



Oregon Youth Authority

Issue Brief

January 2015

The OYA Youth Reformation System

10

Number of OYA close-custody facilities

650

Approximate number of youth offenders OYA supervises in close custody

550

Approximate number of youth offenders OYA supervises in community residential treatment and foster care settings

450

Approximate number of youth offenders OYA supervises who live independently or at home in communities

323

Total Funds, in millions of dollars, allocated to OYA in 2013-2015

88

Approximate percent of OYA's budget spent locally in facilities and communities

Overview

The Youth Reformation System (YRS) is a method for delivering the right services to the right youth in the right settings for the right amount of time. The goals of YRS are to promote public safety and reduce victimization, optimize positive outcomes for at-risk youth, and maximize the use of efficient and cost-effective treatment and services.

YRS uses data, research, and predictive analytics to give professionals working with youth access to more accurate and timely data about the risk, needs, and treatment progress for every youth in the care and custody of the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA). This detailed information enables OYA to determine treatment needs, measure outcomes, and adjust services and treatments where and when needed.

What are the benefits of YRS?

The benefits of YRS include:

- ▲ A better ability to identify which close-custody facilities and community providers are most effective with particular types of youth.
- ▲ A better ability to train and match staff with youth for whom they are best suited.
- ▲ Enhanced safety for youth and staff in facilities and in the community.
- ▲ Improved cost-effectiveness as OYA gains a better understanding of which juvenile justice interventions and treatments offer the best return on investment.
- ▲ Increased efficiency as OYA determines the optimal lengths of stay for youth to receive the right treatment for the right length of time.
- ▲ Reduced recidivism and victimization.
- ▲ Productive, crime-free youth and safer communities.

What are the elements of YRS?

YRS is composed of four key elements, which serve as the gears of the system — the population forecast, placement and treatment processes, the program evaluation continuum, and community context.

Population forecast

The population forecast provides accurate, data-based estimates of short-term and long-term space and bed needs in close-custody and community settings. This enables OYA to determine the resources needed to provide the best placement for each youth.

**Oregon
Youth Authority**

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Mission

The Oregon Youth Authority protects the public and reduces crime by holding youth offenders accountable and providing opportunities for reformation in safe environments.

Vision

Youth who leave OYA will go on to lead productive, crime-free lives.

Core Values

Integrity
Professionalism
Accountability
Respect

Director

Fariborz Pakseresht

Deputy Director
Joe O'Leary

Key Service Areas

Business Services
Community Services
Facility Services
Health Services
Information Services
Treatment Services

Placement and treatment

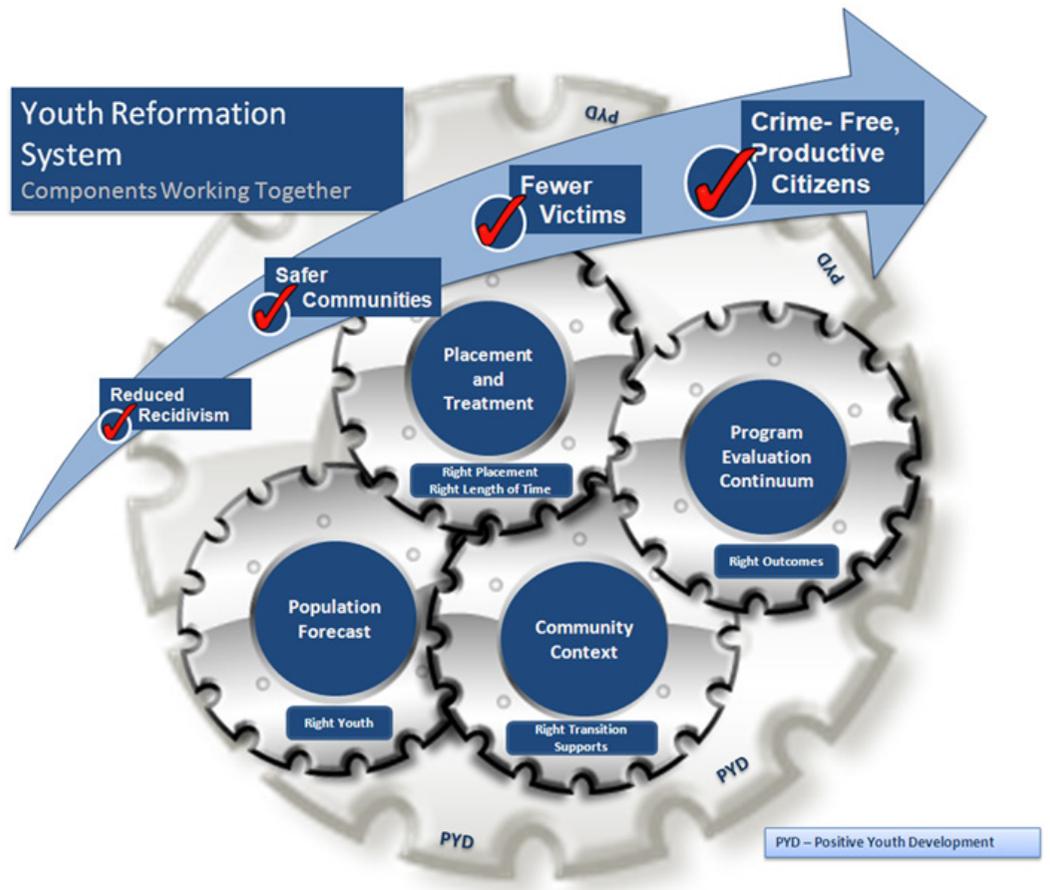
By using established principles of effective intervention, OYA can mitigate risk through effective treatment, make outcome-based decisions driven by data, and identify the best placement and treatment options for each youth. This helps maximize the potential for positive outcomes for youth, enhances youth and staff safety, and in the long-run leads to safer communities.

Program evaluation

Ongoing program evaluation is crucial in determining whether programming and treatment are effective. This evaluation aspect of YRS enables staff to respond rapidly to emerging issues, make data-informed decisions, allocate resources efficiently, and make planned, thoughtful transitions for youth in close custody and residential programs before and during their transition back to the community.

Community context

Youth do better when they have the support of their families and feel that they are valued members of their communities. OYA seeks to provide youth with opportunities to participate in their communities through volunteer and charitable work. In addition, OYA works with local providers and communities to ensure youth have access to the support services they need to remain productive and crime-free, such as mental health counseling and addiction treatment.



PYD – Positive Youth Development