



2015 Year End Report

Contents

LPSCC Executive Members 1

LPSCC Accomplishments in 2015 2

 Executive Committee 2

 MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge 4

 Subcommittees 6

 Workgroups and Affiliates 15

History of LPSCC 19

 Vision Values and Organization 20

Multnomah County LPSCC Executive Members

Co-Chairs

Charlie Hales, Mayor of Portland
Judy Shiprack, Multnomah County Commissioner,
District #3

Executive Committee

Scott Anderson, Chief, Troutdale Police**
Lane Borg, Director, Metropolitan Public Defenders
Gunnar Browning, Oregon Youth Authority
Rene DuBoise, Department of Human Services
(Represented by Miriam Green)
Julie Frantz, Chief Criminal Court Judge**
Joanne Fuller, Director, Health Department
Judy Hadley, Citizen Representative
Suzanne Hayden, Citizens Crime Commission**
Jeff Hershman, Oregon State Police**
David Hidalgo, Director, County Mental Health &
Addictions Services
Edward Jones, Chief Criminal Court Judge*
Antonio Lopez, Portland Public Schools
Andy McCool, Oregon State Police*
Diane McKeel, Multnomah County Commissioner,
District #4
Maureen McKnight, Chief Family Court Judge
Christina McMahan, Director, Dept. of Community
Justice, Juvenile Services Division**
Annie Neal, Domestic Violence Coordinator**

Larry O'Dea, Chief, Portland Police Bureau
Colette Peters, Director, Oregon Department of
Corrections (Represented by Jeremiah
Stromberg)
Mike Reese, Citizens Crime Commission*
Brian Renauer, Chair, Criminology and Criminal
Justice, Portland State University
Dan Staton, Multnomah County Sheriff
(Represented by Tim Moore)
Scott Taylor, Director, Department of Community
Justice
Rod Underhill, District Attorney
Nan Waller, Presiding Circuit Court Judge
Liesl Wendt, Director, Multnomah County Human
Services
Bill Williams, US Attorney
Jennifer Williamson, Oregon State Representative,
District 36

Staff

Abbey Stamp, Executive Director
Lauren Brown, Senior Data Analyst**
Amanda Lamb, Senior Public Safety Research
Analyst*
Lily Yamamoto, Justice Reinvestment Project
Manager
Christina Youssi, Executive Assistant

*New in 2015

**No longer on the Executive Committee due to change of position or retirement in 2015.

LPSCC'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2015

The Executive Committee

An active 2015 saw dedicated LPSCC members spend many hours moving policies and initiatives forward. The following actions and deliberations by the LPSCC's Executive Committee represent some of the most notable accomplishments.

Focus on Juvenile Justice: The March 2015 LPSCC retreat focused on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), trauma, and juvenile justice involvement. The themes, which also arose from the January What Works Conference, were:

- Implementation of trauma-informed care practices and principles;
- Implement procedural fairness;
- Increase family involvement;
- And explore collective impact.

LPSCC reviewed and examined disproportionate discipline in schools and the Community Healing Initiative Early Intervention and Mentoring program (a juvenile justice program to help first time juvenile offenders).

Justice Reinvestment Funding: LPSCC supported state legislative funding of justice reinvestment. Members of the LPSCC Executive Committee, along with County leadership and Oregon Criminal Justice Commission staff, testified that funding should continue growing local services for offenders and victims.

MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge: Members of the LPSCC Executive Committee, as well as other state, City, County, and community leaders, completed the planning phase of the Safety and Justice Challenge (SJC), which aimed to reduce over-incarceration by changing the way America thinks about and uses jails. For details on the planning process, please see page 4.

Mental Health and Jail Diversion Feasibility Study: LPSCC reviewed the recommendations of the Mental Health and Jail Diversion Feasibility Study. The Study was completed to address the County Board of Commissioners' concerns about people with mental health issues being housed in the county's jails. The study explored mental health jail diversion opportunities to reduce criminal justice system costs, reduce recidivism, and better treat the mental health needs of these individuals. County departments included aspects of the recommendations in their budget, and identified system gaps are addressed through the MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge and through the Legacy psychiatric emergency service (Unity Center), slated for opening in early 2017.

Community Corrections Plan for Multnomah County: LPSCC members approved the 2015-2017 Community Corrections Biennial Plan. The two-year plan outlines how felons will be supervised

in the community and how locally sanctioned individuals will be managed. Highlights include: reassessing work with crime victims; treatment readiness (with Sheriff's Office), changes to the resource center, working on use of jail and alternatives for those with mental illness, examining the Department of Community Justice's role in reducing racial and ethnic disparities, increasing treatment capacity as more people have access to healthcare, and hiring new probation officers.

Marijuana Legislation and Public Safety: With the legalization of recreational marijuana, public safety partners deliberated the impact on public health and safety. Presentation and details can be found at <https://multco.us/file/43240/download>.

Emergency Management and IT Security: In addition to discussing criminal justice, LPSCC reviewed the county's [emergency management program plans](#) and cyber security. The Multnomah County Emergency Plan is similar to both the state and federal plan. The county cyber security uses a 3x3x3 strategy considering people, process and technology in a model of prevention, detection, and remediation while protecting confidentiality, integrity, and availability.

2015 What Works Conference: LPSCC staff planned the January 2015 [What Works Conference](#). The theme of the conference was "Juvenile Justice: A Developmental Approach," and featured local and national juvenile justice experts, explored options for policy makers, elected officials, and practitioners to craft programs to address the unique developmental needs of justice-involved youth. Community treatment and trauma-informed care as policy tools for successful treatment were highlighted. <https://multco.us/lpsc/what-works-public-safety-conference-2015>



OJJDP Administrator Robert Listenbee delivers the keynote at the 2015 What Works Conference

MacArthur Foundation Safety and Justice Challenge

The MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge (SJC) is a national initiative designed to reduce over-incarceration by changing the way America thinks about and uses jails. Multnomah County was one of 20 chosen from over 190 applications from jurisdictions nationwide.

