



# Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

## Oregon Youth Authority

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### **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **MaLaren Youth Correctional Facility employees recognized for exemplary service**

Eight individuals and the entire staff of two living units at the Oregon Youth Authority's 260-bed MaLaren Youth Correctional Facility in Woodburn have been recognized for exemplary support of the state juvenile corrections agency's mission.

They received OYA coin awards, silver dollar-size medals bearing the state seal, as part of the observance of National Corrections Employees Week in Oregon. The employees are:

- Tom Anhalt, Holmes living unit coordinator, who was recognized for his strong work ethic and positive interactions with others, his leadership of the 2011 food drive that produced some of MaLaren's best results in years, his leadership of an employee-recognition committee, and his work toward obtaining state certification as a drug and alcohol counselor.
- Corey Barton, acting coordinator on the Hall living unit, recognized as a high-energy employee who supports the facility's wellness and safety committees, led creation of an employee wellness center, and is doing the work to become a state-certified drug and alcohol counselor.
- Jeff Canfield, treatment manager on the Holmes living unit, recognized as a manager, coach, mentor and youth advocate who is professional, consistent, communicates well, is a consistent voice for public safety, and balances offender accountability with reformation opportunities.

- The Rev. Craig Cutting, chaplain and volunteer coordinator, recognized for recruiting, training and monitoring 186 volunteers; leading the Hope Partnership project; facilitating youth religious services for Christian and other faiths; and soliciting religious organizations as sponsors to host holiday celebrations on MacLaren living units.
- Jayson Ellis, McKay living unit coordinator, recognized for a high-performance work ethic that included his work on the facility staffing analysis, his contributions to improving facility operations, and his participation in a committee that recognizes staff members' contributions to MacLaren and OYA.
- Rachel McWilliams, a qualified mental health professional, recognized as a consistent role model for youth who has a reputation for integrity and professionalism in interactions with youth and staff, demonstrates respect by expressing her thoughts with grace and humor, and makes the hard decisions even when unpopular.
- Rolando Ramirez, minority services coordinator, recognized for consistently stepping up to take on tasks such as keeping the canteen open Wednesday evenings for family visitors, teaching youth to prepare and serve ethnic lunches for fundraisers, representing OYA at area schools and organizations, teaching youth the value of customer service, and serving as an active community volunteer.
- Stan Stegall, who has supervised youth work crews for years and took on new responsibilities for security and youth supervision in MacLaren's Food Services Department because of his demonstrated ability to relate with youth offenders in an assertive, positive and supportive manner.
- All employees on the Grover living unit for embracing the creation of a residential treatment program that has consistently risen above expectations, improved treatment fidelity and safety for youth and staff, and became a state-certified substance abuse treatment program.
- All employees on the Troy unit, which works with youth offenders exhibiting the most challenging behavioral issues. Staff were recognized for becoming a dependable, resourceful and hard-working team whose

members have complementary strengths and who get many youth to improve behavior and engage in treatment.

“These MacLaren YCF employees and other OYA professionals offer compassion demand accountability, and support treatment and education that help former offenders find the promise of productive, crime-free lives,” said OYA Director Colette S. Peters. “They play a key role in minimizing the number of OYA youth who reoffend.”

MacLaren offers treatment to youth offenders for criminogenic behavior, and it provides education through its William P. Lord High School.

In his proclamation of National Corrections Employees Week in Oregon, Governor John Kitzhaber said employees in juvenile and adult corrections are highly trained, productive and vital members of the state’s criminal justice and public safety systems. Effective work by OYA staff members helps the agency fulfill its mission to protect the public and reduce crime by holding youth offenders accountable and providing opportunities for reformation in safe environments.

OYA has custody of approximately 900 youth offenders ages 12-24 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 probation and parole in communities across Oregon.

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