

OREGON CURE

Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants

A Newsletter for Families and Friends of Incarcerated Individuals

P.O. Box 80193 – Portland, OR 97280 (503) 977-9979



Winter 2020, Volume 59

MEET THE OREGON CURE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Have you wondered who works on Oregon CURE projects? Well, we thought you might like to know, so we're going to introduce ourselves!

First of all, Oregon CURE has an all-volunteer board and we meet at least once per month to discuss CURE's action items, where we are headed, what is most needed, and how to proceed to meet those needs. We typically have full time jobs and we have first-hand experience with the criminal justice system either by being incarcerated or through a loved one's incarceration. Our board includes the following- President and Correspondence Manager: Karen, Vice-President and Secretary: Terry, Treasurer and Webmaster: Paul, Assistant Treasurer and Postmaster: Steve, Newsletter Editor: Kate, and the following contributors and members at large: Cheryl, Randy, Patty and Kym.

We will attempt to give you a little background on each of us this year, starting this newsletter with Paul and Karen:

I am Paul Erickson. My wife and I joined an Oregon CURE support group in 2013. We were looking to learn the ins and outs of what happens when someone has been arrested and is headed to prison. It was and is a great place to share and get questions answered, as well as answer questions for others that are going through a new chapter in their life's journey.

In 2014, we joined the Oregon CURE board of directors. There was a need for more volunteers to share the tasks that the board president in particular was handling. Some years before, I had been Treasurer for a private school affiliated with our church. With that background I offered to take on the treasurer's job. I also offered to maintain the list of names that are on the Oregon CURE mailing list. My engineering background working with numbers and records helped make this a fit. Since the beginning as a board member, I have helped with keeping the website going, monitoring the email accounts and have answered regular mail from individuals looking for help. When needed, I have returned phone calls from individuals seeking information, help or just needing to have someone listen to them.

All these things, while challenging, are rewarding when someone says thanks for the help. I have learned a lot about the legal justice system through all this and am better off for that knowledge. I encourage anyone to get involved at whatever level works for them and fits their talents. Seems there are always more items to tackle in support of those serving time on both sides of the bars.

My name is Karen and I first became involved with Oregon CURE in 2000 after my only two children were arrested and incarcerated. I learned about, and began working on, the repeal of Measure 11, and thus became involved with multiple like-minded organizations— Oregon CURE being one of them. I came and went in my involvement with Oregon CURE over the years as my time allowed and in 2019 became the President. I find as a nation we have seen some much-needed changes in criminal justice reform in the last couple of years and I look forward to seeing what the new year brings for the nation and for Oregon as we move toward implementing some of the Norway teachings on criminal justice and grow the "Oregonway". There is much work to be done and we appreciate the support of all who contribute to that work. Personally, I appreciate our board of directors, and those who contribute information for our newsletter, donors, and our volunteers. We couldn't continue our mission without you. Thank you!

Marshall Project Newsletter: Subscribe to the free “News Inside” newsletter published by The Marshall Project specifically for incarcerated individuals. Please contact “News Inside” for your printed copy at: 156 W. 56th, Suite 701, New York City, NY 10019. For any questions you may call: 212-803-5200.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY

contacting your legislators about issues that are important to you.

Find your legislators at www.oregonlegislature.gov/FindYourLegislator/
It's never too late, your legislators will be back in session again before you know it.

HELP SUPPORT OREGON CURE WHEN YOU SHOP

Amazon: Help us earn .05% for all of your Amazon purchases by selecting Oregon CURE on Amazon Smile. Visit smile.amazon.com and search for Oregon CURE. Select Oregon CURE and start shopping using the smile.amazon.com URL every time!

Fred Meyer: Link your Fred Meyer rewards card with Oregon CURE and Fred Meyer's will send us a quarterly donation. It's easy! Visit FredMeyer.com/community rewards then Link Your Rewards Card Now. Login to your account or sign up and then search for Oregon CURE (Org # BN477).

Member donation form:

Please note: We have now added your membership renewal date on the address label of this newsletter. If your renewal date is expired, we ask that you please renew today to continue to receive this newsletter and to continue to support our organization.

Send your membership renewal or donation to: **Oregon CURE, PO Box 80193, Portland, OR 97280.** We also accept donations through mail or through our website www.oregoncure.org!

