

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

DATE: August 30, 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	4
September	9	5	6	
October	12	4	8	
November	5	7	6	
December	3	13	6	

Of the youth that were ordered to the DJC in July 2019, one was a 15-year-old African American male, and one was a 17-year-old African American male.

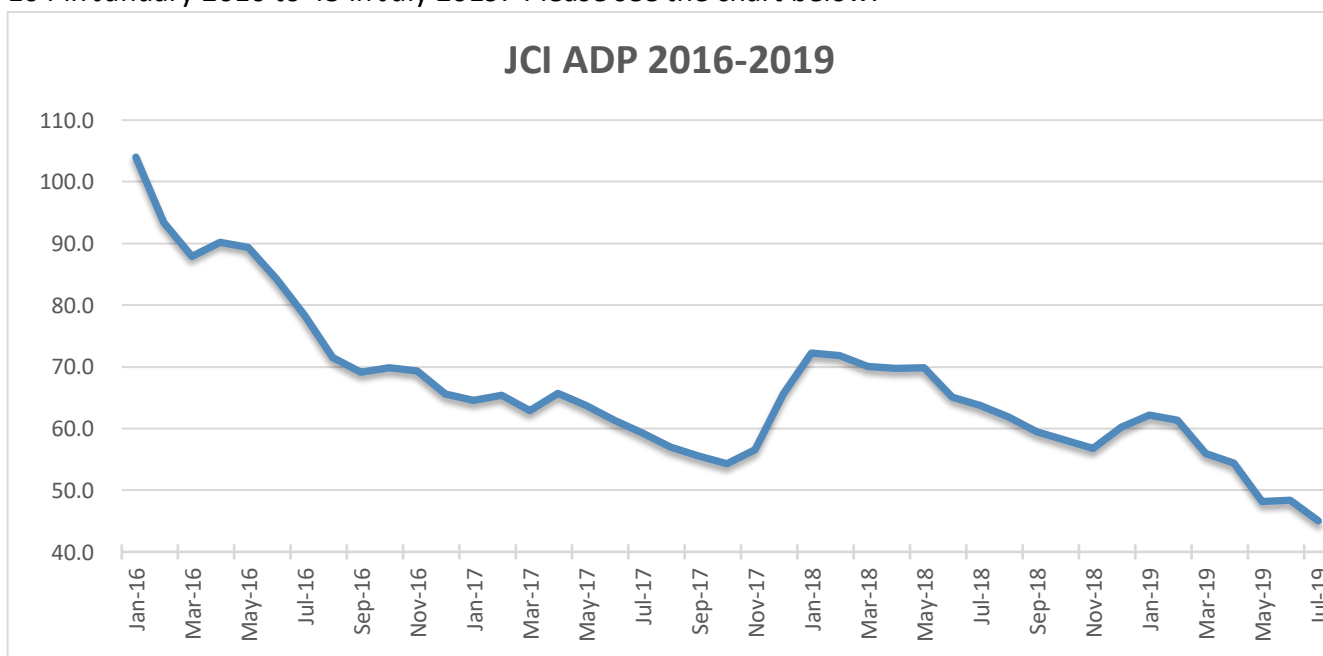
Of the youth that were ordered to the DJC in August 2019, two youth were 16-year-old African American males, one was a 15-year-old African American male, and one was a 14-year-old African American male.

Type of placement with the Division of Juvenile Corrections

As of August 29, 2019, there were a total of 56 boys at Lincoln Hills (18 on Serious Juvenile Offender Orders and 38 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 six youth at Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center (two 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 August 29, 2019, there were 17 youth who were on Aftercare in the community. Of those youth, 13 are placed in-home, one in the Criminal Justice Facility, and three 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 57 percent, from 104 in January 2016 to 45 in July 2019. 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
Steve Cady, Research and Policy Director – Comptroller's Office
Pam Matthews, Budget Analyst – DAS
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