Topic Area 1: Education/Employment		
#	Recommendation	Votes
1.	Youth should have opportunities to make measurable progress towards high school graduation and other educational and career-based goals: (a) educational programs and services should be on par with offerings in local school districts; (b) programming should comply with DPI curricular and instructional hours requirements; (c) credits earned should transferable to local school districts; and (d) allow exceptions to rules restricting HSED eligibility on the basis of age and credits.	43
8.	Assessment should be conducted at intake to identify strengths and barriers, and should dovetail with assessments of the youth's broader treatment needs: (a) assessed barriers should include disability, literacy/ English proficiency, lack of family support, lack of motivation/interest, etc.; (b) identify youths' unique strengths, interests, and skills in order to individualize their education plan; (c) align with education goals; and (d) provide a baseline against which to measure progress while youth is in residence and at exit.	34
4.	Educational programs and services should be delivered in the context of an overall treatment and positive youth development model. Facility educational staff should be trained in evidence-based practices, including motivational interviewing, trauma-informed care, and cognitive-behavioral therapy, and should be cognizant of their role as educators in the full treatment model of the facility.	16
12.	Classrooms should be as comparable as possible to those of a non-justice-system school while accommodating security concerns and special needs.	9
23.	Facility education staff should seek involvement from parents, guardians, and other family in making decisions about the youth's education and to support youth progress and motivation.	7
5.	Instruction should be culturally relevant, and enable youth to learn in a welcoming environment and remain connected to their family, heritage, and community.	6
2.	Facilities should coordinate with local school districts on service delivery/shared resources to optimize efficiency, ensure comparable/ consistent treatment, and to ensure continuity upon release for youths returning to the local education system.	5
19.	Youth should receive vocational and career counseling and be exposed to a broad spectrum of academic & career opportunities.	4
9.	Each facility should employ at least one literacy specialist to assess youth literacy needs.	3

7.	Facilities should ensure youth have access to instruction/training in: (a) the visual and performing arts (using qualified instructors and with access to appropriate equipment/instruments); (b) conflict resolution, decision-making skills, impulse control, and other social-emotional skills; (c) other life skills, including financial literacy, self-care and self-presentation, nutrition, sexual risk avoidance, and other aspects of independent living; and (d) driver's license.	2
20.	Work release programs and apprenticeships should be available and integrated into positive incentive structures for youth.	2
27.	Facilities should develop partnerships with agencies that operate transitional programs, and coordinate to ensure smooth integration with their educational services.	2
6.	Facilities should maintain staff-to-student ratios consistent with best practices.	1
18.	Facility education staff should consult with local employers, who already engage in predictive analytics, to design curricula that equip youth to meet local labor market demand.	1
21.	Youth should receive training in entrepreneurship, both to expand their employment opportunities and to buffer any adverse local economic conditions on return to their community.	1
22.	Facilities should coordinate with the technical college system to broaden available programming.	1
26.	Facility staff should include mentors and volunteers drawn from the local community who can provide continuity and support upon release.	1
3.	School districts should not be penalized for serving SRCC youth relative to non-system-involved youth.	0
10.	Facilities should develop plans to measure progress toward identified youth goals, proficiencies, and desirable outcomes; at minimum, measures should include math and reading proficiency, but may also include proficiency in transferable vocational skills, "soft" skills such as emotional intelligence and conflict resolution, self-sufficiency and self-care skills, and motivation/interest.	0
11.	Program accountability and quality improvement measures should be standardized as should related data collection requirements.	0
13.	The learning environment should be inviting and engaging. It should include natural scenery and light via windows or skylights as design constraints permit. Staff may wish to involve youth in achieving these goals.	0
14.	Facilities should maintain well-stocked libraries to expose youth to wide experiences and encourage exploration of personal interests.	0
15.	Facilities should include access to appropriate learning technology, including computers, with design and network access subject to security considerations, whether in classrooms, labs, or libraries.	0
16.	Facilities should ensure access to teleconferencing technology for regular engagement with family and community.	0

17.	Facilities should include access to equipment needed for vocational skill development, such as carpentry, welding, foundry, machining, etc.	0
24.	Staff should be readily available to family to ensure transparency and post-release continuity.	0
25.	Facilities should have written plans to reduce family barriers to access. This may include the use of drivers to offer transport, financial support such as gas cards, and/or use of teleconferencing technology.	0
28.	Facilities should leverage connections to the community to ensure youth are offered a welcome, supportive environment to grow and develop.	0
Total		138

