



A partnership
between



Multco Department of Community Justice

Portland Police Bureau

SIRN

System Information & Resource Network

**Multco Board of County
Commissioner's Briefing**

September 2012

Scott Taylor

Director

Multnomah County Department of Community Justice

Christina McMahan

Director

Juvenile Justice Division

Lt. Dave Virtue

Portland Police Bureau Training Unit

Tina Edge

System Reform & Community Placement Specialist

Juvenile Justice Division



Panel Members



Scott Taylor, Director
Department of Community Justice

Christina McMahan, Assistant Director
Juvenile Service Division

Lt. Dave Virtue
Portland Police Bureau Training Unit

Tina Edge
System Reform & Community Placement Specialist



Police officers play a critical role in the development and implementation of effective juvenile justice practices



Early on Multnomah realized that police were underrepresented at the policy-making level and there was a need nationwide to embrace law enforcement in every jurisdiction. We know law enforcement is a crucial stakeholder in the juvenile justice system and provides the largest number of criminal referrals to us. Their support is vital when dealing with public safety issues, public perception and public relations - each system partner must be committed to including law enforcement in their local policy-making efforts.



Police are the first point of contact with youth and their families



In 2009, Multnomah County Department of Community Justice and the Portland Police Bureau joined hands to develop and implement alternative responses to youth involved in certain kinds of offenses. New police officers now receive intensified training on the juvenile justice system, including placement in community services organizations that expose them to the types of complex social issues that they face when dealing with criminal offenders in the field. The resulting collaboration, known as the SIRN, has deepened law enforcement's understanding of, and input into, detention reform and juvenile justice practice.



Police Perspective



For police, the benefits of this collaboration are:

- other agencies learning how to approach them
- stakeholders understanding what information law enforcement needs to hear
- others learn how to keep law enforcement at the table
- understand the value of experiential training and what it means to police



Police Perspective continued

They also begin to understand:

- the differences in agency mission statements and scope of work
- how to embrace system partners
- the importance of learning other agency languages
- how to train cross culturally and understand the benefits of building partnerships related to their day to day jobs





All system partners have responsibility to provide for community safety.

The goal of this program is to help officers understand they are not alone in their work but have many dedicated system partners standing behind them such as the District Attorney's Office, Multnomah County Department of Community Justice, and community providers that together serve and support juveniles, adults and their families in the probation, parole and juvenile services system.





SIRN Faculty

Outside In
Asian Family Center
Police Activity League
Oregon Youth Authority
Youth Employment Institute
Porchlight / Streetlight Program
Rosemary Anderson High School
Native American Youth & Family Association
Yellow Brick Road
Partnership for Veterans at Risk
Multco Health Department Youth Violence Program
Multco Department of School & Community Partnerships Program

Project Respond
Central City Concern
New Avenues for Youth
Portland House of Umoja
Self-Enhancement Inc. (SEI)
JANUS Youth Reception Center
Catholic Charities - El Programa Hispano
Immigrant & Refugee Community Org
Oregon Counsel for Hispanic Advancement
Multco Department of Community Justice
Multco District Attorney's Office





Curriculum

The curriculum is developed to allow all new police recruits and veteran Field Training Officers to participate in a 2 to 5 day experiential training including facility tours focused on learning about each others systems while building and strengthening trusted community relationships.





Curriculum

SIRN

**System Information &
Resource Networking**



Some of the topics covered:

Harm Reduction Model

Military Veteran Services

Juvenile & Adult Corrections Systems

Homeless Youth Services Continuum

Boys Will Be Men - specific issues relating to boys

The Adolescent Brain & The Goofy Kid Syndrome

Gang Resource Intervention & 1:1 with Gang Youth

Portland street gangs as well as homeless youth subcultures and street families



Outcomes



Trained approximately 300 officers to date – SIRN is now mandatory training for all new officers

1,000 Vet Services laminated resource cards distributed to officers & available on MDTs

1,000 Juvenile Service laminated resource cards distributed to officers & available on MDTs

Increased collaboration between Homeless Youth providers and police during Occupy Portland

Officers are offering to volunteer (sometimes on their own time) at homeless youth agencies

Actively working to include East County police department and Multnomah County Sheriff's Officers



In August of this year, police recruits were brought together with high-risk probation youth to farm together in East County.

This was an effort to allow these two groups to experience a positive interaction and learn a little about each other.





Critical Leadership



SIRN was recently awarded the 2011 Portland Police Bureau Distinguished Service Medal award. The early founders of this program listed below – were selected and invited to the awards ceremony taking place this afternoon at 3:30:

- Commissioner Diane McKeel
- Scott Taylor - Department of Community Justice (DCJ) Director
- Tom Cleary – Senior Deputy District Attorney, Juvenile
- Judge Nan Waller – Presiding Judge
- Lt. Dave Virtue – Portland Police Bureau Training Unit Supervisor
- Rick Jensen – DCJ System Reform & Community Placement Manager
- Tina Edge – DCJ System Reform & Community Placement Specialist

The award ceremony will take place at David Douglas Horner Performing Arts Center – everyone is welcome to attend



Acknowledgements

*Thank
You*

Thank you to Police Chief Reese, Scott Taylor, Christina McMahan and Commissioner Diane McKeel for their support and leadership of the SIRN program.