



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Oregon Youth Authority

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January 24, 2014



The Honorable Peter Buckley, Co-Chair
The Honorable Richard Devlin, Co-Chair
Oregon State Legislature
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
900 Court St NE, H-178
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Dear Senator Devlin and Representative Buckley:

Nature of the request

The Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) is notifying Legislative leadership of the agency's intent to apply to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance for a demonstration project grant, the Demonstration Projects to Establish "Zero Tolerance" Cultures for Sexual Assault in Correctional Facilities. OYA was notified January 7, 2014, of the availability of the grant.

Source of the grant

The source of the grant is the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance.

Amount being requested

Awards under this program will be made for up to a two-year project period. Awards to fund projects at individual facilities will be capped at \$250,000, and awards to fund projects at, or to benefit, multiple facilities will be capped at \$500,000. The Bureau of Justice Assistance may elect to make awards for applications submitted under this solicitation in future fiscal years, depending on the merit of the applications and on the availability of appropriations in future years.

Purpose of the grant

The purpose of the grant program is to support comprehensive approaches within correctional facilities to prevent, detect, and respond to incidents of sexual victimization.

The Oregon Youth Authority intends to request funding to assist with research development; to develop profiles of sexual perpetrators and non-perpetrators to identify the characteristics of

those considered sexual predators within OYA close-custody facilities; to continue research to develop an automated assessment of vulnerability and risk; to conduct surveys involving all youth in OYA facilities to identify potential victims and perpetrators; and to complete a Personality Assessment Inventory to identify the personality characteristics of staff who become sexually involved with youth in close-custody environments.

This grant is a timely opportunity for OYA to build on work currently in progress, and will enhance the agency's ability not only to comply with the Prison Rape Elimination Act, but also to assist other states with programs, tools, and knowledge as this demonstration project is conducted.

Grant application deadline

The grant application must be submitted no later than March 6, 2014.

State match requirements

There is a 50 percent match requirement, which may be an in-kind contribution.

Estimated additional FTE the grant will require

The grant will add one federally funded FTE. No additional state-funded FTE will be required.

Grant's relevance to OYA's mission and goals

OYA's statutory mission is to protect the public and reduce crime by holding youth offenders accountable and providing opportunities for reformation in safe environments. Establishment of a "Zero Tolerance" culture for sexual assault is directly related to providing a safe environment for youth in OYA custody.

Request summary

The Oregon Youth Authority seeks approval to apply for this grant award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fariborz Pakseresht", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Fariborz Pakseresht
Director