Name: _____ Address: _____

Email: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

(Optional):

Name of incarcerated loved one/ SID & facility: _____

I would like to volunteer my services! My skills are: _____

LETTER FROM *TIME DOES NOT FIT THE CRIME**

By Patty Youngblood.

TDNFTC was founded in the summer of 2014 when two cell-mates asked their loved ones to join forces in wanting to change Measure 11. Myself (a mother) and Barb (a wife) joined forces and found we were not alone. We held a meeting to see how many other families/loved ones felt they got the shaft during sentencing. Others shared their stories and it felt like *deja-vu* in the court room. From there we formed *Time Does Not Fit The Crime*. We knew fighting Measure 11 was not going to be easy or fast. Five years later, here we are and still fighting to make a change to Measure 11.

During the 2019 legislative session, we had two bills introduced to make changes to Measure 11. Unfortunately, neither bill passed. In our first bill we went for the gusto and had five concepts to change on Measure 11. That bill did not receive a public hearing. Our second bill only had three concepts and made it further, yet it also did not receive a public hearing. Through the countless face-to-face meetings over the past five years with both senators and representatives, we learned that we needed to address changes to Measure 11 one step at a time.

Now we have narrowed our goal to one concept; earned time. That would benefit those who want to change and are willing to take the steps that will make a difference for themselves and their families.

You ask why *Earned Time* and not *2nd Look*? We've thought about the two choices for some time and realized we want something that all of our loved ones can earn and have control over. With *2nd look* individuals are putting themselves, their families and victims back through hell and in the hands of the courts and the DA. We feel *earned time* gives our loved ones the opportunity to be rewarded for good conduct and program accomplishments. It would apply to all Measure 11 crimes. We feel it is the best option going forward and has a better chance of passing. We believe since SB 1008, which reforms Measure 11 for juveniles, passed this year, that it is now time to reform Measure 11 as it applies to adults.

State Senator Floyd Prozanski who chairs the Senate Judiciary committee is supportive of reforming Measure 11 for adults. He was one of the key legislators who led the charge in developing and passing SB 1008. He has been meeting with me this past year on changes that need to happen to Measure 11. We agreed that allowing an individual to receive *earned time* is the best approach for reforming Measure 11.

The current plan is for Senator Prozanski to start a workgroup after the 2020 short session. The workgroup which I will participate in, will develop the concepts for allowing and administering an *earned time* program for Measure 11. The workgroup's concepts will then be drafted into a bill for the 2021 legislative session.

I truly believe with everyone's continued support that we will finally see a much-needed change to Measure 11 in 2021.

**Time Does Not Fit The Crime* = TDNFTC

THE RESPONSIBILITY LETTER BANK

Do you wish to express remorse to the victims of your crime? By law, you are not allowed to contact your victims, yet through the Responsibility Letter Bank you can and hopefully will. For a detailed information and guidelines packet, please write to: VICTIM SERVICES PROGRAM, 3405 DEER PARK DRIVE, SALEM, OR 97310. Remember when you write your letter, you are expressing remorse **for the crimes you have been convicted of** and **only to your victims**, not to the courts.

2020 DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT & RECOVERY ACT

FACTS AND BACKGROUND

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 1 in every 11 Oregonians is addicted to drugs. Yet despite a lot of great work being done by local treatment providers, Oregon ranks nearly last out of the 50 states in access to drug treatment. Meanwhile, Oregon continues to treat addiction through the criminal justice system rather than the health system, ruining lives and wasting money. The Drug Addiction Treatment and Recovery Act of 2020 is an Oregon citizen initiative that will re-allocate money from marijuana taxes in order to greatly expand access to assessment, treatment and recovery services for drug addiction. It will also promote a health approach to addressing drug addiction by removing criminal penalties for low-level drug possession of all drugs and incentivizing people to get treatment. ***Treatment and recovery services will be available to anyone who wants them.***

How It Works:

The Act will expand services available to those struggling with addiction by providing grants to community-based or government organizations for two purposes:

1. Establishing Addiction Recovery Centers throughout the state to immediately triage the acute needs of people who use drugs, assess and address their on-going needs through intensive case management and link them to care and services. These centers can be housed in or operated by existing qualified providers.
2. Increasing Community Access to Care, including:
 - Treatment that is evidence-based, trauma-informed, culturally-responsive, patient-centered, and non-judgmental.
 - Peer support and recovery services.
 - Housing (transitional, supportive, and permanent) for persons with substance use disorder;
 - Harm reduction interventions including overdose prevention education, access to naloxone hydrochloride and sterile syringes, and other drug education and outreach.

