



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

March 19, 2012

NEWS RELEASE

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



Albany resident named to manage five Oregon Youth Authority field offices

Tara Williams of Albany, a 17-year juvenile corrections veteran, has been named acting field supervisor for the Oregon Youth Authority's field offices in Linn, Benton, Lincoln, Polk and Yamhill counties.

Working out of the Albany office, she supervises seven juvenile probation and parole officers, a probation and parole assistant, and support staff.

"Tara Williams brings broad experience to the job, having worked for both state and county juvenile corrections and having experience in OYA's facilities and field," said Philip Cox, OYA Assistant Director for Community Services. "She has earned respect for her leadership and professionalism as both a front-line employee and manager."

Williams began her juvenile corrections career in 1995 as a detention worker for the Klamath County Juvenile Department, and joined OYA in 1997. She was first assigned to the Tillamook Youth Accountability Camp as a group life coordinator and later offered an acting assistant treatment manager opportunity, then as a group life coordinator at Oak Creek Youth Correctional Facility in Albany. She worked as a probation and parole officer for OYA's Lane County office for nearly six years before joining the Albany-based five-county field staff in 2006, serving as both a juvenile probation and parole officer and four months as acting field supervisor. She studied criminology at Mt. San Jacinto Community College in San Jacinto, Calif.

The juvenile probation and parole officers Williams supervises meet regularly with youth who are incarcerated in OYA facilities and, for youth in community supervision, are responsible for tasks such as developing agreements with youth,

determining special needs and services, conducting monthly face-to-face reviews, arranging vocational services, administering urinalyses, preparing for and testifying at hearings, and participating in quarterly meetings of team members who support the youth.

Effective community supervision of youth on probation and parole helps OYA fulfill its mission to protect the public and reduce crime by holding youth offenders accountable and providing opportunities for reformation in safe environments. OYA juvenile probation and parole officers supervise approximately 1,050 youth in communities across Oregon. They also oversee services for approximately 750 youth offenders ages 12 to 24 in correctional and transitional facilities in Albany, Burns, Florence, Grants Pass, La Grande, Salem, Tillamook, Warrenton and Woodburn.

#