In 2018, GPDPS transported 417 individuals to the Sobering Center for inability to make rational decisions or due to an extreme level of intoxication. Our costs for lodging individuals at the Josephine County Jail are about \$100 per day. (We know this cost as the City of Grants Pass had been paying for approximately 30 jail beds due to lack of funding for the Sheriff's Office and inability to lodge for lower level crimes.)

In addition to the individuals transported to the Sobering Center directly by officers in the field, we also transported 221 individuals from the Three Rivers Medical Center Emergency Department. Without the ability to transport these individuals to a secure facility, most would have been released from the ED to the streets. We know from previous incidents, these individuals generally caused calls for service due to disorderly behavior, trespassing, theft, and often were a danger to themselves or the motoring public by wandering into traffic.

Through the use of the Sobering Center, we have not only saved costs by not having to lodge in the County Jail, but we have saved time for our officers and call taking staff due to repeated calls for service on the same individual.

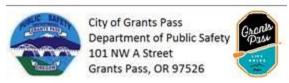
At a minimum, there is a direct cost savings of \$63,800 just in savings for jail lodging. This does not include personnel costs for the criminal charges that tend to follow with these individuals, or the multiple calls for services officers responded to from citizens concerned for welfare of these intoxicated individuals. I'm confident that if you added in the staff time for patrol officers, jail staff, court and District Attorney's Office, you would be well over \$100,000 in a single year.

In addition to the costs savings, there is a human factor to consider. Having the Sobering Center allows for an opportunity to reach out to these individuals to offer help and a healthier, more productive path. We have seen personnel losses of individuals in our community who were seriously injured and a few who have died as a result of poor decisions made while highly intoxicated. Difficult to put a number on the loss of a life, but a strong reality and compelling reason why there is a dire need for this type of resource within the Grants Pass community.

## Jim Hamilton

Deputy Chief FBI NA #270 101 NW "A" St. Grants Pass, Or. 97526 Ph. 541-450-6260 Fax 541-955-1045 Email: jhamilton@grantspassoregon.gov

http://www.grantspassoregon.gov



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