

from the desk of
Senator Sara Gelser
SG

United for Justice

Victim Services Organizations Support \$53 million for Justice Reinvestment

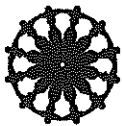
When the Oregon Legislature passed the Justice Reinvestment Act (HB 3194) in 2013, we averted the need to start building a new prison, saving Oregon taxpayers an estimated \$300 million. Current estimates predict that Justice Reinvestment will save Oregon \$53 million in averted corrections costs for the 2015-2017 biennium alone.

Beginning in the upcoming biennium, 10% of Justice Reinvestment funds will be allocated to community-based nonprofit victim services. Oregon is the first Justice Reinvestment state to recognize that community-based victim services deserve additional funding so that more victims can access the safety and support they need.

We work closely with our law enforcement partners and respect the work they do to hold offenders accountable in our community. Community-based victim services are also an important piece of the community's response to public safety. Victims of domestic abuse need safe places to go to escape dangerous situations at home. Crisis hotlines help victims make informed and reasoned decisions during traumatic and life-threatening events. And the myriad other services provided by community-based victim services programs help crime survivors rebuild their lives and thrive.

Providing access to victim services does more than just respond to crime, it helps prevent future victimization and future offending. Justice Reinvestment increases services to some of the most vulnerable individuals and families in our state, helping current and future generations of Oregonians succeed.

This is public safety that makes sense. This is public safety that costs less. This is public safety that rebuilds lives and invests in community. We urge you to fully fund Justice Reinvestment at \$53 million in the Criminal Justice Commission's budget (HB 5506).



Oregon Alliance to End
Violence Against Women



Children's Center
A child abuse intervention center