Planning efforts included leadership and/or staff from the Chair's Office, Commissioner Shiprack's Office, Office of Diversity and Equity, Department of Community Justice, Health Department, Multnomah County Circuit Court, Sheriff's Office, District Attorney's Office, Portland Police Department, the City of Portland's Black Male Achievement Project, and community members.

Strategies outlined in the SJC application are the natural extension of LPSCC's decades-old vision for comprehensive system reform. For more information, visit <https://multco.us/lpsc/macarthur-safety-and-justice-challenge>. Beyond program and process improvements, the SJC Challenge prompted hard and meaningful conversations among our criminal justice partners, including challenges and opportunities associated with community participation, particularly when it intentionally involves offenders. This is a dramatic paradigm shift in how criminal justice policy is currently made and changed. Race, racism, institutionalized racism, and harm caused by criminal justice practice have been brought to the forefront of leadership discussion about how to change the justice system.

The Policy Team endorsed three strategies:

1. Reduce Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED) by using a Community Engagement systems change framework
2. Improve community corrections practice and Reduce Racial and Ethnic Disparities
3. Rapid Identification, Triage, and Care Coordination of Forensic Behavioral Health Population

Strategy 1 positions Multnomah County to engage with community members in a new, authentic way. Engaging communities of color and those with direct criminal justice experience is needed to improve trust and relationships between traditionally adversarial groups that will result in better outcomes across the system.

Strategies 2 and 3 emphasize the need for options and alternatives for detainees of color, especially those suffering mental health and substance abuse problems. Early identification, coordination between justice and health, and access to quality, long-term services such as supported housing and treatment for those with co-occurring disorders. Strategy 3 proposes

better screening and referral for individuals with mental health disorders who are booked into the jail.

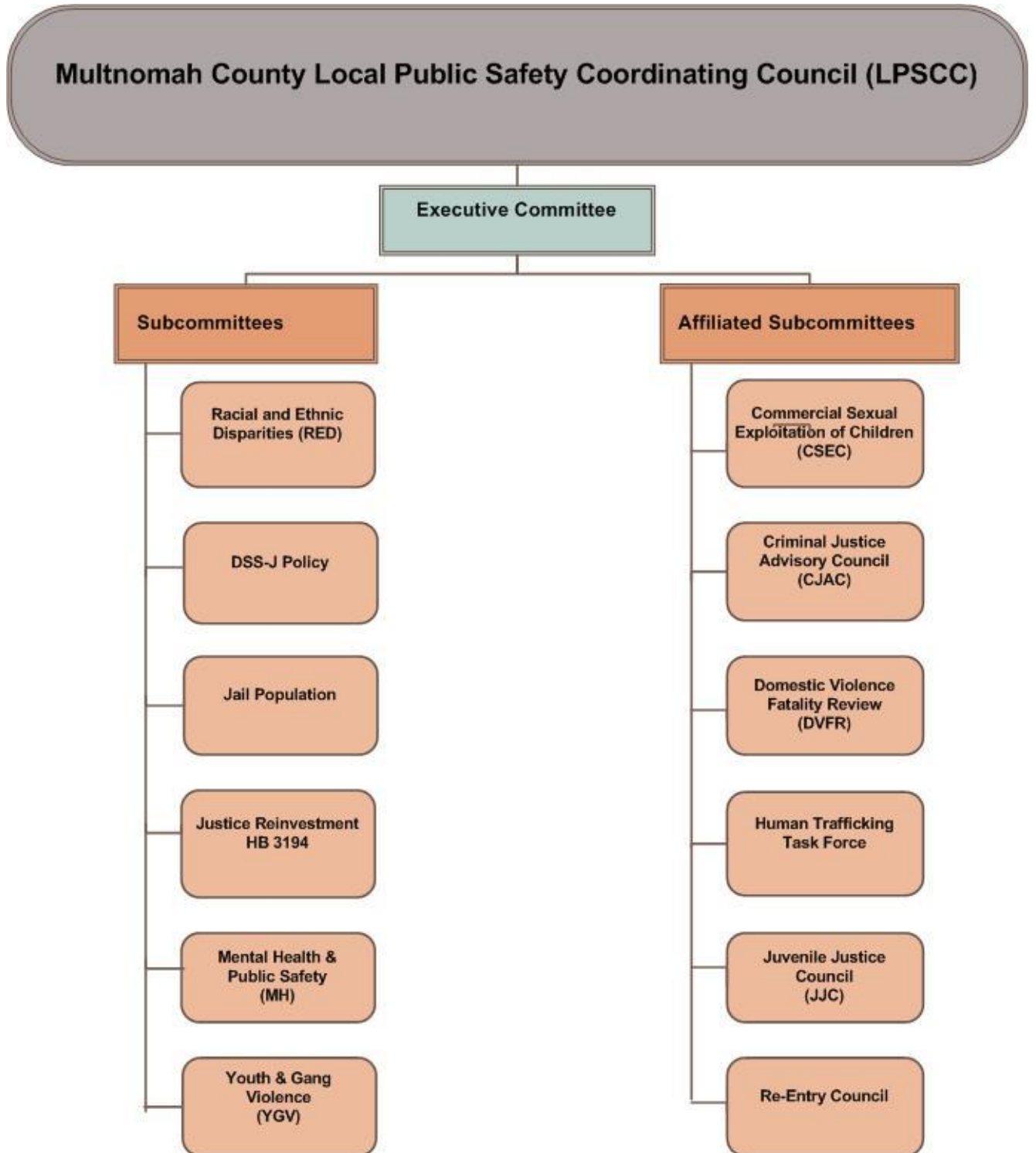
Multnomah County is uniquely positioned to address racial and ethnic disparities quantified by the SJC-generated RED Report by piloting the comprehensive community engagement process called for by Strategy 1. LPSCC partners have committed to use the county’s Equity and Empowerment Lens to supporting a community engagement processes. Within this community-based participatory approach, engagement activities are designed to support the evolution of community interactions from ‘transactional’ (one way communication) to ‘transitional’ (advisory) and, ultimately, ‘transformational’, which is characterized by joint decision-making, shared power, and co-ownership of outcomes.

