

OYA Close Custody Youth Services Framework



Foundational Principles

Agency Mission

The Oregon Youth Authority's mission is to protect the public and reduce crime by holding youth accountable and providing opportunities for reformation in safe environments.

Developmental Approach

Adolescence is a critical time for brain development, with opportunities to develop important abilities that significantly impact desistance from delinquency, including:

- emotion management;
- problem-solving;
- decision-making;
- empathy and perspective taking; and
- anticipating future consequences.

Healthy adolescent brain development happens most effectively in an environment that fosters growth.

OYA intentionally develops environments that foster growth within its close custody facilities by:

- Providing opportunities for youth to attach and belong through:
 - a. caring and supportive relationships with staff, family and other supports
 - b. becoming an active member of pro-social groups
 - c. developing and enjoying a sense of group belonging
 - d. placing a high value on service to others
 - e. being part of a larger community
- Providing opportunities to:
 - a. learn and practice new skills
 - b. actively use new skills in new situations
 - c. take on new roles and responsibilities
 - d. develop self-efficacy and personal confidence

Youth Services Principles

Assessment-Driven: Assessments are used consistently throughout the treatment continuum to inform decisions, including appropriate placement, Individualized treatment needs, treatment progress, and treatment completion.

Individualized: Individualized treatment plans are based on each youth's unique skill set, developmental needs, personal characteristics, and risk factors, as identified through assessments.

Trauma Informed: Awareness that youth, families and staff are all impacted by trauma. Awareness of the prevalence and impact of trauma on physical, emotional, and mental health and behavior. Awareness that treatment interventions can trigger a trauma response. Approaches to treatment may need to be adjusted in order to reduce trauma reactions.

Culturally Responsive: Recognition of the importance of including youth cultural references in all aspects of treatment. Acknowledging, responding to and celebrating fundamental cultures in order to offer full, equitable access to treatment for youth from all cultures.¹

Demonstrated Effectiveness: Practices based on general principles, strategies, and modalities reported in criminological, psychological, or other social science research as being effective with a juvenile population. These interventions have empirical support for the principles, theoretical framework, or components of the intervention.

For an intervention to be deemed a practice with demonstrated effectiveness, the empirical research must have shown that practices that contain similar components or similar principles have shown reductions in at least one criminogenic need for program participants versus the comparison group(s). These practices should be outlined in a format that ensures consistent delivery by the facilitator across multiple groups.

Treatment Continuum: Research has repeatedly demonstrated that interventions are most effective at improving outcomes when provided in normative environments while still ensuring the safety of the public, staff and the youth. Normative environments ensure youth have opportunities to safely learn and practice new skills, develop strong prosocial attachments, and create positive community connections.²

To that end, OYA employs a treatment continuum that includes youth correctional facilities, transition camps, community residential programs and outpatient providers. Transition decisions are made considering community safety and the youth's individual treatment needs,

¹ Sue, S., et al. (2009). The case for cultural competency in psychotherapeutic interventions. *Annual Review of Psychology*.60: 525-548.

² Zelechowski, A. D., et al. (2013). Traumatized youth in residential treatment settings: prevalence, clinical presentation, treatment, and policy implications. *Journal of Family Violence*. 28: 639-652.

and the entirety of a treatment “program” may be provided over multiple placements as a youth moves through the continuum.

Collaborative: Treatment will involve the youth’s family, support system, those who have been harmed, other providers, and stakeholders.

