

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

DATE: December 2, 2019

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**

Background

Since December 2015, key partners, including the County Executive, County Board of Supervisors, Chief Judge, District Attorney, Public Defender, Department of Health and Human Services (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 Schools 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 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
January	3	6	3	6
February	8	5	5	1
March	6	3	3	4
April	4	9	3	2
May	7	4	3	3
June	4	5	1	8
July	8	4	3	2
August	4	6	5	5
September	9	5	6	5
October	12	4	8	2
November	5	7	6	2
December	3	13	6	

Of the youth that were ordered to the DJC in October 2019, one youth was a 15-year-old African American male and the other was a 17-year-old white male. Of the youth that were ordered to the DJC in November 2019, one youth was a 14-year-old African American male and the other was a 16-year-old African American male.

Type of placement with the Division of Juvenile Corrections

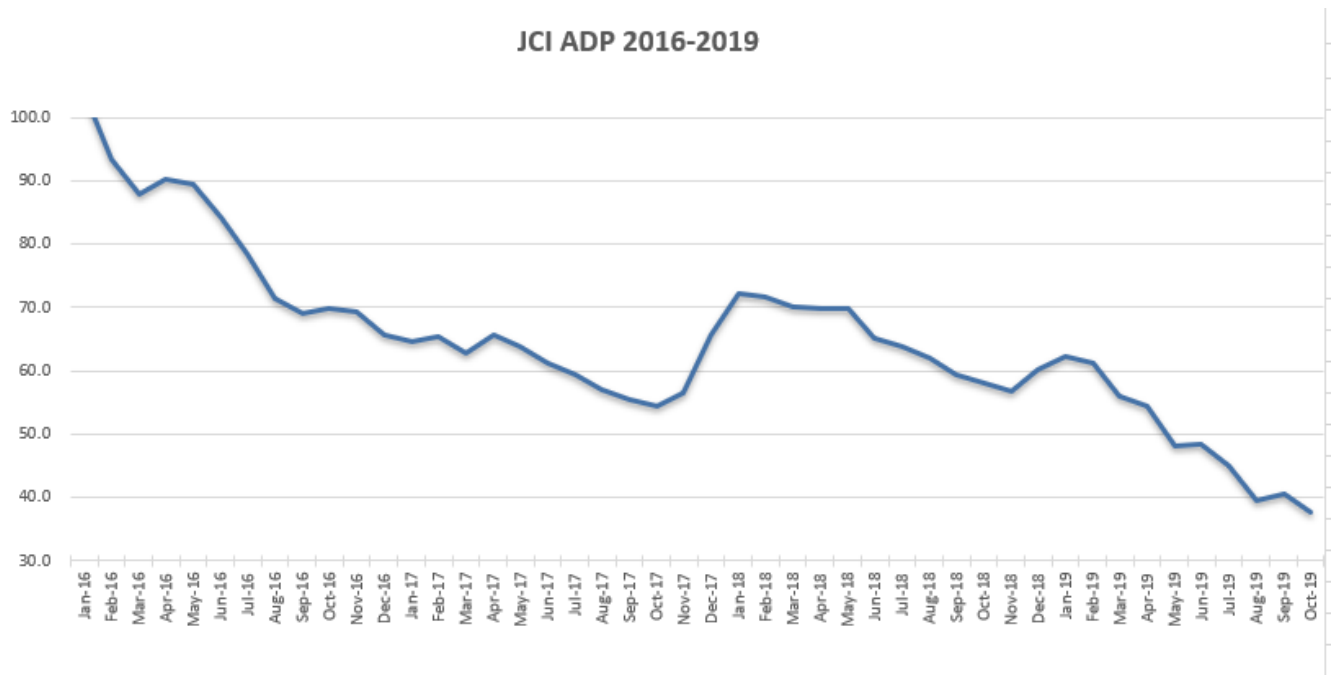
As of November 20, 2019, there were a total of 47 boys at Lincoln Hills (18 on Serious Juvenile Offender Orders and 29 on regular DOC commitments). There were three girls at Copper Lake (one on Serious Juvenile Offender Order and two on regular DOC commitments). There were seven youth at Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center (three on a Serious Juvenile Offender Order and four 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 DOC-DJC youth placed in the community were assigned to a DYFS Human Service Worker who is 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 November 19, 2019, there were 22 youth who were on Aftercare in the community. Of those youth, 14 are placed in-home, three in Secure Detention, one in the Criminal Justice Facility, one in Dane County Jail, one in Lincoln County Jail, and two are placed out-of-home. As of the time of this report, four youth are currently missing, and Capias/apprehension requests have been issued for all.

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 37.8 from January 2016 to October 2019. Please see the chart below:

JCI ADP 2016-2019



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
- Steve Cady, Research and Policy Director – Comptroller’s Office
- Joshua Scott, Budget Analyst – DAS
- Lottie Maxwell-Mitchell, Research & Policy Analyst, Comptroller’s Office