While not part of the strategy development, the SJC teams worked in concert with the MacArthur Foundation consultants to develop a comprehensive report on Racial and Ethnic Disparities using the Relative Rate Index. For more information, please read the Relative Rate Index Report and summary <https://multco.us/lpscc/macarthur-safety-and-justice-challenge>.



Small group discussion during a community forum

LPSCC Subcommittees



DSSJ Policy Group

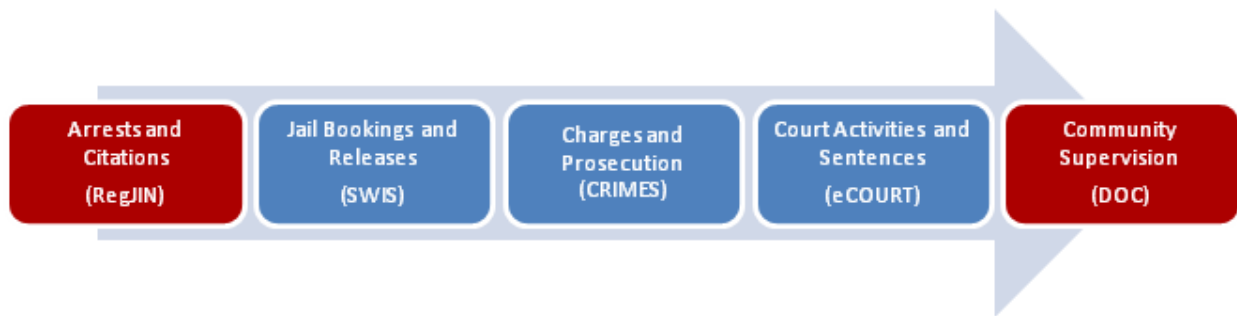
Co-Chaired by Commissioner Judy Shiprack and District Attorney Rod Underhill

Mission: To oversee the continued development of the Decision Support System Justice (DSSJ) data warehouse by prioritizing strategies to improve the administration, accessibility, operation, and security of DSSJ to ensure the realization of the system's full potential.

Quality data analysis continues to be critical for LPSCC's work and success. The Decision Support System Justice (DSSJ), the criminal justice data warehouse, is supported by the County, and allows for data matching by individual across criminal justice systems. DSSJ is an important tool for ongoing data sharing and cross-system analysis.

In recent years, the Oregon Judicial Department and the Portland Police Bureau upgraded their data systems. The DSSJ team works tirelessly to re-connect the new systems to DSSJ, but it is not an easy task. This work helped identify that, while on the cutting edge when it was launched in 1999, DSSJ is prime for an upgrade.

LPSCC and Commissioner Shiprack's office, in conjunction with County Information Technology (IT), are working with MTG, an IT consultant, to improve DSSJ. MTG is helping the County determine best next steps for the next generation of DSSJ, which will benefit each public safety system partner. Work to improve DSSJ, based on MTG's recommendations, will continue throughout 2016.



Elements of a longitudinal criminal justice data system: Systems in blue are currently available in DSSJ, while those in red are in the process of being brought into the database

Data Analyst and Collaboration

The Data Team was originally developed as part of the Multnomah County Justice Reinvestment Program (MCJRP). Consistent, vetted, trusted data among partner analysts is key. While criminal justice system analysts began meeting previously, the MCJRP data and evaluation needs caused the group to coalesce in a new way.

Partner agency data analysts have taken on other responsibilities, like drawing data for the MacArthur Foundation Safety and Justice Challenge. After more than a year of working together, the Data Team has developed into a unique team, a parallel collaborative process to the LPSCC Executive Committee.

Mental Health and Public Safety Subcommittee

Co-Chaired by Judge Julie Frantz and Corrections Health Director Nancy Griffith

Mission: To provide coordination and oversight at the intersection of the public safety and mental health systems, as well as a forum for agencies and stakeholders to address issues and initiate improvements in those systems.

In 2015, the subcommittee took on the following tasks:

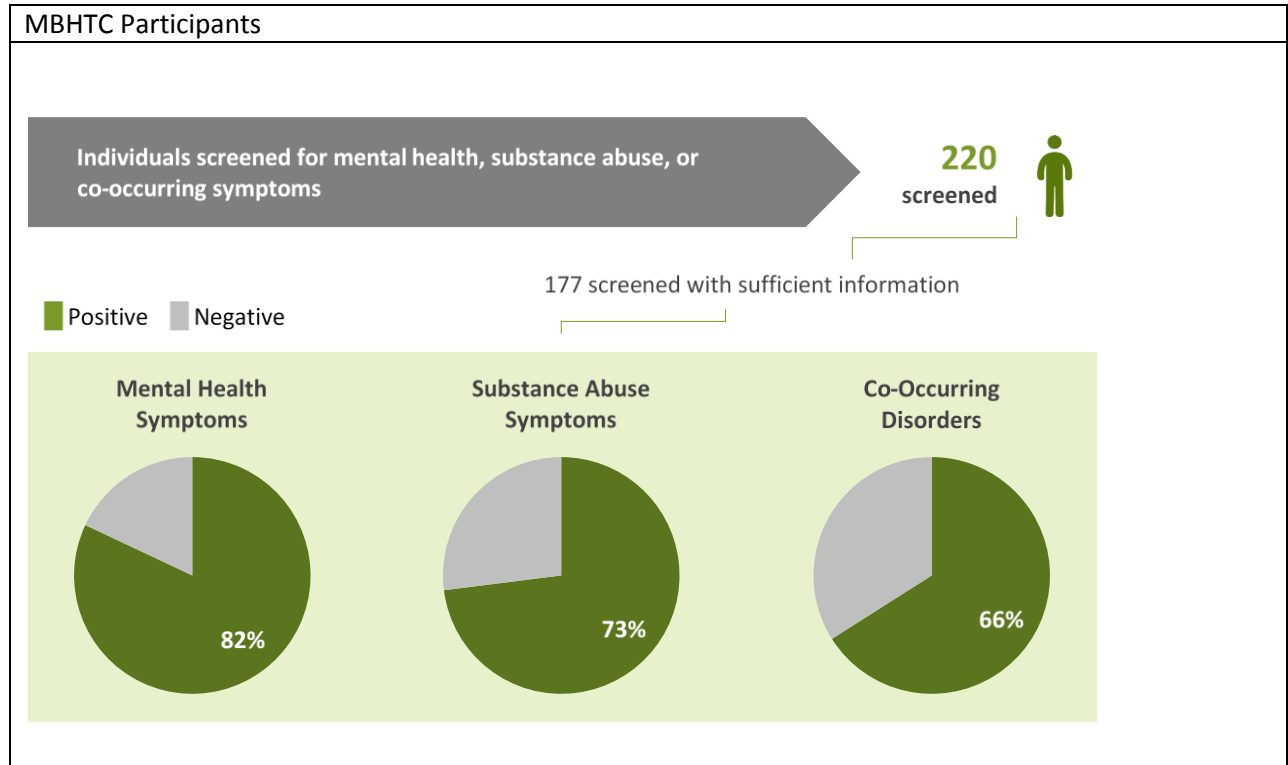
- **Safety and Justice Challenge Support:** The LPSCC Mental Health and Public Safety provided support and expertise around strategy #3 of the Safety and Justice Challenge. See page 4.



