

# Oregon Solutions

## *Redeeming Scholars Project Development*



### ABOUT

- Campus-based, peer mentor program
- Purpose-help formerly incarcerated individuals access post-secondary education
- Based on a model from California (team looking at work of other states, too)
- *Currently in project development*

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### **Assessment Findings –*Sampling of What we heard***

- Universal support for Redeeming Scholars-like program
- Movement toward rehabilitation from punitive corrections
- Person-center/post-incarcerated approach
- Focus on all post-secondary (trades, community colleges, universities)
- Equity
  - Disproportionally impacted individuals
  - Variations in community-based resources
  - Considerations for victims
- Aligns with institutions missions
- Should dovetail with in-prison education activities
- Help with basic needs during transition (food, shelter)
- Low to moderate cross-sector knowledge
- Oregon's fragmented system of government



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### Currently

- In Project Development
  - Developing the program framework and defining the role of potential staff
  - Working with key stakeholders & institutional partners (formerly incarcerated, BOLI, community colleges, universities, HECC, state corrections)
  - Future work will focus on systemic challenges that may need to be addressed
- Continue to coordinate with Sen. Dembrow on in-institution education
- Outreach & coordination with Governor's Racial Justice Council staff
- Additional coordination and communication with this Committee



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*Redeeming Scholars – Preliminary Draft Assessment Findings*



**THANK YOU**

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