

The Honorable Jackie Winters, Co-Chair
The Honorable Duane Stark, Co-Chair
Members of the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Safety
900 Court Street
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs and members of the Committee:

Over the years we have learned the value of gradually reducing the structure for our young people. Think of our own children we do not just release them from our care and that is it. I feel we would do the community and the client a great disservice if we did not support this transition.

The Annex II will be modeled after the current Annex ILP which has served as the pilot project for this model of services to youth and their families. We will be duplicating the pilot program as it has proven effective and scored as highly effective during its last audits using the Correction Program Check List (CPC) and the Behavior Rehabilitation Services (BRS) standards directed by evidence regarding best practices in this field and the Federal Government.

This will still serve clients who have been released from Oregon Youth Authorities (OYA) secured settings providing them a place to practice their independent living skills with staff support before completely returning to the community. Without this support they are more likely to end up back in the institution.

In these models of (ILP) clients will be working to overcome the level of dependence on external control that is created by being in traditional institutional and residential settings. To exercising and implementing the internal control that they have been taught during their earlier treatment. This means they will be making most of their own decisions for the first time.

With this said I believe there are some things we need to be aware of. In having this type of setting we see first hand the type of struggles that the client's experience. This can be some what unnerving, but keep in mind these young men have all completed treatment. The reality is that with out this phase of development these struggles could go undetected until they become detrimental to the client and the community. Therefore, I am pleased to be part of providing this much needed phase of transition to independence.

Although this does not appear as the traditional treatment setting, that we are all familiar with, it does however, use evidence based best practices. In case management we will address known target areas to reduce recidivism as noted

by (Andrews and Bonta Targets for Change), and information from (Altschuler and Brash Urban Institute barriers in client reentry). This is to assist clients with overcoming the known barriers to successful re-entry.

We are also using the Casey Independent Living Skills assessment to identify independent living skills deficits this will be accompanied by skill development assignments and activities to address the deficiencies identified in the assessment.

In addition to this through daily contact, bi-weekly inspections of their living quarters, which serve as an ongoing assessment of independent living needs, weekly case meetings, and community safety forms for tracking activities we can identify any areas that these young men may need to address. Therefore, allowing them the additional support that is required for successful community reintegration.

As part of the continuum of care we will also be providing ongoing support for the second phase of this program for 3 to 6 months, so I will attempt to describe this. I say attempt because client needs will vary with each individual.

This is money well spent or really saved.

If you have any questions, or would like to meet with me about any concerns please contact me at (503) 432-3975 or e-mail us at jackdavidson@janusyouth.org would love to speak with you.

Thank You,
Jack Davidson

Program Director
Annex 1,2 & Hope Partnership
The Rivera House