Members of the Mental Health and Public Safety Subcommittee meet at the county courthouse

- **System Transformation:** The LPSCC Mental Health and Public Safety subcommittee dedicates a portion of the agenda to healthcare transformation topics, as needed.
- **Jail Diversion Feasibility Study:** The Mental Health Jail Diversion Feasibility Study was completed and presented to LPSCC and the Board of County Commissioners in February 2015. <https://multco.us/lpscc/mental-health-jail-diversion-feasibility-study>
- **Multnomah Behavioral Health Treatment Court (MBHTC) Initiative:** The LPSCC Mental Health and Public Safety subcommittee serves as the Coordinating Council for the Multnomah Behavioral Health Treatment Court (MBHTC). Funded through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the four-year grant is funded from September 2014 - September 2018 (\$1,385,308). The MBHTC Initiative's overall purpose is to create an integrated, evidence-based and systems-wide approach in Multnomah County

to serving individuals involved in the criminal justice system who have severe behavioral health disorders that results in reduced recidivism and increased public safety. The project will enhance and expand current Mental Health Court, Forensic Diversion, and Community Court programs.



Multnomah County Justice Reinvestment Program Steering Committee

Chaired by Suzanne Hayden, Executive Director of Citizens Crime Commission.

Mission: A steering committee tasked with implementing a justice reinvestment program in Multnomah County that meets the goals established by House Bill 3194, which include maintaining an effective and sustainable public safety system while reducing prison growth.

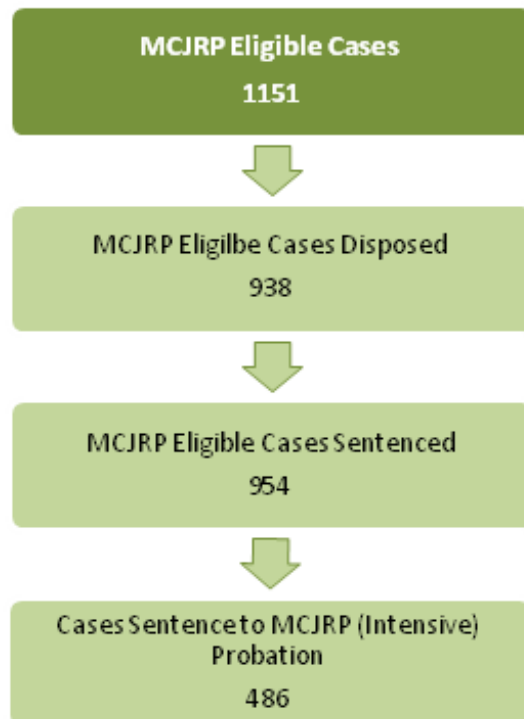
The 2013 Oregon Legislature passed HB 3194, intended to avoid costly prison growth through sentence reduction for select drug and property offenses, while increasing local criminal justice funding via the Justice Reinvestment Grant Program. This program is administered by the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission. Justice Reinvestment seeks to improve public safety by

reducing spending on incarceration in order to reinvest avoided costs in evidence-based strategies that decrease crime. Specific HB 3194 goals for Oregon include:

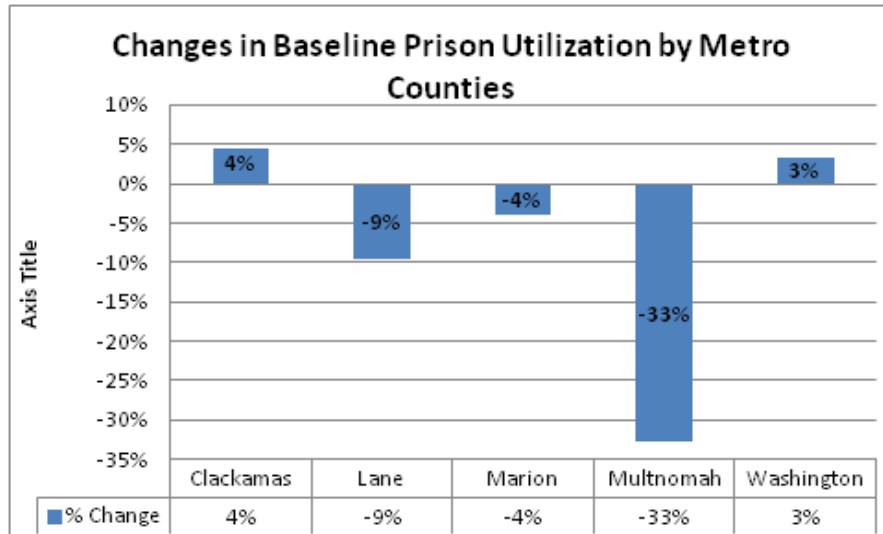
- Reduce recidivism
- Protect public safety
- Control prison growth
- Provide funding for community based sanctions, services and supervision