Why It Matters:

One in every 11 Oregonians is addicted to drugs, according to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Drug addiction exacerbates many of our state's most pressing problems, such as homelessness and poverty. Oregon ranks nearly last out of the 50 states in access to drug treatment. Overdoses continue and wait lists for treatment are too long. Research clearly shows that people suffering from addiction are more effectively treated with health services than with criminal punishments. Making criminals of people suffering from addiction is cruel and ineffective. Criminalizing drugs disproportionately harms poor people and people of color. It saddles people with criminal records that prevent them from getting housing, pursuing their education, obtaining loans, getting professional licenses, getting jobs and keeping jobs. Chief petitioners are; Janie Gullickson, executive director of the Mental Health and Addiction Association of Oregon. She has personal experience with substance use disorder, homelessness, the criminal justice system and recovery. Haven Wheelock of Outside In, where she leads one of the oldest and largest harm reduction programs in the U.S. Wheelock led an initiative that dramatically reduced overdose deaths in the metro area, and she is also a fellow at the John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Anthony Johnson, executive director of the successful Oregon campaign to regulate, tax and legalize marijuana. He is also a longtime advocate for patients' rights and for effective implementation of new drug policies.

The Act establishes an Oversight and Accountability Council comprised of addiction and service delivery experts. Housed in the Oregon Health Authority, the Council will determine how funds will be distributed to grant applicants for increasing community access to care and implementing Addiction Recovery Centers. The Act removes criminal penalties for low-level possession of all drugs that are currently classified as misdemeanors; and reduces penalties for specified felony drug possession offenses to misdemeanors.

- No change is made in the criminal code for delivery, manufacture, and other commercial drug offenses, which remain crimes.
- No change is made for other crimes that may be associated with drug use, such as driving under the influence, theft, etc.
- Low level drug possession will be subject to a fine, which can be waived after a completed health assessment at an Addiction Recovery Center.

How It's Paid For:

The Act creates The Drug Treatment and Recovery Services Fund in the State Treasury, which will be funded from existing revenues:

- Grant programs and implementation and oversight of the Act are funded with dollars from marijuana taxes in excess of \$45 million annually. In 2018, marijuana tax revenue totaled \$102 million annually; that number is expected to be at about \$145 million when this Act takes effect.
- The Act also requires the state to calculate law enforcement savings costs from ending criminalization and evaluate how it is working.

The Oregon Secretary of State, Division of Audits is required to conduct financial and performance audits regarding the uses of the Drug Treatment and Recovery Services Fund and the effectiveness of the fund in achieving the purposes and policy objectives of the Act.

To read the measure, please go to: <http://oregonvotes.org/irr/2020/044text.pdf>

Questions? peter@zucker.world

Submitted by Patty Katz

DID YOU KNOW THAT CURE IS AN ALL VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION?

Your membership donations pay for the printing and mailing of our newsletters, our website fees, our phone line fees and our post office box fees. **Your funds go directly to pursue our mission, we do not have any paid employees, we are strictly a 501(c)3 organization.**

Would you like to see something added to our newsletter?

Just let us know! We are always open to suggestions. Please email us at oregoncure@gmail.com or write to us at P.O. Box 80193, Portland OR 97280 with your suggestions.



The De Muniz Resource Center is a program of the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency.

We know that successful transition from incarceration back into the community can be a challenge. You may encounter many barriers to success without sufficient assistance or support.

You are not alone! The De Muniz Resource Center exists to help you make that transition! At the center we will help with identifying needs, locating services and helping you plan for success!

Services we provide include:

- Employment assistance
- Individualized navigator coaching
- Education assistance
- Obtaining identification
- Housing resources
- Child and family resources- parenting education
- Transportation assistance
- Basic needs (clothing, food, hygiene essentials, etc.)
- Legal assistance- civil matters
- Health and mental health resources
- Success planning
- And many more...

3940 Aumsville Hwy S.E.M-F 8:30-5 walk-ins welcome!

Salem, OR 97317

Telephone: 503-990-7370

RELEASE ORIENTATIONS

Release Orientations are co-facilitated by Community Corrections and Oregon CURE. Find out how you can help your recently or soon to be released loved one successfully re-enter our communities. Before attending, please phone one of the county coordinators / department listed below to confirm the date, time and location.

