, visit http://www.neglected-delinquent.org/nd/events/conferences_about.asp.

VII. Oregon Social Learning Center

The non-profit Oregon Social Learning Center is a collaborative, multidisciplinary research center dedicated to increasing the scientific understanding of social and psychological processes related to healthy development and family functioning. OSLC designs and evaluates interventions that strengthen children, adolescents, families, and communities. Two particularly relevant projects are:

“Path to Adulthood Study”: An examination of the continuing effect of a family’s involvement with the juvenile system and the long-term results of the residential treatment the boys may have received.

“Preventing Health Risky Behaviors for Adolescent Girls in Juvenile Justice”: A study aimed at examining the characteristics and contexts of gender appropriate treatments that help girls reduce criminal activity, drug use, and health-risking sexual behavior and improve their supportive and productive relationships and level of functioning in the community.

For information OSLC projects, visit <http://www.oslc.org/projects/projects.html>.

VIII. OYA Government-to-Government Report

A report providing an overview of both the government-to-government relationship between OYA and the Oregon tribes, as well as detail some of the culturally specific treatment and reformation services offered to Native American youth in OYA custody. At page 7 of the report, there is a detailed summary of the OYA Minority Youth Transition program. Available at, http://www.leg.state.or.us/cis/2006gov_to_gov/oya.pdf.

IX. Returning Home: The Oregon Transition Support Initiative

An ongoing research and implementation project that prevents recidivism by helping stakeholders help incarcerated youth return to their communities. Discusses the transition process as the working relationships that together accomplish the common goal of seeing that youth offenders learn the life skills necessary to stay out of correctional facilities. For more information on the article, see

http://eric.ed.gov/ERICWebPortal/custom/portlets/recordDetails/detailmini.jsp?_nfpb=true&_ERICExtSearch_SearchValue_0=EJ604617&ERICExtSearch_SearchType_0=eric_accno&accno=EJ604617.

X. Juvenile Female Offenders: A Status of the States Report

Provides a summary of Oregon's response to female juvenile delinquents. Available at <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/pubs/gender/state-or.html>.

XI. The Center for Delinquency and Crime Policy Studies – Intensive Aftercare Program

IAP is a research-based approach to transitioning youth from confinement back into the community. The research and development of this project began in 1988. More information on this program is available at <http://www.csus.edu/ssis/cdcps/iap.htm>.

XII. The Importance of Getting Started Right: Further Examination of the Facility-to-Community Transition of Formerly Incarcerated Youth

This study examined the facility-to-community transition of 531 incarcerated youth following their release from Oregon's juvenile correctional system, for a period of 12 months. For the sample, (a) being engaged in work and/or school within 6 months after parole and (b) receiving services from mental health and other social service agencies within 6 months in the community were associated with being engaged in work and/or school 12 months after exit. More information on this article available at <http://www.questia.com/PM.qst?a=o&se=gglsc&d=5006551910>.

RESOURCES FOR TRANSITIONING YOUTH

I. MOVING ON: An Analysis of Federal Programs Funding Services for Transition-Age Youth with Serious Mental Health Conditions

An analysis of 57 federal programs offering resources to assist youth with serious mental health conditions in making the transition from childhood -- and often, foster care -- to independence. Available at <http://www.bazelon.org/publications/movingon/Analysis.pdf>.

II. Financing Strategies to Support Community-based Services for Children and Families

Paper discussing a series of bold and vigorous reform initiatives in which state and county governments are working to change the financing of child and family services to support the development of more comprehensive, community-based services.

Available at <http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/helpkids/rcpdfs/finance.pdf>.

III. Chafee Education & Training Scholarship

The Department of Human Services (DHS) Independent Living Program (ILP) has received Chafee Education and Training Voucher (ETV) funding to help current or former foster care youth with postsecondary education and training. Youth may be eligible to receive up to \$5,000 per academic year. More information about the scholarship available at www.osac.state.or.us/chafeeetv.html.

IV. Oregon Department of Education - Transition Web Resources

This website provides several links to resources for transitioning youth in Oregon. Available at <http://www.ode.state.or.us/gradelevel/hs/transition/resources.aspx>.

V. Youth Faces the Law: A Juvenile Rights Handbook,

Written by The Pro Bono Committee of the Multnomah Bar Association Young Lawyers Section, this handbook provides youth “with a brief overview of selected areas of the law affecting youth” and enables you to identify certain legal issues that may concern them.

Available at <http://www.mbabar.org/docs/Juvrights.pdf>.