The steering committee developed the Multnomah County Justice Reinvestment Program (MCJRP), which launched July 1, 2014. The MCJRP process adds a comprehensive risk/needs assessment of defendants prior to case disposition. This allows for more informed sentencing decisions for all parties in MCJRP-eligible cases. The assessment is a validated tool used by community corrections agencies nationwide. Once the offender is sentenced, some may participate in MCJRP probation, which is an intensive, wraparound, individualized supervision period. This supervision provides services to address the crimenogenic factors present in an offender's life including: housing, alcohol/drug and mental health treatment, mentoring, employment/education support, and parenting skills.

These evidence-based strategies help Multnomah County make informed sentencing decisions and identify appropriate and responsive community supervision and services. Rather than fund expensive prisons, the county and state justice reinvestment goals are to continually reduce the number of offenders sent to prison, while maintaining public safety and offender accountability through comprehensive services, sanctions, and supervision.



In calendar year 2015, the MCJRP program saved the Department of Corrections over \$9 million dollars in incarceration costs. The chart below shows the change in baseline prison utilization in the metropolitan area, comparing 2013 to 2015.



The MCJRP Data Team continues collaboration to provide comprehensive data analysis and is an integral part of program implementation. For more information, please see the most recent data report. <https://multco.us/lpsc/mcjrj>. At the state level, the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission is monitoring prison use and has developed interactive data dashboards: <http://www.oregon.gov/cjc/data/Pages/main.aspx>

Another key component to the MCJRP success is the Operations Team. While the Policy Team grapples with the best way to effectively implement the MCJRP and the Data Team crunches complicated numbers into eloquent reports, the Operations Team puts policy into action. The team meets weekly and helps find the best way to balance existing workload and practice with innovation. The group consists of members of all criminal justice agencies and brings the quality policy-level collaboration to life.

Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED) Subcommittee

Chaired by Multnomah County Presiding Judge Nan Waller

Mission: To determine if, and to what extent, racially or ethnically-based decision-making and disparities exists in the county's justice system. The RED subcommittee makes recommendations for specific actions to reduce any disparate practices and inequitable conditions which may exist.

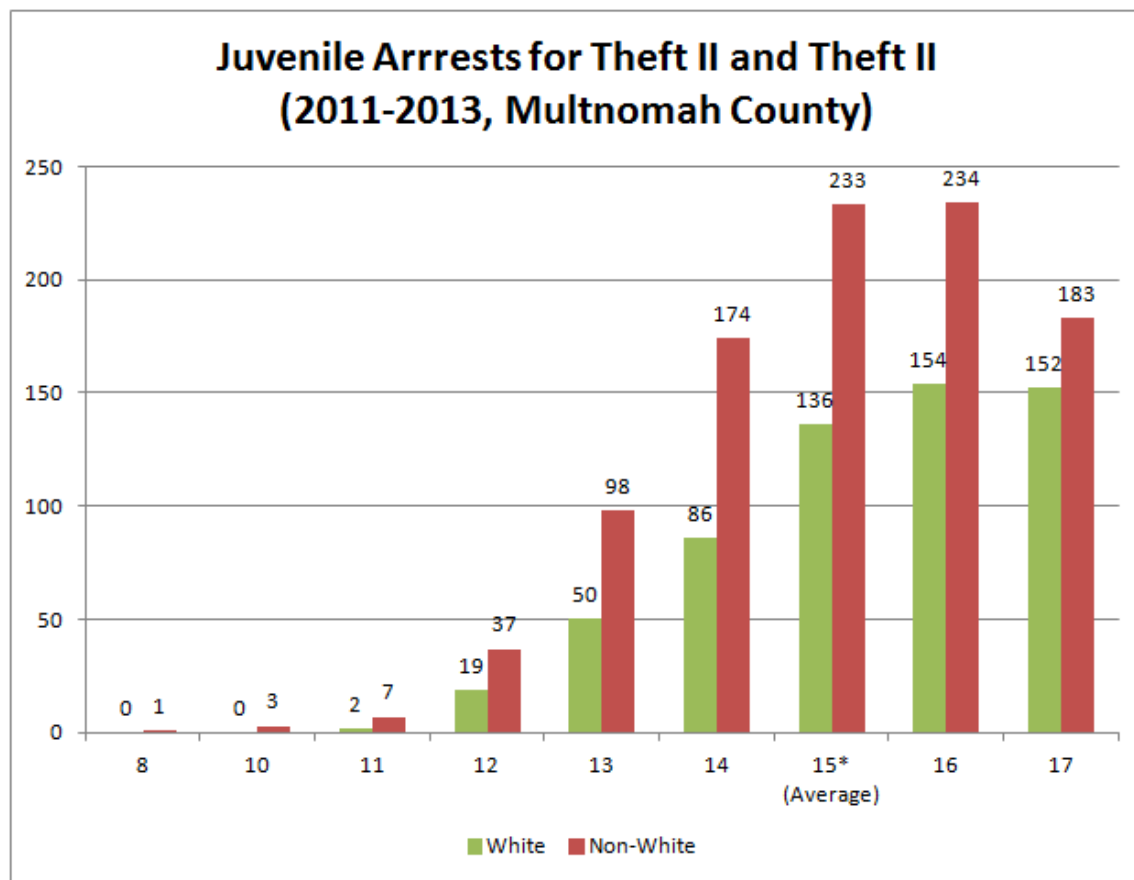
In 2015, the LPSCC Racial and Ethnic Disparities Subcommittee focused on the Community Healing Initiative (CHI) Early Intervention program and on juvenile shoplifting arrests in big box stores.

