

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

DATE: July 3, 2018

TO: Supervisor Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Mary Jo Meyers, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Prepared by: Mark Mertens, Division of Youth & Family Services Administrator

SUBJECT: An informational report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, providing an update on the Department of Corrections-Division of Juvenile Corrections (DJC) commitments

Background

Since December 2015, key partners, including the County Executive, County Board of Supervisors, Chief Judge, District Attorney, Public Defender, DHHS Director, Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS) Administrator, Wraparound Milwaukee Director and other involved parties have been meeting to formulate a plan to address the crisis at Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake and ensure the safety of youth. DHHS has been providing regular updates on the status of the State-operated Lincoln Hills School for Boys and Copper Lake School for Girls. This report provides a follow up on the number of youth committed to the Wisconsin Department of Corrections (DOC)-Division of Juvenile Corrections (DJC) and the type of placement for the youth.

Discussion

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 on a daily basis and a final number of commitments in the most recent month may not be available until the next month's report.

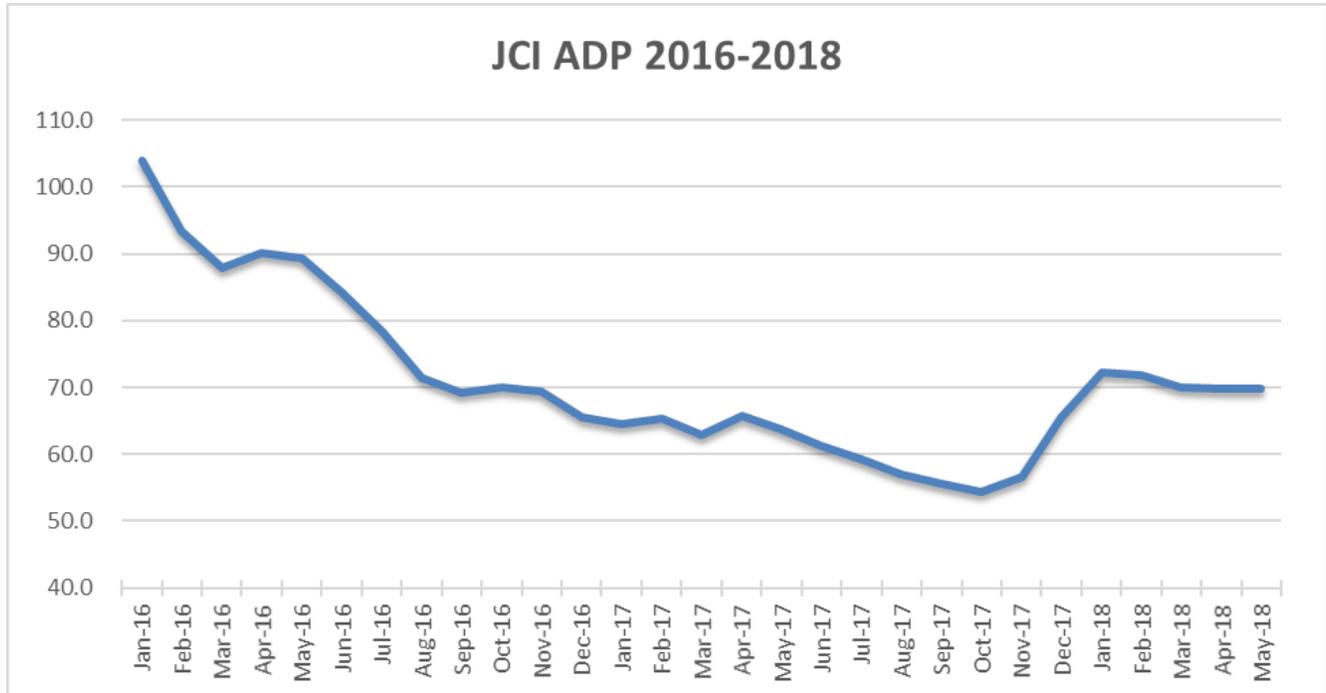
New Commitments	2016	2017	2018
January	3	6	3
February	8	5	5
March	6	3	3
April	4	9	3
May	7	4	3
June	4	5	1
July	8	4	
August	4	6	
September	9	5	
October	12	4	
November	5	7	
December	3	13	

Type of placement with the Division of Juvenile Corrections

As of June 3, 2018, there were a total of 75 boys at Lincoln Hills (18 on Serious Juvenile Offender Orders and 57 on regular DOC commitments). There were eight girls at Copper Lake (two on Serious Juvenile Offender Order and six on regular DOC commitments). There were 10 youth at Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center (two on Serious Juvenile Offender Orders and eight on regular DOC commitments).

Milwaukee County took over the Aftercare supervision from the State of Wisconsin effective July 1, 2017 for all non-Serious Juvenile Offender (SJO) youth. All Department of Corrections, Division of Juvenile Corrections youth that were in the community were assigned to a DYFS Human Service Worker who are providing supervision and case management for the kids and their families. The youth are all receiving appropriate services in the community, to include but not limited to GPS monitoring for the initial 30 days or more in the community, intensive monitoring, clinical services, etc. As of June 3, 2018, there were 12 youth who were on Aftercare in the community with eight at home, one in the Youth Detention Facility pending new charges and the whereabouts of three youth were unknown.

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 from 104 to 70 from January 2016 to May 2018. Please see the chart below:



Recommendation

This report is informational and no action is required.



Mary Jo Meyers, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

cc: County Executive Chris Abele
Hon. Maxine A. White, Chief Judge
Raisa Koltun, County Executive's Office
Kelly Bablitch, County Board
Lisa Wozny, Budget Analyst - DAS
Steve Cady, Research and Policy Director – Comptroller's Office