



Oregon Juvenile Department Directors' Association
Representing Oregon's County Juvenile Departments
www.ojdda.org

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OJDDA
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HB 2513 **OJDDA Recommends Continued work on SUD Services for Youth**

Ballot Measure 110 was passed by Oregon voters in November of 2020 with the intent of decriminalization of Methamphetamine, Cocaine, and Heroin along with attempting to add services to assist individuals with addiction issues towards recovery. Youth were also included in this Ballot Measure, though there was little conversation about that aspect.

The Oversight and Accountability Council was formed under the BM to determine and distribute funding through the Behavioral Health Resource Networks (BHRN) Grants. Those monies have been distributed yet very little money was used for any type of juvenile treatment services or programming. While the grants did not preclude juvenile substance abuse providers from applying for grant money, few applied.

The effects of BM110 and its effects on juveniles has not been part of any significant conversations.

- **Secretary of State Audit January 2023, did not look at or report on any juvenile SUD treatment programs or services.**
- **Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission GAP Analysis dated February 2, 2023 did not look at any juvenile SUD treatment programs or services in their report.**

Oregon has no real "system" for drug and alcohol treatment for juvenile SUD's. Juvenile SUD providers provide treatment services in an out-patient or residential setting. The framework for a true "system" has never been developed in Oregon. This is unfortunate as Oregon has one of the highest rates of teen overdose and ranks 50th in the country for access to treatment.

Under the current system Oregon's drug laws and policies are leaving juveniles with SUD treatment needs to be treated in the adult system.

Proposed short term solutions;

1. Provide immediate funding this legislative session from the State General Fund to address the shortage of juvenile residential treatment services. Low pay and a difficult population to work with has created barriers in attracting additional employees to this workforce. As a result, facilities are currently unable to operate at full capacity.
2. Create a formal workgroup to address the Juvenile SUD crisis in Oregon and develop a policy and funding plan to support a continuum of juvenile services.
3. Require the workgroup to report back to the Legislature before the 2024 Legislative Session detailing the juvenile SUD system needs and recommendations to the Legislature to address those needs.