CHI Early Intervention Program Launches and Goes County-Wide

In 2014, nine delegates participated in the Georgetown University Center for Juvenile Justice to participate in the Racial and Ethnic Disparities Certificate Program. Upon completion, the Early Intervention Community Healing Initiative was developed and launched in January 2015. This pilot project focused on first-time youth offenders with low-level criminal offenses and is a diversion and early intervention program engaging youth and families with culturally-responsive case management, pro-social programming and referrals to needed services (health care, counseling, therapy, etc.). It is an extension of the division's model for community-based and family-focused intervention (the Community Healing Initiative, or CHI) into the early intervention side of the continuum. It is believed that early intervention will reduce the number of law enforcement referrals to the Juvenile Services Division (JSD) and the rate at which youth re-offend. By July 2015, this Early Intervention Community Healing Initiative expanded to include youth throughout Multnomah County.

A Deeper Dive Into Shoplifting Arrests

Due to the high rates of racial disparities for charges commonly associated with shoplifting for juveniles in census tracts with shopping malls, the subcommittee began a conversation with loss prevention managers at the Lloyd Center Mall to determine if certain policies may be contributing to the disparity. This will be further explored in 2016.



Youth and Gang Violence Subcommittee

Chaired by District Attorney Rod Underhill and Antoinette Edwards, Portland Office of Youth Violence Prevention

Mission: To seek policy and practice changes that reduces youth and gang violence and lessen the disproportionate negative impacts of gang violence on communities of color.

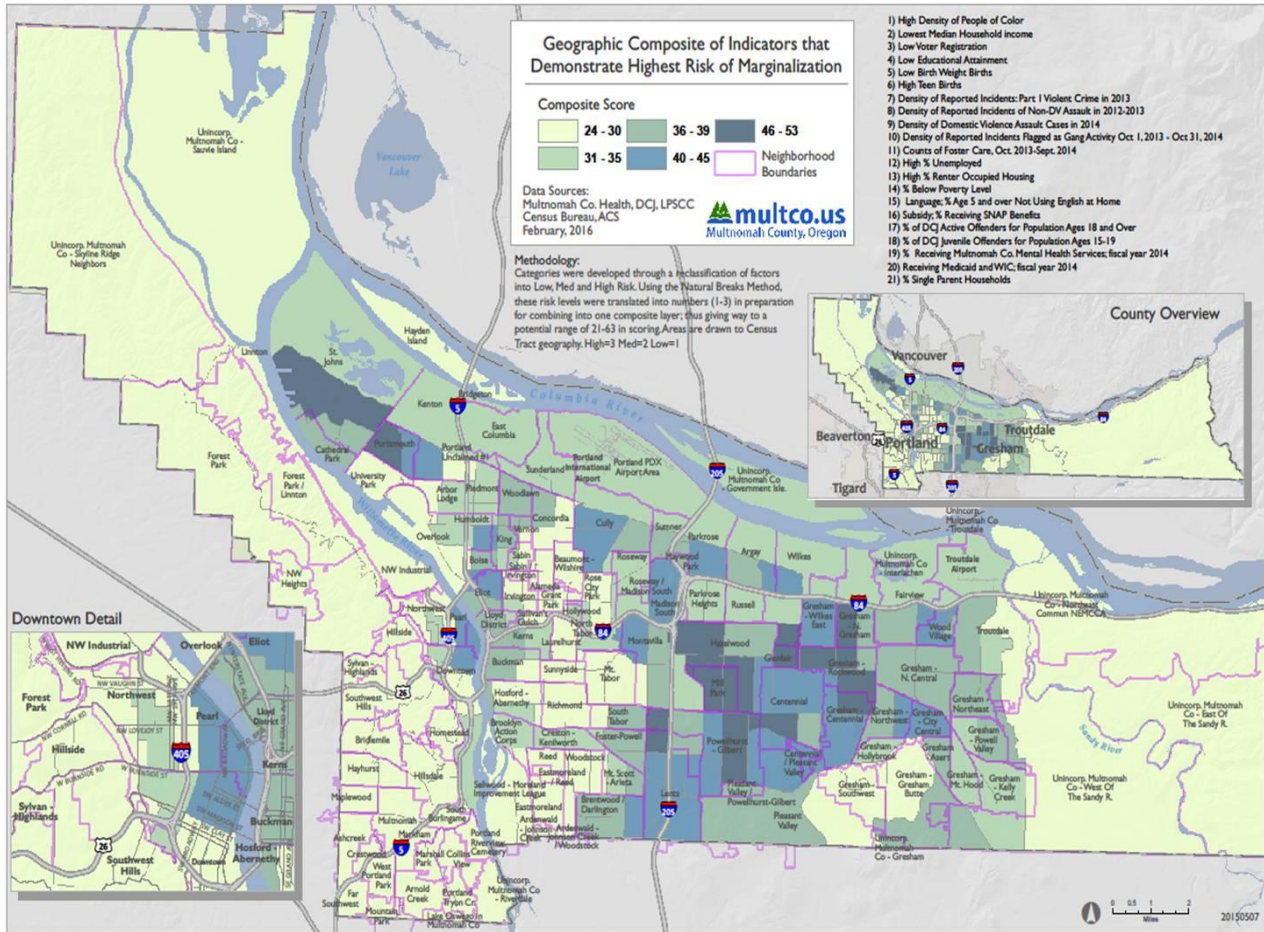
In 2014, LPSCC embarked on completing the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Comprehensive Gang Assessment. The Department of Community Justice (DCJ) subsequently applied for an OJJDP grant to fund a full-time coordinator to help move the assessment into the second two phases, implementation planning and implementation. Through a collaborative and inclusive process, the Y&GV Subcommittee and the working Y&GV Coordinating Council developed and finalized implementation strategies for the below areas:

- Links Between Police, Youth & Community
- Connection to Schools
- Employment Opportunities
- Family Engagement
- Mentoring
- Coordinated Entry

For more information, see the [Multnomah County Youth & Gang Violence Prevention Goals and Strategies](https://multco.us/file/56624/download) <https://multco.us/file/56624/download>.

