



DEPARTMENT of CHILDREN and FAMILIES

Making a Difference for Children, Families and Communities

CJTS CLOSURE PLAN OVERVIEW

JUVENILE JUSTICE POLICY AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

JULY 21, 2016

Development of the Plan

- Input from national experts
- Population forecast
- Input from over 300 stakeholders across Connecticut, including:
 - DCF Advisory Councils;
 - LISTs;
 - CJTS and regional DCF staff.
- Focus groups with youth currently or formerly served by CJTS

Service Needs

- Job readiness and vocational training
- Substance abuse treatment and recovery supports
- Educational programs, including credit recovery services
- Transitional housing
- Transportation to facilitate family treatment and access to services
- Individualized plans for youth with complex needs
- Programs with longer length of service to address chronic needs
- Better integration of treatment planning and service delivery

National Consensus on Secure Facilities¹

Facility

50 beds or less
50 miles from home or less

Unit

10 kids or less
1:10 staff/youth ratio or less
No locks on bedrooms
No toilets in bedrooms
All staff = program staff

Access/Family

Visitation 365 days/year
Transportation 1x/week
Accessible via public transportation

Environment

Youth wear own clothes
Family-style meals
Youth/staff help prepare meals together

Education

Unit staff assist in class
Vocation programming
College classes
Credit recovery/GED

CJTS Closure Plan Goals

GOAL 1: Redefine eligibility for secure placement

GOAL 2: Improve community supervision of youth

GOAL 3: Increase access/availability of non-residential community-based services

GOAL 4: Right-size CJTS

GOAL 5: Redesign CJTS Programming

GOAL 6: Replace CJTS secure capacity at an alternate setting(s)