



Oregon Commission on Black Affairs

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**JOINT MEETING OF THE
ADVOCACY COMMISSIONS**

AUGUST 2014

Commissioners



- ❖ **James Manning**, Chair, Eugene
- ❖ **James Morris**, Vice Chair, Portland
- ❖ **Robin Morris Collin**, Legislative Chair, Salem
- ❖ **Julie Grey**, Advocacy Chair, Medford
- ❖ **Karol Collymore**, Portland
- ❖ **Kayse Jama**, Portland
- ❖ **Gwen Trice**, Enterprise
- ❖ **Senator Rod Monroe**
- ❖ **Representative Lew Frederick**

Statutory Mission



Work for the implementation and establishment of economic, social, legal and political equality for blacks in Oregon

GOALS



Long-term goals:

1. **Advocacy** for equity in legislative and administrative policy
2. **Public policy research** leading to remedies for disparities and over-representation.
3. **Growing leadership** of black Oregonians in gov't
4. **Partnership and community engagement**

Commission Program Areas



Our current initiatives

Proposing policy. The Commissions authored and are championing HB 2226 on confidential name change for domestic violence survivors, and an Executive Order on gender parity for Oregon Boards.

Education equity briefs. We're writing a series of key policy briefs with the Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB) on disproportionate discipline, English Language Learners, and teacher diversity.

Wage equity and status report. In partnership with BOU we researched new census data for factors influencing wage equity including race, education, and job class. We reported our findings to BOLP's Council on Civil Rights and in the OCFW 2013 Status of Oregon Women Report.

Legislative advocacy. With community partners, the Commissions are talking with legislators and testifying on issues essential for success of all Oregonians.

Strengthening hate crime protections. In collaboration with DOJ Office of Civil Rights, and the Governor's Office we researched Oregon's protections from hate crimes and produced a report that is the basis of Commission support for policy that strengthens all remedies for victims of hate.

Growing tomorrow's leaders

The Advocacy Commissions work to grow the number and influence of leaders of color and women within all branches of state government, its key initiatives, departmental leadership, and policy work. To do that the Commissions reach out to youth, communities of color, and women to instill the desire to serve and create pathways to leadership.

The Oregon Women Firsts poster highlighting Oregon's diverse group of First Women Leaders throughout its history and distributed to every middle school statewide. OCFW in sponsorship with the PSU Center for Women, Politics and Policy

The New American Voters Project: Commissioners and community partners registered over three thousand new voters during naturalization ceremonies and community events. OCHA and OCAPIA working with the Secretary of State's Office.

The Governor's Diversity and Inclusion Kitchen Cabinet: the Advocacy Commission leadership joined the Cabinet of State leaders who plan and direct diversity outreach, recruitment and retention statewide. OCAPIA, OCBA, OCHA, OCFW

Success with community partners

The Advocacy Commissions work collaboratively with community and governmental partners to pursue their missions. Together they plan legislative advocacy, host joint legislative days at the Capitol, conduct voter registration, hold community and business forums, and conduct research.

Our partners include:

- Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO)
- Urban League of Portland
- Oregon Latino Health Coalition
- Oregon Latino Agenda for Action (OLAA)
- League of Women Voters
- American Association of University Women (AAUW)
- Center for Intercultural Organizing (CIO)
- Governor's Office on Diversity and Inclusion

"I strongly support partnering with the Oregon Advocacy Commissions as well as other government, educational and civic organizations in support of public policy internships. These partnerships leverage collective knowledge and expertise in civil rights and serve to help ensure equality for all Oregonians."

— OREGON ATTORNEY GENERAL ELLEN ROSENBLUM

Policy research and analysis

The Advocacy Commissions provide Masters, PhD, and Law students with public policy internships addressing our priority areas. Topics include:

- Hate crime protections
- Minority procurement contracting
- Health outcomes
- Wage equity
- Education gaps
- Fair housing

The internships are conducted jointly with state partners and the Governor's Office to research statistics, best practices, or policies; analyze gaps and trends; produce reports used by the Advocacy Commissions and their partners to inform new policies, strategic approaches and legislation.

"As a law student, the internship on hate crimes was important to me because it helps my goal of creating positive change in society with visible results."

