



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Oregon Youth Authority
Director's Office
530 Center Street NE, Suite 200
Salem, OR 97301-3765
PHONE: (503) 373-7212
FAX: (503) 373-7622

May 25, 2010

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Ann Snyder, Interim Communications Manager, 503-378-6023,
ann.snyder@oya.state.or.us

Washington corrections veteran named to lead Oregon youth correctional facilities

A juvenile corrections and public safety professional with more than 30 years' experience will join the Oregon Youth Authority June 1 as the agency's assistant director for facility services.

Karen Daniels was most recently assistant secretary for the community corrections division of the Washington State Department of Corrections. At OYA, she will succeed Joan Palmateer, who will retire June 30.

As assistant director for facility services, Daniels will be responsible for the agency's 11 statewide facilities and serve as a member of the agency executive team that manages the 1,135-employee agency.

"Karen Daniels is highly respected by her peers for her accomplishments in Washington," said OYA Director Colette S. Peters. "I am confident she will provide the skill, imagination and leadership to build on the outstanding work Joan Palmateer has done."

At the Washington state agency, Daniels was responsible for administering statewide community corrections operations including active supervision of 29,000 offenders and oversight of 1,500 staff members in 150 offices and 15 work-release facilities. Prior to that, she served as the agency's operations director in the health services division with responsibility for administering medical, dental and mental health services in 15 state institutions.

Daniels also worked 16 years as chief deputy with the Thurston County Sheriff's Office in Washington state and as assistant director for program services in the

Washington Department of Social and Health Services' juvenile rehabilitation division.

She began her career as a juvenile probation officer for the Maricopa County Juvenile Court Center in Phoenix and held several adult and juvenile community corrections positions with the Arizona Department of Corrections before moving to Washington.

Daniels holds an undergraduate degree in sociology from Arizona State University and a graduate degree in business management from St. Mary's College in Arizona.

OYA has custody of approximately 900 offenders in correctional and transitional facilities in Albany, Burns, Florence, Grants Pass, La Grande, Salem, Tillamook, Warrenton and Woodburn, and the agency supervises approximately 1,100 youth on parole and probation in communities throughout Oregon. Facility operations accounts for 51 percent of the agency's \$312.1 million biennial budget, approximately 87 percent of which is spent locally in facilities and communities.

#