

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

Date: September 8, 2021

To: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

From: Shakita LaGrant-McClain, Director, Department of Health and Human Services

Subject: An informational report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, providing an update on the Department of Corrections

File Type: Information

REQUEST

The State of Wisconsin Department of Corrections (DOC) – Division of Juvenile Corrections (DJC) is responsible for the operation of the Lincoln Hills School for Boys and Copper Lake School for Girls as well as the Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center. DHHS provides regular updates to the County Board on the number of youth committed to these facilities and the type of placement for youth.

POLICY

Wisconsin State Statutes:	Chapter 301
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BACKGROUND

New commitments to Lincoln Hills/Copper Lake

The chart below shows the number of youth who have been committed to the DJC per month. Please note that commitments can fluctuate daily and a final number of commitments in the most recent month may not be available until the next month's report.

New Commitments	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
January	3	6	3	6	4	1
February	8	5	5	1	6	5
March	6	3	3	4	2	3
April	4	9	3	2	0	3
May	7	4	3	3	3	2
June	4	5	1	8	7	2
July	8	4	3	2	1	4
August	4	6	5	5	2	3
September	9	5	6	5	3	
October	12	4	8	2	4	
November	5	7	6	5	4	
December	3	13	6	4	4	
Total	73	71	52	47	40	23

The youth ordered to the DJC in June 2021 were one, 15-year-old Black male, on a regular court order and one, 15-year-old Black male on a Serious Juvenile Offender (SJO) order. The youth ordered to the DJC in July 2021 were two, 15-year-old Black males, and two, 17-year-old Black males, all on regular court orders. The youth ordered to the DJC in August 2021 were one, 17-year-old Black male, and one, 16-year-old Black male, both on regular court orders, and one, 17-year-old White male on a SJO order.

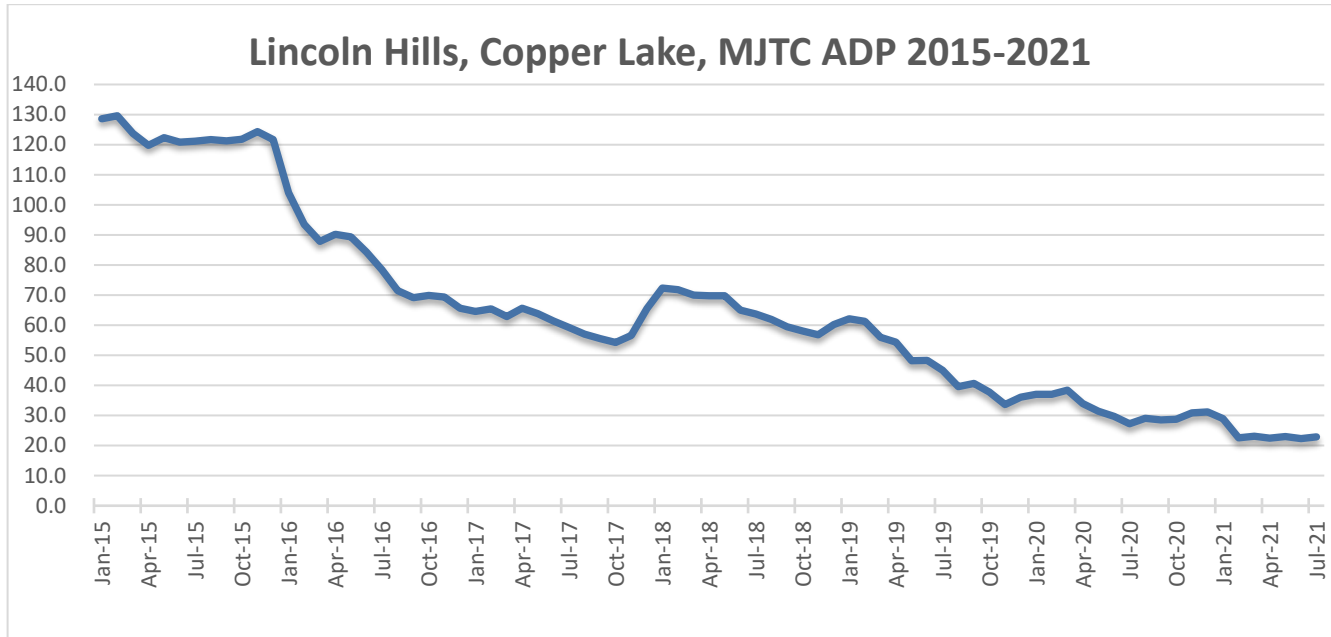
Type of placement with the Division of Juvenile Corrections

As of September 7, 2021, there were a total of 24 boys at Lincoln Hills (12 on SJO orders and 12 on regular DOC commitments). There was one girl on a regular DOC commitment at Copper Lake. There were 12 youth at Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center (five on SJO orders and seven on regular DOC commitments).

Milwaukee County took over the Aftercare supervision from the State of Wisconsin effective July 1, 2017 for all non-SJO youth. All DOC-DJC youth placed in the community were assigned to a DYFS Human Service Worker who provides supervision and case management for the youth and their families. The youth are all receiving appropriate services in the community including, but not limited to, GPS monitoring for the initial 30 days or more in the community, intensive monitoring, clinical services, etc.

As of September 3, 2021, there were 10 youth on Aftercare in the community. Of those youth, four were placed in-home, one in Milwaukee County House of Corrections (HOC), one in the Milwaukee County Jail (MCJ), and two in Secure Detention. As of the time of this report, two youth were missing, and Capias/apprehension requests had been issued.

The current average daily population (ADP) of Milwaukee County youth in Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake Schools (excluding youth in the SJO Program under a state commitment) has fallen steadily from 2015 to the current reporting period. The ADP for July is 23. Please see the chart below:



ALIGNMENT TO STRATEGIC PLAN

DHHS continues to work toward transitioning youth out of Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake Schools. DYFS has been leveraging its resources toward the ongoing development of community-based programming for justice-involved youth and their families through three innovative initiatives, all of which support the zero-youth corrections plan. All of these initiatives are occurring in the Milwaukee community and are focused not only on the youth but also their families. This programming meets the youth where they are in unique ways that are individualized to their needs.

FISCAL EFFECT

This report is informational and there is no fiscal effect.

TERMS

N/A

VIRTUAL MEETING INVITES

Shakita LaGrant-McClain, DHHS Director

Mark Mertens, DYFS Administrator

PREPARED BY:

Mark Mertens, DYFS Administrator

APPROVED BY:

Shakita LaGrant-McClain
Shakita LaGrant-McClain, DHHS Director

ATTACHMENTS:

None

cc: County Executive David Crowley
Hon. Mary E. Triggiano, Chief Judge
Sup. Jason Haas, Chair, Finance Committee
Sup. Felesia Martin, Chair, Health Equity, Human Needs, & Strategic Planning Committee
Mary Jo Meyers, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Steve Cady, Research Director, Comptroller's Office
Pam Matthews, Fiscal & Management Analyst, DAS
Lottie Maxwell-Mitchell, Research & Policy Analyst, Comptroller's Office