

Federal Agenda - Public Safety Items

GRANT PROJECTS

Youth Homelessness in Marion County

\$1,000,000

Marion County is supportive of Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency and the Rural Oregon Continuum of Care's (ROCC) HUD Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program grant application. Recent analysis found there are between 20,000 and 30,000 homeless youth in Oregon, including as many as 1,500 in the Salem-Keizer School District alone. Grant funding will help to build a coordinated system that provides temporary shelter and resources to homeless youth ages 12-18 years old. This project will empower youth to develop independent living skills and support their immediate and long-term needs.

POLICY PRIORITIES

Secure Rural Schools Reauthorization – Marion County supports a long-term reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act. Of the approximately 750,000 acres of land in Marion County, 206,000 acres (or 27%) constitute land that is owned and managed by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). In fiscal year 2017 Marion County received a total of \$1,378,575 in SRS funding. Stabilizing and regulating funds from these national forest lands is a priority for Marion County as it grapples with unemployment and the economic downturn.

- ♦ ***SRS Title III Patrol and Equipment*** – Marion County is greatly appreciative of the Oregon delegation's efforts to secure a legislative fix in the FY2018 Omnibus that reinstates SRS Title III reimbursements for sheriff patrol, training, and equipment on federal lands. However, USFS's most recent reimbursement guidance does not incorporate this new flexibility granted to counties by Congress. Marion County supports an administrative or legislative clarification that provides certainty for counties to use these funds as allowed by the Omnibus provisions.

Opioid Funding – Opioids, prescription and illicit, have become the main driver of drug overdose deaths in the United States. Opioids were involved in 42,249 deaths in 2016, and opioid overdose deaths were five times higher in 2016 than 1999. The county is taking steps locally to address the prevention and treatment of this growing threat, but more assistance is needed. While bipartisan legislation signed by the President in 2018 provided additional tools to confront this crisis, the County supports additional federal funding and coordination to help Marion County communities, and communities across this country, combat this epidemic.

Support Second Chance Act Reauthorization and Funding – Marion County supports the bipartisan *Second Chance Reauthorization Act*, which would provide \$100 million each fiscal year. Marion County has a long and successful history protecting public safety and reducing crime recidivism rates through Second Chance Act funding. The Second Chance Act ensures that tax dollars on corrections are better spent, and provides a much-needed response to the "revolving door" of people entering and leaving prison and jail.

Protect EDA (including the IMCP Initiative), EPA Brownfield, CDBG, BUILD, BYRNE Justice Assistance Programs, State Criminal Alien Assistance Program and USDA Rural Development Community Facilities and Water Programs – Marion County supports maintaining funding levels for these critical infrastructure and public safety programs.

Repeal Inmate Exception for Federal Health Benefits – The law prohibits county governments from billing federal programs for the health services provided to jail inmates prior to adjudication. Marion County supports federal legislation that would repeal the inmate exception for those in custody pending disposition of charges.