



Umatilla County

Youth Services Division

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate Release:

Please include this information in an article by Sunday, November 29, 2009. Also, please list the time, date and location of the Juvenile Crime Prevention Town Hall Work Sessions in the Community Calendar/Events. Thank you.

November 24, 2009

For further information Contact: Shelley Ena, CCF Coordinator: 541-278-5486

Citizens Asked to Participate in Updating the Local High-Risk Juvenile Crime Prevention Plan

The Umatilla County Commission on Children and Families in cooperation with Umatilla County Youth Services Division are at work updating the Local High-Risk Juvenile Crime Prevention Plan for Umatilla County and are inviting members of the community and partnering agency professionals to be active participants in this planning process.

The Juvenile Crime Prevention Program (JCP) is a State of Oregon initiative that provides funds to Oregon counties and tribes to pay for services supporting youth and families, with the goal of preventing youth from engaging in criminal behavior that would result in them entering the juvenile justice system. JCP monies fund services and programs identified, within the JCP plan, to meet specific needs and focus on identifying and intervening with youth at high risk of entering the juvenile justice system. Services can be grouped into direct interventions (such as substance abuse treatment, tutoring, or family counseling), case management (including coordinated review and monitoring of a youth's needs and services), and support services (including the provision of basic needs services, such as housing assistance or medical assistance).

Umatilla County receives three sources of funding from the State that is dedicated to reducing juvenile crime and delinquency:

- 1) JCP Prevention Funds: focus on efforts to reduce the number of youth who enter the juvenile justice system or who could move further into the system because of re-offending.
- 2) JCP Basic Services Funds: focus on youth who are at moderate to high risk for re-offending.
- 3) JCP Diversion Funds: focus on youth who are at high-risk to re-offend and to be placed in the care and custody of the Oregon Youth Authority for placement in residential treatment, foster care or Youth Correctional facility.

The Local High-Risk Juvenile Crime Prevention planning process focuses on the first category, "JCP Prevention Funds". The planning process began with a brief community survey that was completed in October, 2009. The results of the survey will be reviewed and presented in Town Hall Work Sessions that will be held in Hermiston, Pendleton and Milton-Freewater. The first of



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these will take place in Hermiston on December 2nd at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Commons.

During the Town Hall Work Session community members will be asked to participate in discussions about local resources, gaps and barriers to accessing services, strategies and community priorities. We hope that the communities on the west end of Umatilla County will use this opportunity on December 2nd to share their thoughts regarding juvenile crime prevention. For more information contact Shelley Ena, 541-278-5486

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<http://www.co.umatilla.or.us>. Click on "news releases".