

Safe Kids, Safer Communities (HB 2707)

Currently, in most Oregon counties, when youth are arrested for adult charges they are held in adult jails until trial. Youth who commit crimes need to be held accountable with interventions that help to prevent future criminal behavior. Adult jails are not equipped to keep youth safe and youth don't receive age-appropriate interventions when they are held in adult jails. At least 10 Oregon counties already try to keep youth out of adult jails already. We need to expand this policy to keep our youth and our communities safe.

Victims Services

Most victims of crime struggle to rebuild their psychological, physical, and financial health in the aftermath of crime. Stable services to assist people during this difficult time are vital to the safety and wellbeing of Oregon's individuals, families, communities, and the entire state. To do this, we must protect the funding for the Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence Services Fund (ODSVS). ODSVS provides core public safety services to victims of crime at the time of their greatest need. Services are already under-funded; as we have seen from the recent spate of domestic violence murders, Oregonians need a safe place to turn when escaping a dangerous situation at home. Cuts to ODSVS would further limit victims' options for safety during their time of greatest need.

Corrections Spending, Justice Re-investment

The Department of Corrections spends over a billion dollars per biennium, the highest percentage of a general fund budget in the nation. 2009 marked another year of significant drops in both property and violent crime, and it is important to note that those crime drops happened while Measure 57 was on hold. With crime at historic lows and when the state faces an estimated \$3.5 billion budget shortfall, Oregon needs to continue using smart approaches to public safety, like increased earned time and the delay of Measure 57. The money saved can be invested in critical services like domestic violence shelters and drug treatment programs. At a time where difficult budget decisions need to be made, addiction treatment is a smart investment because it helps maintain community safety while saving money in the short and long term.

Shannon Wight, Associate Director (shannon@safetyandjustice.org)
Kerry Naughton, Crime Survivor Program Director (kerry@safetyandjustice.org)
Margi Hoffman, Strategies 360 Senior VP, (margiH@strategies360)





Who we are

Founded in 1999, Partnership for Safety and Justice is a state-wide advocacy organization based in Portland. We have developed a pioneering model for our work, one that brings together all of those most directly affected by crime, violence and the criminal justice system - survivors of crime, people convicted of crime and the families of both – to advocate for a system that is just and that more effectively builds safer, healthier communities. We are the first advocacy organization in the country to unite these constituencies.

Partnership for Safety and Justice

www.safetyandjustice.org

Follow us on Facebook

825 NE 20th, Suite 250

Portland, OR 97232

Cell: 503.869.6708

Phone: 503.335.8449 ext. 210

Fax: 503.232.1922

