

21st Century Transformation

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

ADDED PARTNERS

DJJ has added more than 20 community partners since 2022.

ADDED FUNDING

DJJ has increased contracts with community partners more than \$5 million since 2021.

ADDED MENTORING PROGRAMS

DJJ has expanded mentoring services through Youth Advocate Programs (YAP), National Youth Advocate Program (NYAP), and DHS Office of Firearm Violence Prevention.

EXPANDED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

DJJ's Mutli-Systemic Therapy (MST) helps stabilize youth in the community through intensive multi-weekly treatment sessions. Focus is on safety, crisis management, and life skills to support youth's transition into adulthood.

FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

FAMILY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Monthly virtual meetings offer support and voice to caregivers of DJJ youth.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER

DJJ now has a full time staff member dedicated to engaging families in the community.

INCREASED FAMILY VISITS & EVENTS

Community partners regularly provide transportation for families to visit their kids and participate in family engagement events.

RESTORATIVE INTERVENTIONS, SUPPORTS, SERVICES AND ENGAGEMENT (RISSE)

DJJ now has a full time staff member dedicated to survivor services. Services are provided to youth and families such as those impacted by gun violence.

EMERGING ADULTS

FOCUS ON DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS

DJJ has invested time, effort, and training to tailor emerging adult programs to the developmental needs of this age group.

EMERGING ADULT VOICES

DJJ has offered Director's Office internships to emerging adults at DJJ. Internship work includes asking emerging adults to share information & ideas for improving programs and practices at DJJ.

PEACE CENTER

IYC St. Charles became the PEACE Center, exclusively serving emerging adults with a focus on life skills and career readiness. A plethora of new programs are now available, & DJJ youth interns contributed to program planning. Currently, 7-8 career focused certifications are available.

LEGISLATION

Senate Bill 426 recently passed, enabling DJJ to serve emerging adults ages 18-22 who are currently in an IDOC facility and in need of educational services. DJJ is piloting at 2 DOC facilities. IYC Harrisburg will be repurposed to exclusively serve this population as well.

FACILITY CULTURE

INCREASED FOCUS ON STAFF WELLNESS

For the first time, 2025 budget allocates over \$30k in funding to host wellness events and to provide services to staff.

CULTURAL RESPONSIVITY

DJJ has increased the quality and frequency of cultural responsivity training for staff & increased programs & activities around cultural celebrations such as Black History Month.

TRAUMA-INFORMED FOCUS

DJJ has updated many practices to reflect a trauma informed approach for both youth and staff. Examples include changes to staff training, search & restraint practices, and the design of the new Monarch Youth Center in Lincoln.

TRUST-BASED RELATIONAL INTERVENTION (TBRI)

Enhancing DJJ focus on trauma informed care, TBRI centers staff as caregivers rather than correctional professionals.

Multiple DJJ staff are now certified TBRI trainers & TBRI is being introduced at 3 northern region facilities.