



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Oregon Youth Authority

Office of the Director

530 Center Street NE, Suite 200

Salem, OR 97301-3765

Voice: 503-373-7205

Fax: 503-373-7622

www.oregon.gov/OYA



May 8, 2013

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: C. J. Drake, OYA Communications Office, 503-385-5899

North Coast Youth Correctional Facility employees honored for excellence

Seven employees of the Oregon Youth Authority's North Coast Youth Correctional Facility in Warrenton have been recognized for excellence in supporting the state juvenile justice agency's mission.

They received OYA coin awards, silver dollar-sized medals bearing the state seal, as part of the observance of National Correctional Officers and Employees Week in Oregon, May 5-11. The employees are:

- [Jami Ayers](#), treatment manager, recognized for her "excellent leadership, work ethic, and focus on youth reformation."
- [Mike Barter](#), group life coordinator, recognized for improving the safety culture of the facility, and improving communication through the purchase of a new radio system.
- [Mike Edler](#), cook supervisor, recognized for being a "good steward of state funds" by serving high quality food to youth and staff within budget.
- [Corey Herndon](#), group life coordinator, recognized for his "commitment to maintaining positive youth activities" by organizing a tournament for the youth basketball team in March.
- [Dean Jones](#), group life coordinator, recognized for "peer leadership and dedication to duties" by providing superior training to staff and improving the facility's emergency management plan.
- [Louise Stecher](#), executive support specialist, recognized for the handling the workload of two positions. Her efforts "allowed for fiscal savings and effective operations to occur simultaneously."
- [Roger Thomas](#), group life coordinator, recognized for being a "team player who is always available to help out where needed."

OYA Director Fariborz Pakseresht presented the certificates at the facility Tuesday. He praised the employees for being role models for others and “providing positive development to each other and the youth we serve.”

In his [proclamation](#) of National Correctional Officers and Employees Week in Oregon, Governor John Kitzhaber commended adult and juvenile correctional workers for “holding offenders accountable for their actions and reducing the risk of future criminal behavior and future victimization.”

###

The Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) is the state's juvenile justice agency, reducing victimization by helping at-risk young people lead productive, crime-free lives. OYA maintains correctional and transitional facilities in Albany, Burns, Florence, Grants Pass, La Grande, Salem, Tillamook, Warrenton and Woodburn. To learn more, visit www.oregon.gov/oya and follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/oregonyouth.