Areas of Focus

Two distinct areas were selected as the focus of these efforts: Portsmouth/New Columbia and a belt along East County. The following map is a composite map showing indicators of the highest need and risk of marginalization. It is a policy and planning tool to identify best spatial areas for placement of projects and added capacity. It also seeks to illustrate a regional conversation about shifting needs, displacement patterns, and how to best meet the challenges facing communities in East County.



GIS Map Indicators

- High Density of People of Color
- Lowest Median Household Income
- Low Voter Registration
- Low Educational Attainment
- Low Birth Weight Births
- High Teen Births
- DRI: Violent Crime
- DRI: Non-DV Assault
- DRI: DV Assaults
- DRI: Flagged as Gang Activity
- Counts of Foster Care
- High % Unemployed
- High % Renter Occupied Housing
- % Below Poverty Level
- % Age 5 and over not using English at Home
- % Receiving SNAP Benefits
- % DCJ Active Offenders (Adult & Juvenile)
- % Receiving MultCo Mental Health Services
- Receiving Medicaid and WIC
- % Single Parents

LPSCC WORKGROUPS AND AFFILIATES

Commercial Exploitation of Children (CSEC)

Chaired by Commissioner Diane McKeel

This is a victim-focused collaborative and its primary goal is the restoration of the victim. The steering committee is intended to bring together active partners in our jurisdiction to collaboratively address and share ideas in an effort to better investigate, prosecute and supervise offenders; better identify and support survivors of CSEC; and increase education, prevention, and civic engagement within the community.

The CSEC Legislative Workgroup submitted the following legislative concepts to the Judiciary Committee and become law in 2015.

- HB 2205 establishes a fund to end commercial sexual exploitation of children. It continuously appropriates moneys to provide financial assistance to fund services, interventions and treatment for children who have been or may become victims of commercial sexual exploitation. It authorizes appointment of advisory committee to advise department and to make recommendations to department for awards of financial assistance.
- HB 2206 renames the crime of “patronizing a prostitute”, to “commercial sexual solicitation”. This victim focused change no longer labels a survivor or any other individual because of the behavior of an offender.
- HB 2385 provides that a person commits the crime of purchasing sex with a minor if the offenses involve police officers posing as a minor.

A federal grant of over \$575,000, provided by the Administration for Children and Families, enables the county to expand capacity in the Department of Community Justice, at the Sexual Assault Resources Center (SARC), and Janus Youth Programs.

Criminal Justice Advisory Committee

Chaired by Judge Julie Frantz and Judge Edward Jones

Mission: “To consider and address methods of coordinating court, public defense and related services and resources in the most efficient and cost-effective manner that complies with the constitutional and statutory mandates and responsibilities of all participants” (ORS 1.851).

The Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) meets every-other month to discuss criminal justice court related issues and operations. CJAC is chaired by the Chief Criminal Judge. In 2015, CJAC discussed a variety of topics, including pretrial release assessment tools and operations,

the Multnomah County Justice Reinvestment Program, the Safety and Justice Challenge, Specialty Courts/Dockets, and legislative updates and impacts.

Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team

Chaired by Judge Nan Waller and Commissioner Loretta Smith

Mission: To carefully review the details a criminal case involving a death caused by domestic violence in order to gain insight into the tragedy and develop recommendations for strategies to avoid similar incidents in the future.

Since 2005 the Multnomah County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (DVFRT) has been conducting multi-disciplinary, systemic examinations of intimate partner homicides in our County. The goal is to prevent future deaths by:

- Identifying risk factors associated with homicides
- Improving community responses to domestic violence
- Increasing public awareness and identifying strategies to prevent domestic violence
- Fostering communication across public and private agencies that intervene in domestic violence.

In 2015 the Multnomah County DVFRT examined two cases in great detail, learning more about domestic violence in the Senior/Vulnerable Adult population, as well as focusing in on health care needs for those involved in the corrections systems. Both cases provided insight into the layers of systems that perpetrators and victims navigate, all the while working to survive in an unsafe and unstable home environment. Additional themes emerged regarding caregiver support, bystander intervention, and the effect that domestic violence has on extended family and the community as a whole.

Post-review, DVFRT members worked to implement recommendations in Multnomah County that would improve systems that respond to domestic violence, as well as recommendations that would heighten awareness around issues of domestic violence and how it impacts our community daily. Examples of these efforts include collaboration with Clackamas Women's Services to launch the No More Campaign in the tri-county area, implementation of new, and ongoing, trainings for the Department of Community Justice, and work to pass new legislation authorizing Elder/Vulnerable Adult Fatality Review Teams in Oregon.

Juvenile Justice Council

Co-chaired by Judge Maureen McKnight and Juvenile Services Division Director Christina McMahan

Mission: To provide a forum for the development and implementation of policies, procedures and practices to improve the juvenile justice system by promoting public safety, responding to the needs of victims and ensuring the equitable and effective delivery of services to youth and their families.

The Juvenile Justice Council meets most months for 90 minutes. Highlights of 2015 included:

- Juvenile Justice System Scorecard Workgroup
- Juvenile Justice System Assessment Task Force
- JSD/DA Case Processing Agreement, JSD Trauma Informed Initiatives
- Procedural Fairness
Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) Systems Assessment

JDAI assessment

The original objectives of the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) included reducing reliance on the formal juvenile justice system, pushing low risk and high need youth out of the formal juvenile justice system, reducing racial and ethnic disparities (including over-representation in detention), reducing reliance on secure custody, speeding up case processing and improving public safety.