Washington County Dates

Contact: Marcus Ford (503) 846-3494
Held Quarterly: 1st Wednesday of February, May, August, November
Time: 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm
Location: Call to Confirm (503) 977-9979 or email oregoncure@gmail.com

Multnomah County Dates

Contact: (503) 988-3081 press “0” for TSU
This orientation is for family and friends of prisoners who will be released within 6 months to Multnomah County.
Time: 3rd Thursdays, 3:30 – 5:00PM
Location: Mead Building
First Floor Conference Room
421 SW 5th Avenue, Portland

Marion County Dates

Contact: Kayla Thompson
(503) 540-8017 (call to confirm)
Meetings are held each January, April, July and October from 6:30-8:30 PM.
Marion County Probation and Parole
Location: Marion County Transition Center
3950 Aumsville Hwy SE, Salem, OR 97317

INTAKE ORIENTATIONS

Intake Orientations are co-facilitated by Oregon Department of Corrections and Oregon CURE. Find out about Oregon’s prison system, the intake process, phones, mail, and visiting requirements. You will receive a packet of informational brochures. There will be opportunities to ask questions and learn how you can get through your loved one’s incarceration. Maintaining family contact is vital to your loved one’s time in prison and upon release.

Portland Metro Dates

Held Quarterly: 1st Wednesdays of March, June, September, and December
Time: 5:30pm to 7:00pm
Location: Varies, please call Oregon CURE to confirm: (503) 977-9979 or email oregoncure@gmail.com

Salem Dates

Held Quarterly: 3rd Thursdays of February, May, August, and November
Time: 6:30pm to 8:30pm
Location:
First Christian Church
685 Marion Street NE
Salem, OR 97301
Parlor Room
(503) 378-0050 (call to confirm)

Corner of Marion and Church streets, on the north side of downtown. There is parking on the street or in the Dept. of Energy parking lot next door. The entrance is on the west side of the building, in the parking lot.

Support Groups

Oregon CURE support groups are intended for adult family members and friends only. Some topics of discussion may not be suitable for small children or pre-teens. Attend a support group and network with family members who have “been there”.

Beaverton Support Group

1st Wednesdays: 7:00-8:30pm
Please call to confirm the location.
(503)977-9979 or email oregoncure@gmail.com

Portland East Side Support Group

Abundant Life Church
17241 S.E. Hemrich Rd.
Damascus, OR 97089
(503)757-7762 Will and Corinne

Salem Support Group

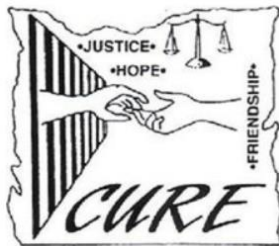
1st Saturdays: 9:30-11:30am
The Keizer Senior Center
930 Plymouth Drive NE
Keizer, OR 97303
(503)409-3329 (Wayne)

Eugene Support Groups

1st Thursdays and 3rd Tuesdays: 7:00-9:00pm
Please call to confirm location.
(541)344-7612 Dave (541)342-6817 (Don)

Oregon CURE
7805 SW 40th Ave.
PO Box 80193
Portland, OR 97280

ATTENTION:
*Your address label
will now show your
renewal date. This
will be your last
newsletter if your
renewal date has
passed. Renew today
to remain informed!*



Publication Notice

This newsletter is a publication of Oregon CURE. Oregon CURE is a 501 (c)(3) organization whose goal is to reduce crime through criminal justice reform.

The opinion and statements contained in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of Oregon CURE.

Contributions of articles, letters to the editor, notices, etc. are welcome, but may be edited or rejected for space. Articles may be copied in their entirety with credit to the author or to the publication.

Oregon CURE is an all-volunteer organization that is not a service organization. Do not send us any legal documents, we are not a legal service. We are not qualified to assist you with legal matters.

Renew your membership to Oregon CURE today!

Send your member donation to: Oregon CURE, PO Box 80193, Portland, OR 97280

Website: www.oregoncure.org Email: oregoncure@gmail.com

Please fill out the member donation form in this newsletter.

Type of donation: Adult in custody: \$3/ Individual: \$15/ Family: \$25/ Sustaining: \$50-\$100/

Sponsor: \$100-\$250/ Benefactor: \$250+