

Youth Development Council

Timothy Sinatra

Youth Development Council - Member

Boys & Girls Club Oregon Alliance – Past President

Designing & Implementing High-Impact, Effective Initiatives to Improve Achievement of all Students

Aligning with the Oregon Education Investment Board and HB 4165

Mission: The council is established for the purpose of assisting the board in overseeing a unified system that provides services to school-age children through youth 20 years of age in a manner that supports educational success, focuses on crime prevention, reduces high risk behaviors and is integrated, measurable and accountable.

Progress: The YDC is making significant progress in addressing existing gaps in youth programs and services by funding model programs, supporting community based collaborations and driving sustainable impact that effectively address the root causes of the problems facing school-aged youth through age 20.

Our Greatest Challenge:

The YDC's greatest challenge is that there is a high level of demand, strong community based solutions, yet a lack of resources to take those solutions to scale

- The Youth Development Council is slated to receive the same amount of funding as the last biennium
- The new Community Investment Strategy awarded \$5.24 million dollars in the 14-15 fiscal year
- The requested amount from communities was \$11.4 million
 - \$6 million dollars of requests went unfunded
- We expect even more communities will be applying in the 15-17 biennium for two reasons:
 - because more communities are aware of it
 - and because several communities held back until a full biennial cycle of funding was available

Our Highest Priority:

The Youth Development Council is aware and well versed in the needs of thousands of youth who are most hard to reach in our local communities. These youth lack the support for academic achievement and access to high quality, hands-on learning experiences that will best prepare them with 21st century skills.

As you may already know Oregon's youth lack access to summer employment, entry-level jobs and other critical learning opportunities:

- Oregon's on-time graduation rate for 2014 was ranked one of the lowest among the states

- Communities with large populations of both Opportunity and Priority Youth lack critical resources to bust historical barriers that prevent them from reaching their personal and professional goals
- Teens in Oregon are underemployed and lack the resources and opportunities to find gainful employment

Financial Investment:

A higher level of strategic investments for Oregon's Priority and Opportunity youth in academic supports, workforce development and targeted crime prevention initiatives are three key imperatives toward creating a thriving workforce for Oregon.