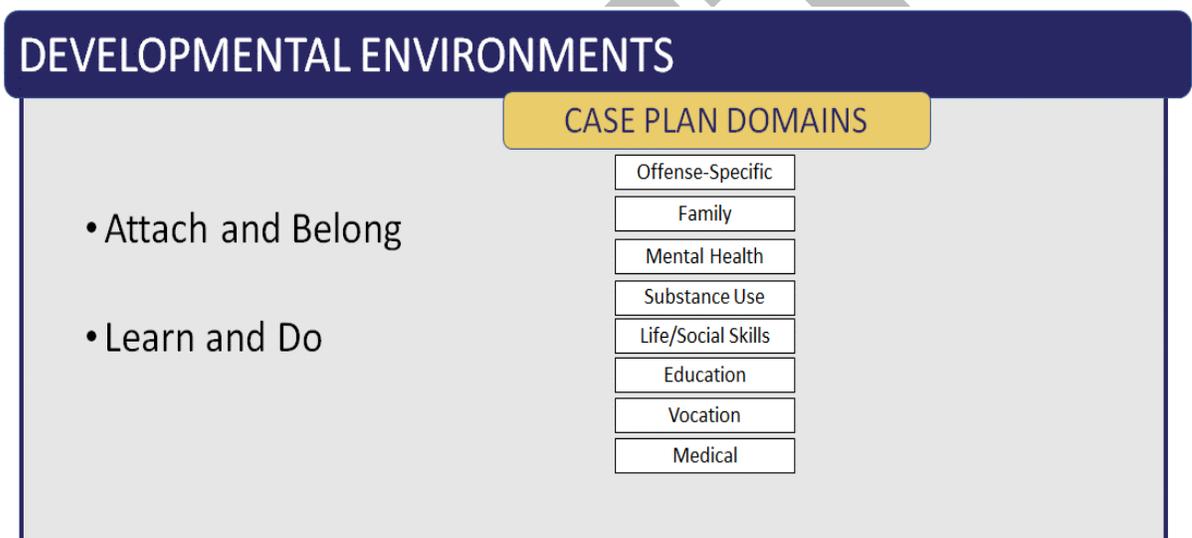
Restorative: Treatment focuses on youth taking responsibility for their actions and acknowledging the harm they have caused. Youth are provided opportunities to repair harm, build skills, and develop healthy relationships to avoid further harming behavior.

Documentation: We strive to continuously improve documentation across the multiple facilitators, interventions, and programs throughout the treatment continuum. Documentation is imperative for providing consistent and accurate evidence of the youth’s efforts, participation, and progress in treatment. Quality and thoroughness of treatment must be reflected in documentation to reflect the credibility of treatment for legal proceedings. Timely documentation is needed for successful transition and must be accessible for continuity of care.

OYA Close Custody Youth Services Framework

As shown in the figure below, OYA's service framework for youth in close custody is organized around two goals:

1. All youth experience developmental environments and are given opportunities to attach and belong, learn and do in order to support healthy brain development.
2. Within those developmental environments, case planning occurs around individual needs in each domain.



Developmental Environments - Positive Human Development (PHD)



Safety and Security: All activities are safe and secure for youth and staff. Physical and psychological needs of youth and staff are always supported. Without a base of safety and security, the rest of the pyramid cannot be achieved.

Caring and Supportive Relationships: Communication is respectful and productive. Individual perspectives are acknowledged. Youth are encouraged and given chances for growth. Staff feel valued and protected.

High Expectations and Accountability: Staff model and teach skills and high performance. Behavior expectations are clear. Errors are treated as chances to grow. Youth and staff are able to develop.

Meaningful Participation: Everyone has the chance to participate and have their voice heard. Youth are encouraged to mentor and be mentored. Group activities are offered. Staff have the resources they need to do their jobs.

Community Connection: Community volunteering and collaboration are encouraged. Achievement is recognized and shared. Belonging to a community is important, regardless of where it is located.

