



CITIZEN
BUDGET
ADVISORY
COMMITTEE

Department of Community Justice
MULTNOMAH COUNTY OREGON
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CBAC FY2014 Annual Report

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Submission date: March 13th :

The following outlines the feedback and recommendations of the Citizen Budget Advisory Committee to the Central Budget Advisory Committee regarding the FY14 Proposed Budget for the Department of Community Justice.

Section 1: Process

The first meeting of the Department of Community Justice (DCJ) Citizen Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC) for FY14 was held on May 21, 2012. The committee met six times to familiarize themselves with departmental activities and review FY14 budget proposals and proposed reductions.

During this period the committee met with program managers and staff to become familiar with DCJ programs and funding streams. DCJ staff members included:

Christina McMahan, Juvenile Services Assistant Director; Deena Corso, Juvenile Services Senior Manager; Craig Bachman and Thach Nguyen, Juvenile Services Managers; Erika Preuitt, Adult Services District Manager; Scott Taylor, Director; Ginger Martin, Deputy Director; Karen Rhein, Administrative Analyst.

In addition the committee reviewed documents related to DCJ budget and operations including the FY13 Program Summary and the FY14 Proposed Budget.

The committee welcomed two new members and lost two members for a core group of six members.

The committee is relatively new with four core members participating in the majority of the meetings over the past year and two new member who participated in five of the last six meetings. Overall the meetings were informative.

Scott Taylor continues to do an exceptional job staying focused on ensuring DCJ is implementing best practices across the agency. His involvement allows DCJ to be on the cutting edge of providing programs and services to the adults and youth supervised by Community Justice. His management has led DCJ to review and re-evaluate the success of DCJ programs and services; this stringent review process has enabled DCJ to get the best results with limited resources and increased effectiveness.

Section 2: Budget Recommendations and Major Changes

The Committee has had the opportunity to review the department's proposed budget. The priority areas identified by our committee were:

- Treatment Services – Adult outpatient beds
- Shelters beds for youth and Housing for adults
- Juvenile and Adult Gang Services

Section 3: Emerging Issues

Title IV-E:

Juvenile Services provides services to youth in the community with limited budgets. The Title IV-E program provides quarterly reimbursement for eligible juvenile probation departments. This committee supports DCJ in pursuing monies for Title IV-E reimbursable services, such as, case management, case planning, case review and home visits.

Public Safety Commission:

The committee supports the Commission's recommendations which impact local communities. Ensuring adequate funding of local alternatives that reduce recidivism and support offender re-entry and behavior change are key for DCJ. Investing in victim services and access to emergency shelter and support are critical component of addressing victim issues in Multnomah County

Implementation of Case Management Models:

Juvenile and Adult Services Divisions are implementing case management models as a redesign of traditional supervision duties. The committee supports these efforts and supports the continued updates on effectiveness and the transition of staff to these new practices.

Assessment and Referral Center

The committee feels the department's efforts in assessing the adult offenders risk and stability needs would allow the department to better utilize resources and services.

Clinical oversight and staff for high risk populations

The committee encourages the department to continue to target training for staff and managers in screening and assessment of the highest risk populations under supervision.

Section 4: Recommendations

1. Treatment Services

The committee felt the continued reduction in outpatient slots to be dramatic as it appears there is still a need for outpatient treatment slots in the community. DCJ should continue to assess the needs of clients and the client readiness for treatment.

2. Housing

With the closure of transitional housing program for women(Couch Street Houses) in FY13 budget. The committee is concerned about the additional reduction of 29 housing beds for sex offenders with mental illness or addiction issues.

3. Shelter beds:
Ensure the housing beds are appropriate and available in the community for the youth with the reduction
4. Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children:
The committee would like to see DCJ's focus be on expanding services and funding be continued.
5. Public Awareness
DCJ should continue efforts to show case the programs and services provided to the youth and adults. The public's knowledge of the of DCJ's efforts in the community would provide positive programs and services, such as Veterans Stand Down, community service projects,(C.R.O.P.S). Victim Services.
6. Performance Measures:
The committee supports the continue department efforts in evaluating contracts and service outcomes and performance measures for effectiveness and utilization. It demonstrates DCJ's commitment to data informed decision-making and smart investments of tax dollars.