— WESLEY GARCIA, WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW STUDENT, INTERN FOR OCHA AND OCBA



Advocacy

Leadership

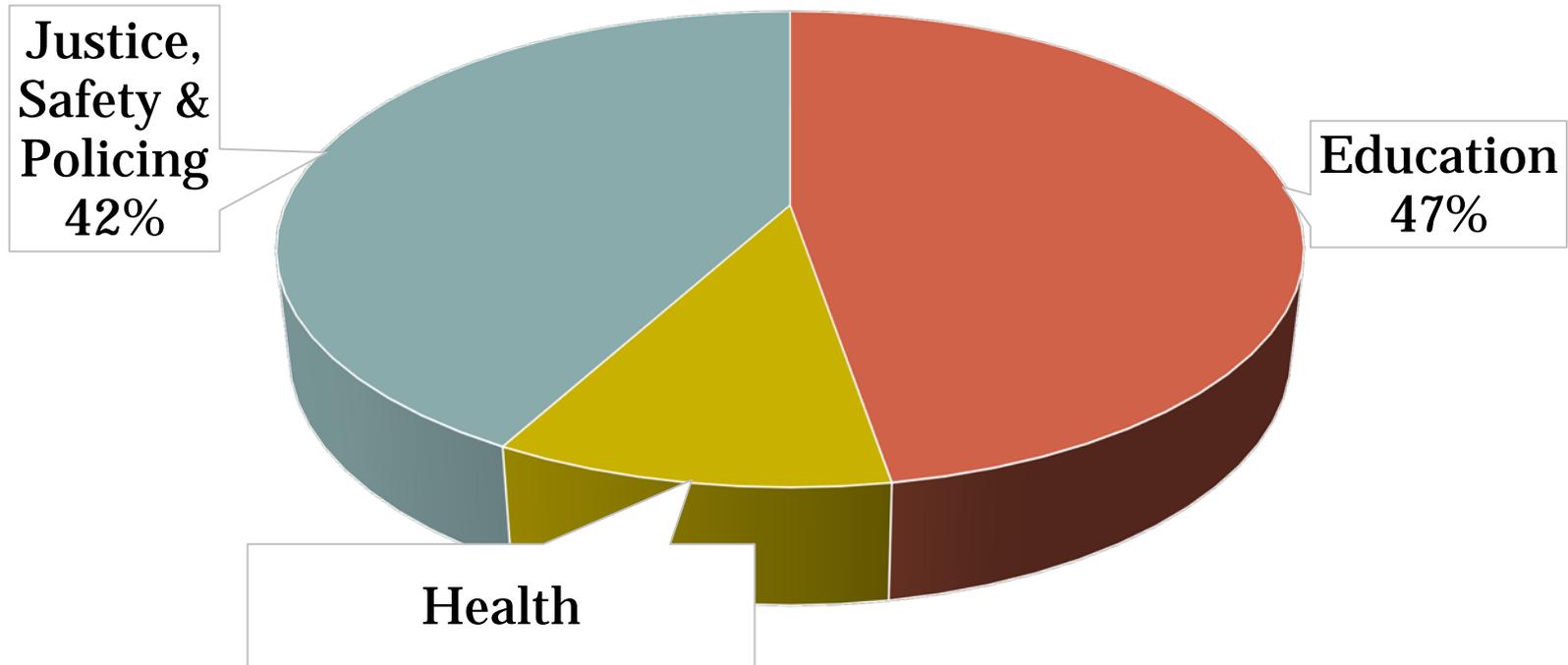
Partnership

Internship

Accomplishments



OCBA Testimony Submitted 2013-2014



19 Bills and other policy supports 2013-14

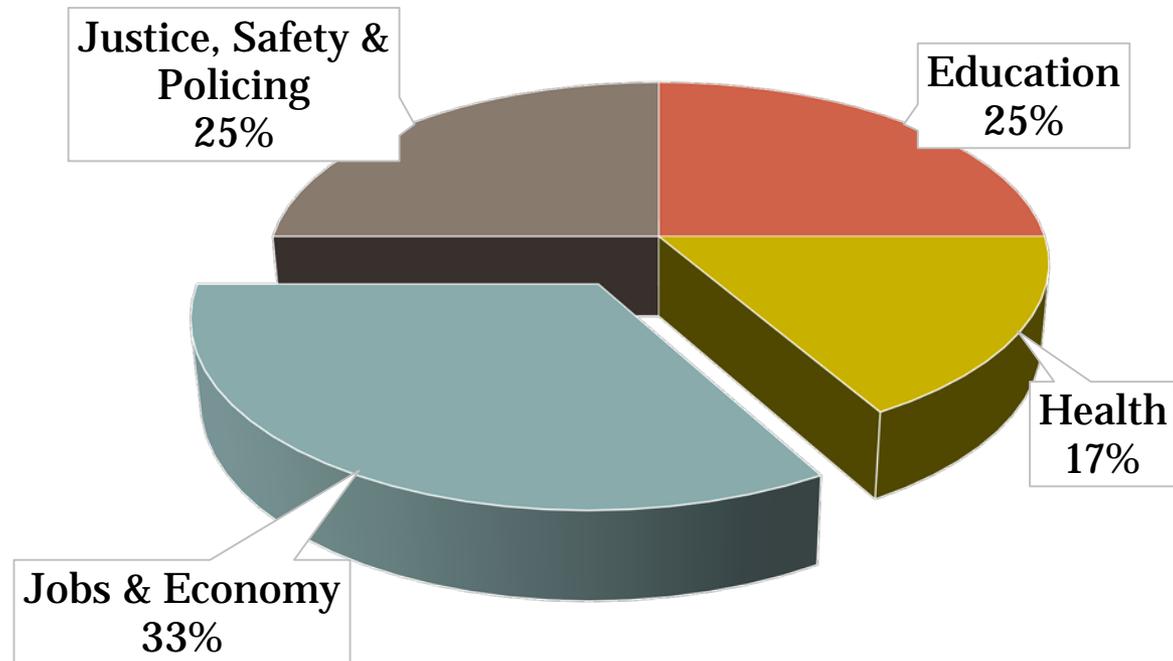


- **9 Education bills including**
SB 755: Minority Teachers Act. Passed
HB 4116: Comm. Colleges 2-Year Scholarships. Passed.
- **8 Justice, safety & policing bills including**
HJR1: Amend Constitution to End Death Penalty
SB 560: End Racial Profiling
- **2 Health and Healthcare bills**
HB 2661: Culturally Competent Care. Passed.
SB 1569A, OHA to Establish a List of Chemicals Harmful to Children

Public Policy Research

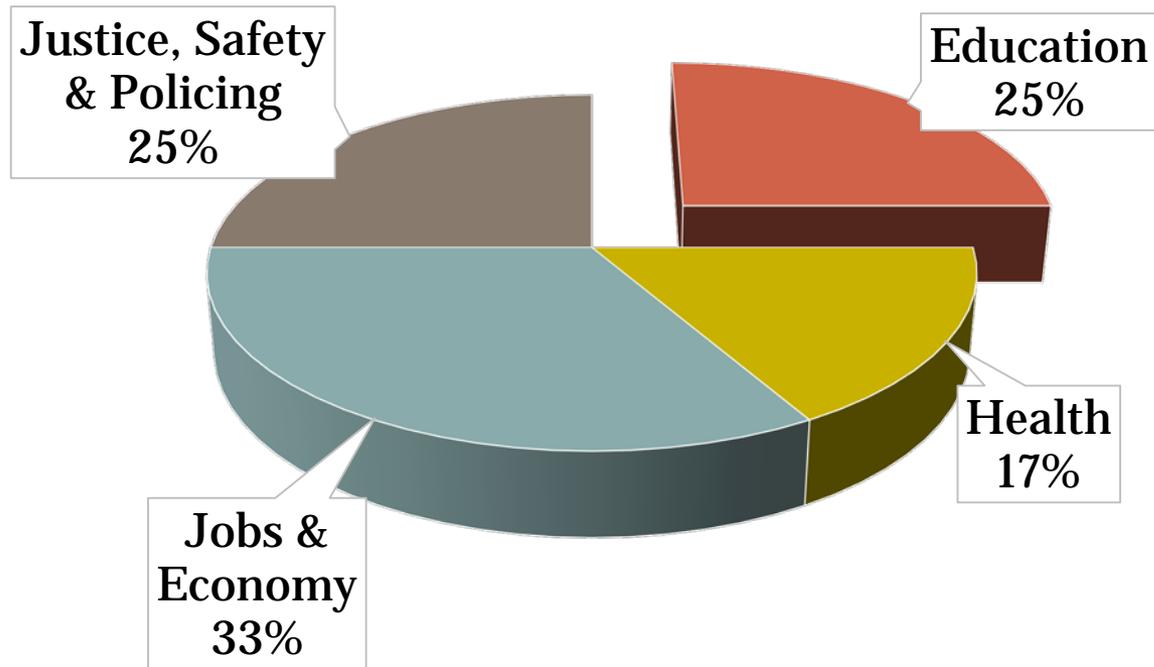


OCBA Policy Research on Apprenticeship to Journeyman Disparities



Public Policy Research

OCBA Policy Research on Disproportionate Discipline



Partnerships



OCBA's Policy Research partners:

- ❖ **Oregon Department of Education**
- ❖ **Bureau of Labor and Industry**
- ❖ **PSU Hatfield School of Public Administration**
- ❖ **Lewis and Clark Law School**
- ❖ **Governor's Office of Workforce and Office of Diversity and Inclusion**
- ❖ **Urban League of Portland**

Leadership development



OCBA student internships:

"As a law student, the internship on hate crimes was important to me because it helps my goal of creating positive change in society with visible results."

– Wesley Garcia

Willamette University College of Law student
Intern for OCHA and OCBA

Connect with OCBA



<http://www.oregon.gov/ocba>