



Measure 110 One Year In: Understanding the Law's Early Impacts

Background: In November 2020, Oregon voters made history by passing Measure 110 by a 17-point margin. The law decriminalizes personal possession of small amounts of all drugs while expanding access to addiction recovery and harm reduction services. Measure 110 offers an innovative solution to help Oregonians and their families now, at a time when Oregon's addiction crisis is growing at an alarming rate.

Advocates worked side-by-side with state lawmakers to release \$30 million in Measure 110 funds early to address the major crisis at hand. Grants focused on expanding existing services offered by community providers with a particular focus on culturally and linguistically-specific organizations serving the communities most impacted by the war on drugs. **70 organizations in 26 Counties have received funding:**

- 33 harm reduction and addiction recovery service providers **expanded access to treatment services** for indigent, uninsured individuals.
- 52 organizations **hired peer support specialists** – a role that addiction medicine experts have long heralded as essential to one's recovery journey.
- 32 service providers **added recovery, supportive and transitional housing services.**
- 30 organizations **increased harm reduction services,** which include life-saving interventions like overdose prevention, access to naloxone and hydrochloride, as well as drug education and outreach.



Monta Knudson,
Executive Director



BRIDGES
to change

"The influx of 110 grant funding meant we were able to keep the doors open at one of our rural treatment centers. We were able to save Wasco County. We were just about to shut down three homes, 30 beds – it took us three years to launch out in The Dalles, which was a really big stretch for us..."

110 is already increasing access to vital services. Since last June:

- Bridges to Change, an addiction recovery services provider, was set to close its doors in Wasco County. Measure 110 kept them open and even helped them expand. Since receiving their Measure 110 grant they have been able to provide **150 days of safe, stable housing for 20 community members** pursuing their path to recovery, and have also helped an additional 30 people through their Wasco County walk-in center.
- The Oregon Washington Health Network (OWhN) **opened three new drop-in peer centers**: one each in Pendleton, Hermiston and Milton-Freewater. These centers offer low-barrier access to addiction recovery services.
- Fresh Out Community Based Reentry Program, which helps underserved and overrepresented Black and African American populations transition from prison back into society, has **helped over 200 people** since June, providing vital supports like rental assistance and job training.
- Community Outreach through Radical Empowerment (CORE) has been able to dramatically ramp up their outreach efforts in Lane County, **providing peer support and overdose prevention services to over 550 people**. They have increased their street outreach efforts from four times a month to four times a week, and conducted outreach in rural areas of the County that they've never had capacity to serve before.

Decriminalization did not go into effect until February 1, 2021. Because of this, it's too early to measure the exact success of that portion of the law, but we know we've avoided a lot of unnecessary human suffering.

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“Thanks to 110, **thousands of Oregonians have not been saddled with the lifelong barriers that too often accompany even a misdemeanor drug charge**, preventing people in recovery from accessing housing, a job, or even obtaining a credit card.”

- Larry Turner, Fresh Out Community Based Re-Entry Program

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