Oregon Youth Authority

The Oregon Juvenile Justice Information System

10
Number of OYA close-custody facilities

650
Approximate number of youth offenders OYA supervises in close custody

550
Approximate number of youth offenders OYA supervises in community residential treatment and foster care settings

450
Approximate number of youth offenders OYA supervises who live independently or at home in communities

323
Total Funds, in millions of dollars, allocated to OYA in 2013-2015

88
Approximate percent of OYA's budget spent locally in facilities and communities

Overview

Oregon's Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS) is a collaborative initiative of the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA), the 36 county juvenile departments, and other juvenile justice and public safety partners. Recognized as a national model, JJIS promises "one youth, one record." It offers a single source of information about a youth's contacts and confidential case records with the state's juvenile justice system, regardless of where in Oregon those contacts occurred. This includes contacts with local jurisdictions as well as with OYA.

This integrated, statewide electronic information system was developed in the 1990s to support positive outcomes for youth offenders, 80 percent of whom are handled by county juvenile departments. JJIS replaced multiple information systems that had been managed by separate agencies, which had prevented Oregon jurisdictions from tracking offenders across agency lines or evaluating the effectiveness of various juvenile justice services.

Administered by OYA, JJIS eliminated duplicate data entry among agencies and established a statewide standard for recording juvenile corrections information by its nearly 4,000 users. Of these users, approximately 1,300 work with youth through OYA and county juvenile departments. The others are approved external partners – such as law enforcement and adult corrections agencies – which have limited access.

Tracking youth outcomes

JJIS provides comprehensive case information about juvenile offenders and the services they receive from Oregon's state and county juvenile justice agencies. It assists agencies and providers in managing individual juvenile offender cases and in tracking juveniles through the system; it aids in planning, developing, and evaluating services designed to reduce juvenile crime; and it recognizes and supports the partner agencies' common business needs.

Even if a youth commits offenses in more than one county, JJIS maintains a single record for that youth. For an individual offender, JJIS provides information such as demographics, allegations, referrals, adjudications, court conditions, risk assessments, case plans, close-custody and residential commitments, incident reports, and treatment services. This enables juvenile authorities to track an individual's status, program involvement, progress, and outcomes through the justice system.

Reporting key indicators

JJIS administrators provide a wealth of useful data to decision-makers. Data include a series of annual reports providing information that supports public safety and reduction of juvenile crime. Statewide and county-specific reports are produced for recidivism, referrals, dispositions, detention and length of stay, restitution, community service, and programs and services.

Users can see how many youth participated in various types of services, and the share of participants who completed these services. Reports enable tracking of such factors as admission reason and detention length by demographics and detention length by admission reason. Data also are made available to agency researchers and authorized external researchers upon request.

The reports aid researchers, juvenile justice and corrections agencies, and public safety partners in planning, developing and evaluating programs designed to reduce juvenile crime. JJIS also provides the foundation for OYA's emerging and data-driven Youth Reformation System.

Maintaining confidentiality

JJIS protects confidentiality of information with multiple layers of security.

The only people with JJIS access are those whom the partner agency has designated as having a legitimate need for it. Specific security roles manage what types of information about a youth a user can see. User agreements are updated and signed annually.

JJIS permits access to authorized information about youth with whom the individual is working. If an individual tries to access information about a youth for whom he or she has no responsibility, JJIS prompts that user to grant him- or herself temporary access to that youth's information. This enables JJIS to track who has granted themselves temporary access. This process permits immediate legitimate access to cases that have not yet been assigned, while discouraging inappropriate access.

Additionally, specific information about a youth can be protected with an access log or restricted to designated individuals, regardless of security role access.

Not all information in JJIS is protected. Some is legally available to the public and may be made available when requested. For example, if family members want to know whether a youth is in the system, an authorized staff member can look up the information and – if the youth is in the system – refer the family to the juvenile parole and probation officer who knows the youth's status.

JJIS is managed by a steering committee comprising representatives of OYA, the Oregon Juvenile Department Directors Association, the Oregon Department of Corrections, and other partners. The steering committee meets monthly to prioritize development of software features, make policy decisions, and allocate project resources.

Leading the nation

These capabilities have made Oregon a national leader in the efficient and effective use of data to support juvenile justice and positive youth outcomes.