2015 Assessment highlights include:

- Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative System Assessment
- Conditions of Confinement Review
- Racial and Ethnic Disparities -Community Healing Initiative Early Intervention and Diversion Program Expansion
- Community Collaboration - Fresh Start Farm to Table Dinner
- Youth Collaboration & Engagement - Hired a Formerly Incarcerated Multnomah County Youth Victim Rights and Offender Restoration
- National League of Cities Juvenile Justice Reform Grant
- Racial and Ethnic Disparities – SummerWorks Program
- Racial and Ethnic Disparities and Collaboration with Law Enforcement – School Resource Officer Liaison/Intervention and Resource Connection Specialist
- Racial and Ethnic Disparities and Collaboration with Treatment Resources – Treatment Expediter Position
- Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Comprehensive Gang Mode

Reentry Council

Co-Chaired by Department of Community Justice Director Scott Taylor and Sheriff Dan Staton

Mission: To examine ways to pool resources and funding streams to promote lower recidivism rates for returning offenders and minimize the harmful effects of offenders' time in jail on families and communities.

The Reentry Council meets quarterly. Some of the work planned by the Council includes:

- The Mentoring survey project which looked at what is currently available, handling and growing mentoring capacity, the spectrum of mentoring needs, training, and funding
- 3194 and Short Term Transitional Leave: ensuring provision of wraparound resources for inmates when they are released (including mentors, housing, treatment, etc.)
- Examination of a new treatment readiness dorm for 3194 clients coming into the community
- Discussion of the Family Sentencing Alternative Pilot Program/Bill 3503, which establishes a pilot project for four counties to work with adults who have custody of children who are being diverted from prison.

History of LPSCC

In 1995, the Legislative Assembly enacted Senate Bill 1145 for the purposes of expanding and strengthening Oregon's community corrections system. SB 1145 transferred responsibility for the incarceration of felony offenders sentenced to less than one year from the state Department of Corrections to counties in an effort to increase access to community-based corrections and treatment services and to enhance the management and accountability of offenders in the communities where they live.

As part of the legislature's vision of an effective community corrections system, SB 1145 required every county in the state to establish a local public safety coordinating council to (1) coordinate justice policies and operations among local governments, public safety agencies and community organizations, (2) collaborate in planning and developing improvements in the county's criminal and juvenile justice systems, and (3) reduce crime and recidivism in the county. In signing this legislation, Governor John Kitzhaber summarized the values underlying the creation of these coordinating councils: "local control, accountability, and crime prevention."

Building on Multnomah County's history of close collaboration among its public safety officials, the county's leadership acted quickly to embrace this new vision of community corrections and public safety planning and coordination. By November 1995, the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners adopted an ordinance establishing LPSCC. The board also decided to allocate a portion of the county's share of SB 1145 funding for professional staff to support the mission and work of the council and to conduct public safety research and analysis. As a result of this support by the board, Multnomah County's LPSCC is widely regarded as one of the most active and effective public safety coordinating councils in the state, and has served as a national model for similar organizations.

In 1998, the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners and local public safety officials obtained voter approval of a \$7.5 million Criminal Justice Information Technology Bond. The Bond was designed to promote coordinated, data-driven public safety operations and policies and to realize LPSCC's promise as the primary source for system-wide public safety research, planning, and coordination. As a result of this bond funding, LPSCC developed a data warehouse known as the Decision Support System-Justice (DSS-J). DSS-J receives data directly from public safety agencies across Multnomah County on a daily basis and provides the basic tools for comprehensive, systemic analysis of current and proposed policies and emerging issues and trends within the County's public safety system. LPSCC oversees the data warehouse through its DSS-J Policy Committee.

LPSCC's Vision, Values & Organization

By the end of LPSCC's first year of operation, the council developed a statement of its vision, values and organization. In the years since then, council members have periodically reviewed that statement and continue to endorse it.

Vision

A quality of life providing communities with safety, security, and freedom from fear – where all laws are enforced and all crimes have consequences. A thriving, vital, and productive community – with supportive and healthy environments for children and families. A rich variety of educational, employment, and cultural opportunities for all citizens. A shared sense of community responsibility, accountability, and fairness.

Values

- All public safety partners must recognize the need for a comprehensive, balanced approach to public safety.
- Violent crimes against persons must be the first priority of the public safety system, followed by crimes that erode the quality of life and respect for the law.
- To prevent crime, we must focus on the causes of crime. Reducing youth involvement in crime, while increasing school and healthy social activities, must be a shared priority.
- Valid and reliable data must be collected and used to measure our progress towards articulated goals.
- The personal rights of each member of the community must be respected and protected.
- Unfair impact on, or bias against, communities of color or women caused by the public safety system must be eliminated.
- Secure and healthy children and families, strong schools, and a shared sense of community, responsibility, and justice are conditions for a healthy community.
- An informed public, able to provide information and feedback, is essential to gaining the trust needed for a working partnership to prevent and address crime wherever it occurs.

Organization

Council members established the organizational structure for LPSCC to align its vision and values:

- Engaged Countywide Leadership. LPSCC should promote the active participation of elected officials, key public safety officials, justice professionals, and community leaders from across the County.

- Close Collaboration. Once leaders throughout the County are engaged in LPSCC's operations, they must work closely and cooperatively in developing and coordinating public safety operations and policies.
- Data-Driven Planning. Public safety operations and policies must be developed and maintained with long-term goals and consequences for public safety in mind, and with systemic perspective that values empirical evidence over anecdotal examples and personal philosophies.

Based upon these organizational goals, LPSCC established an Executive Committee, made up of elected officials, the heads of public safety agencies, public safety professionals and stakeholders, and engaged citizens. The Executive Committee is responsible for overseeing the development of public safety plans and policies on behalf of LPSCC, managing the ongoing work of the Council and coordinating its activities.

The Executive Committee, in turn, has formed standing committees and working groups, made up of interested officials and agency heads, justice and allied professionals, and representatives of service providers and affected communities. These groups investigate and research issues identified by the Executive Committee and develop proposals and recommendations for consideration by the Executive Committee, the Board of County Commissioners, and other local governments. These committees and working groups change periodically in response to current issues and challenges facing public safety.