ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

QUARTERLY TRANSFORMATION REPORT



DIRECTOR Heidi Mueller

GOVERNOR JB Pritzker



DIRECTOR UPDATES

- IYC Lincoln
- Positive Youth Outcomes



On February 02, 2021, the Pritzker Administration in partnership with the Justice, Equity, and Opportunity Initiative (JEO), announced a new Illinois Youth Center in Central Illinois. IYC Lincoln will bring a new community-based, rehabilitative, and restorative facility to the former Lincoln Development Center.

While 40% of youth committed to IDJJ originate from Central Illinois, there is currently no secure facility in the region--making it impossible to house youth from Central Illinois near their families and communities of origin. The former Lincoln Development Center will be renovated to feature dormitory-style housing units for up to 30 youth, programming, and administrative areas, as well as, educational, recreational, and dietary spaces.

This facility is both an investment in the youth DJJ's serves as well as the Central Illinois region, which has been historically underserved by IDJJ. We are striving to provide youth from the region, and in conflict with the law, a place near home where they can receive the support they need to move forward and become productive citizens. Better service to youth will lead to the fulfillment of our mission to build youth skills and strengthen families in order to promote community safety and positive youth outcomes.

POSITIVE YOUTH OUTCOMES



Nearly one year after its grand opening on March 12, 2020, Governor Pritzker joined the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice for the historic celebration as the state's first accredited training program within the Department.

The first cohort of graduates consists of eight youth who are now eligible to take their state board exams and become professionally licensed barbers and cosmetologists through the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.

The youth participants underwent 1,500 hours of clinical and instructional training during the COVID-19 pandemic and receive coaching and mentorship as a part of their training.

IDJJ plans to continue expanding its community partnerships and post-secondary options as it transitions to the 21st Century Illinois Transformation Model.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

The Community Services Division has developed a partnership with **Arrowhead Youth & Family Services,** a non-profit residential treatment facility serving at-risk youth aged 12-21. Arrowhead is located in a rural setting in Coal Valley, Illinois, which is located near the Quad Cities area in Western Illinois.

Arrowhead Youth & Family Services provides programming in **three** core areas:

- Residential programs: Arrowhead's residential program focuses on the youth's eventual reintegration back into the community, and incorporates family members, a strengthsbased approach, to help youth manage difficult situations and make better decisions.
 - Community Outreach: includes long-term group-based intervention programs, short-term group-based intervention programs "Strategies to succeed," Individual and Family Therapy, and Aftercare follow up services.
 - **Education:** Arrowhead Academy is a special education school licensed by the Illinois State Board of Education, providing education for youth residing at Arrowhead.

DJJ is excited to engage in this partnership with Arrowhead Youth & Family Services as part of our expanding Community Services Division



CAPITAL PROJECTS

IDJJ has approved the scope of work for our renovation of IYC Warrenville.

> Our work will involve creating a new building to house classrooms, staff offices, and student multipurpose spaces.

> The scope of work also involves needed building component repairs throughout the institution.

Our Lincoln project has involved meetings with agency leadership to determine needs for the space, which will inform the design of the space.

> Cordogan Clark has completed scans of all of the buildings and are doing current conditions surveys.

> Next, Cordogan Clark, will present drawings related to the design of the facility around Mid-March 2021.



JUVENILE JUSTICE HEADLINES

The work at IDJJ is a part of a sea change in the larger juvenile justice landscape.

Below is a snapshot of juvenile justice headlines from across the country.

Bill would let some young people who are incarcerated transition to live in the community

Incarcerated youths in Utah could earn a college degree under a new bill

<u>Can restaurants revolutionize the juvenile justice</u> <u>system? This Dallas chef turned nonprofit leader is</u> <u>betting on it</u>

The future of the juvenile system

Juvenile Justice Advocates call on Biden Administration to prioritize jailed youth



NEXT STEPS

Predicting the next steps is difficult and external factors may force our immediate plans to change, but the goal to Transform the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice will always remain the same.

In the next quarter, we plan to:

Host additional round table discussions with State's Attorney's and Community Leaders about the Transformation plan.

Begin convening the Transformation working groups to help refine and improve our future plans.

Continue ramping up the new Community Services Division, formerly known as Aftercare. Formerly involved youth and families. Juvenile **Probation** Judges, Services professionals, Juvenile Defenders. State's Attorneys, and community groups have all had a chance to join in the conversation on DJJ's Transformation. For more information on how you can participate, please, click here.