## **HB 2176**

<u>Authorizes moneys in Mental Health Alcoholism and Drug Services Account to be used by</u> counties to provide funding to sobering facilities

Sobering Centers can be a hub for all services related to substance use disorder (SUD). We see individuals who are early in their problems with SUD as well as those who are hitting significant bottoms because of SUD. These individuals are parents, local community leaders, and family members as well as homeless public inebriates. The Sobering Center process allows us the opportunity to make valuable referrals to appropriate services as well as assisting individuals in navigating those referrals. Referrals ranging from individual counseling to medical detoxification may be timely in assisting an individual in the recovery of their lives, family, health and freedom.

Sobering Services at the Grants Pass Sobering Center (GPSC) address the very basic understanding that individual's suffering from Substance Use Disorders (SUD) are not always able to seek services on their own and will need extrinsic assistance.

The attached graphs will show a progressive process over the last year as relationships with law-enforcement, medical and mental health providers as well as treatment providers become more established with March 2017 doubling previous month's admissions. Currently 50 % admitted via other sources including self admits, with law-enforcement and those that required both Emergency and law-enforcement intervention. Sunday April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017 we had 6 admissions.

Sobering services are not a billable service under most insurances or treatment guidelines. This leaves communities to scramble or compete for funding. Sobering Centers in Oregon need a viable and sustainable funding source as they provide a more cost effective more appropriate service to individual's involved in issues that encompass public safety, health care, mental health and treatment as well as public health issues. We provide a gateway to success to those that appear hopeless.

Rich Jones, Executive Director
Choices Counseling Center
109 NE Manzanita Ave.
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526
(541)479-8847 Fax: (541)471-2679
"MAKING RECOVERY A REALITY"