

<b>Priority:</b>	Safety	<b>Lead Agency:</b>	Community Justice
<b>Program Offer Type:</b>	Existing Operating	<b>Program Contact:</b>	Thach Nguyen
<b>Related Programs:</b>	25077A, 50030, 50038, 50042, 50044, 50045, 50047		
<b>Frameworks:</b>	School Aged Policy Framework, Early Childhood Framework, Poverty Framework		

### **Executive Summary**

Informal Intervention imposes consequences on the actions of more than 1,500 troubled children and low-risk youth, preventing them from re-offending, becoming more involved in the juvenile system and leaving school. The program works: re-offense rates for youth in Informal Intervention are 45% lower than for youth on probation and have declined the past five years.

### **Program Description**

Informal Intervention provides cost-effective alternatives to formal probation for children too young for formal prosecution and lower-risk youth. Informal Intervention works with children under 12 who have committed sexually inappropriate acts, set fires, and other dangerous offenses to prevent these children from becoming involved in future crime. Informal Intervention holds these youth responsible for their offenses by applying appropriate consequences, such as community service, victim impact classes, victim mediation and repaying victims through the DCJ's restitution program. Many 12 and under youth also receive mental health therapy through the Early Intervention Unit, the Informal unit's clinical partner. Informal Interventions also holds accountable 1,500 low-, medium- and high-risk youth (ages 12-18) who, with consent of the district attorney, can be diverted from costlier formal probation. In addition, Informal also works with Portland Public Schools to counsel youth who are at risk of dropping-out or being expelled so they remain in school.

### **Program Justification**

Informal Intervention is an indispensable part of the juvenile system and directly contributes to core safety principles and strategies. The program prevents youth from committing new crimes: re-offense rates for youth in Informal Intervention are 45% lower than for youth on probation and have declined the past five years. It teaches low-risk youth that they are responsible for their actions by applying appropriate consequences that are consistent with a streams of offender model and evidence-based practices. It is also cost-effective: research shows that low risk youth who are diverted from the formal juvenile system have lower re-offense rates, which saves public safety resources for high-risk youth and produces better outcomes. Finally, children who are 12 and under and who commit serious offenses at an early age are a high risk to become chronic offenders (and even to develop into psychopaths). Informal Intervention holds them accountable (in ways that are appropriate to their unique legal status and developmental needs) and arranges clinical interventions that are designed to prevent these children from re-offending and entering the formal juvenile and adult systems later on.

### **Performance Measures**

80% of youth served through Informal Intervention will not commit a new criminal offense within 12 months of their initial offense.

### **Summary of last year's program results and this year's expected results**

For 2002 offenders, 80% of offenders served by Informal Intervention did not commit another criminal offense (as compared to 64% of all 2002 offending youth who did not commit another criminal offenses in 2002). Next year, we expect this rate to be maintained at the target of 80%.

**Program Mandate: 2 Mandated Program with Funding/Service Level Choice**

ORS 419C.001 requires "The [juvenile] system shall provide a continuum of services that emphasize prevention of further criminal activity by the use of early and certain sanctions . . .". ORS 419C.225 authorizes diversion programs.

**Revenue/Expense Detail**

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
<b>Program Expenses</b>	2005	2005	2006	2006
Personnel	\$517,627	\$303,552	\$728,576	\$378,588
Contracts	\$102,655	\$89,383	\$220,728	\$79,516
Materials & Supplies	\$3,549	\$2,447	\$4,749	\$2,316
Internal Services	\$14,287	\$30,924	\$32,576	\$34,913
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	<b>\$638,118</b>	<b>\$426,306</b>	<b>\$986,629</b>	<b>\$495,333</b>
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$84,903	\$12,623
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$248,923	\$1,249
Subtotal: Other Exps:	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$333,826</b>	<b>\$13,872</b>
Total GF/non-GF:	<b>\$638,118</b>	<b>\$426,306</b>	<b>\$1,320,455</b>	<b>\$509,205</b>
Program Total:	<b>\$1,064,424</b>		<b>\$1,829,660</b>	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	8.89	4.61
<b>Program Revenues</b>				
Indirect for dep't Admin	\$16,550	\$0	\$18,838	\$0
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$426,306	\$0	\$495,333
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$16,550</b>	<b>\$426,306</b>	<b>\$18,838</b>	<b>\$495,333</b>

**Explanation of Revenues**

This program is partially funded with ITAX dollars \$224,511; State Juvenile Crime Prevention \$305,647; Portland Public Schools Delayed Expulsion grant \$50,000; Portland Public Schools Suspension grant, ending June 2007 \$50,000; and State funds through the Commission on Children and Families, which are passed through to CASA \$89,686.

**Significant Program Changes**

None.