Case Planning Domains

Offense-Specific	Evidence-based treatment addressing coping skills; emotion regulation; problem-solving and conflict resolution; and other identified treatment needs related to delinquency.
Family	Development of relationship skills and positive relationships with family.
Mental Health	Environments promote emotional and psychological health and well-being. Appropriate mental health care to support youth in managing symptoms.
Substance Use	Evidence-based treatment addressing substance use disorder.
Life/Social Skills	Development of relationship skills and positive relationships with peer, adults and support groups. Connection to cultural and spiritual traditions and supports. Opportunities for youth to contribute to their community, both inside and outside the facility. Making amends for negative impacts and supporting youth in finding a positive place within their communities.
Education	Opportunities to overcome credit deficiencies, earn high school diploma and attend post-secondary education.
Vocation	Opportunities to become employment-ready, improve attitudes and behaviors that lead to successful employment, gain work experience and enhance skills.
Medical	Environments promote physical health and well-being. Exercise, healthy food, appropriate medical care, and participation in group sports and recreational activities.

Youth Social Characteristics

Youth placed in OYA facilities have diverse experiences and needs. Understanding the social characteristics of youth supports the development of appropriate services across the continuum as well as individualized treatment and interventions for each specific youth.

	Males	Females
Substance Abuse or Dependence	62%	78%
Parents Used Alcohol or Drugs	65%	82%
Diagnosed Mental Health Disorders	77%	90%
Diagnosed Conduct Disorder	50%	45%
Sexually Abused	16%	43%
Special Education	34%	19%
Past Suicide Behavior	12%	29%
Youth is a Parent	8%	10%

Typical Treatment Needs

Treatment for Criminogenic Needs

- Antisocial attitudes, values, beliefs
- Antisocial peers
- Gang Affected
- Substance Use
- Aggression/Anger

Offense-Specific Treatment

- Arson/Fire
- Sex Offense
- Victim Empathy

Treatment for Intensive Developmental Needs

- Mental Health/Trauma
- Emotional Reactivity/Emotion Management
- Problem-Solving
- Conflict Resolution
- Impulse Control
- Cultural/Spiritual Connection

Treatment Delivery

- All facilities do not offer all curricula; however, all facilities offer an array of curricula that address criminogenic risks and developmental needs.
- Each youth's treatment team selects the most appropriate combination of curricula based on the youth's unique needs and personal characteristics – some treatment types are limited to youth with certain identified needs (e.g., acute trauma history, acute mental health symptoms).
- Because there are multiple facilities for boys, they may move throughout the system to receive treatment and are not limited to services at any one facility.
- Girls receive services at Oak Creek Youth Correctional Facility and the Young Women's Transition Program.

OYA Close-Custody Treatment Curricula: Part 1 of 2

	Aggression Replacement Training	Changing Offender Behavior	Coping w/ Depression	Coping w/ Stress	Dangerous Use of Fire	DBT Intensive (Girls)	Girls Circle	Impact of Crime on Victims	Individual Therapy	My Individual Change Plan-CC Journal	New Directions	New Freedom (Girls)
CRIMINOGENIC RISKS/OFFENSE-SPECIFIC												
Antisocial attitudes, values, beliefs												
Antisocial peers												
Gang affected												
Arson/Fire												
Sex Offense												
Aggression/Anger												
Victim empathy												
Substance abuse												
DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS												
Conflict resolution, problem-solving, impulse control												
Trauma												
Mental health												
Emotional reactivity/emotion management												
Cultural/spiritual												

OYA Close-Custody Treatment Curricula: Part 2 of 2

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	OIIR Native American Group	Pathways Sex Offense Treatment	Power Source	SAMSHA Tap 19 Relapse Prevention	Seeking Safety	Street SMARTS - Gang Intervention	Teaching Social Skills to Youth	Thinking for a Change	What Got Me Here? - CC Journal	White Bison
CRIMINOGENIC RISKS/OFFENSE-SPECIFIC										
Antisocial attitudes, values, beliefs										
Antisocial peers										
Gang affected										
Arson/Fire										
Sex Offense										
Aggression/Anger										
Victim empathy										
Substance abuse										
DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS										
Conflict resolution, problem-solving, impulse control										
Trauma										
Mental health										
Emotional reactivity/emotion management										
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