Topic Area 2: Rehabilitative/Treatment Services		
#	Recommendation	Votes
10.	A multi-faceted assessment process is essential (risk/needs, mental health, substance abuse, education, trauma, family considerations, etc.) and should be conducted by the appropriate professionals.	33
15.	The rules may not be able to set a specific level of service/ staffing, but the level of psychologist/therapist/clinician staffing/services should be adequate to meet youth's needs.	14
20.	Facilities should have avenues/mechanisms for involving families in treatment.	13
22.	Treatment should include a robust aftercare component that helps youth transition from a facility back into their community. Adequately fund comprehensive wraparound treatment services.	9
4.	Treatment needs to be cognizant of responsivity factors, including gender, disabilities, and culture.	8
5.	Treatment should be trauma-informed.	8
8.	The rules should allow for treatment programs that are evidence-informed or promising practices, and not use an overly restrictive view of evidence-based. Remain open to innovation.	8
6.	Treatment services need to be integrated with each other and with other programming, services, and facility operations.	7
2.	Facilities should have an overall therapeutic treatment approach that is not dependent on the individual staff who are hired.	6
14.	There should be consistent access to mental health services.	6
1.	The goal of treatment should be to achieve better outcomes through behavior modification and better decision-making by youth.	5
7.	Treatment should be evidence-based.	5
12.	Treatment program should be rooted in cognitive behavioral therapy techniques and practices.	4
18.	Substance use disorder treatment programs need to be available.	3
23.	There should be fluidity between the facility and the community so that services youth can access in the facility don't dissipate upon release.	3
13.	Treatment programming needs to help youth change their thinking/ develop thinking strategies that present alternatives to violence.	2
21.	Treatment should be responsive to mental health and other issues that exist in the youth's family/home life.	2
16.	Psychiatric care, including medication management, should be available.	1
24.	Ensure continuity of medication and post-release appointments.	1
3.	The administrative rules should establish minimum standards but allow for flexibility.	0
9.	Programs should be data-informed and outcomes-driven.	0
11.	Treatment and services should be provided based on the results of that assessment.	0

17.	Need to have the ability to provide short-term stabilization for youth in crisis in order to identify and treat underlying issues.	**0**
19.	Youth should have access to medically-assisted substance use treatment.	**0**
Total		**138**

#	Topic Area 3: Developmental/Recreational Programming	Votes
	Recommendation	
16.	Facilities should ensure the presence of adequately trained/specialized staff that are available 24/7.	22
2.	Programming should support the development of youths' Emotional IQ (self-responsibility, reflection, resiliency)	16
3.	Programming should support and encourage family engagement and parental involvement in treatment	15
17.	Facilities should provide adequate, dedicated space for (a) indoor and year-round outdoor recreation; (b) visitation; (c) a computer lab; (d) gardening; and (e) 'alone time' space (designed with youth input).	15
7.	Facilities should provide recreational programs; these should include outdoor programs/enrichment opportunities, including opportunities for recreation outside of the facility and a variety of options.	13
20.	Facilities should ensure there is adequate coordination by system stakeholders to ensure successful re-entry, including planning for family, education, medical/insurance and other services.	11
6.	Programs should use the Positive Youth Development framework	8
1.	Programming should provide continuity of support and services for youth and families	7
19.	Facilities should seek out public and private partnerships with community groups/institutions to enhance available resources.	7
5.	Programming should support the development of appropriate pro-social relationships	6
9.	Programming should include opportunities for the creative arts, such as musical instruments, poetry, spoken word, theatre; and crafting/handiwork opportunities such as knitting and woodworking.	5
10.	Facilities should offer mentorship programming opportunities, such as partnerships with local athletic teams.	4
18.	Facility environment should be warm and welcoming ("home-like").	4
15.	Facilities should provide opportunities for youth to access pro-social activities outside the facility	3
13.	Facilities should offer self-sustainability/entrepreneurship opportunities	1
14.	Facilities should build free/leisure time into the day.	1
4.	Programming should foster youths' protective skills (in regards to human trafficking and domestic violence)	0
8.	Facilities should offer wellness activities, such as mindfulness, yoga, wellness 'check-ins' by professionals, nutrition, and strength training.	0
11.	Facilities should provide access to pets/animals.	0
12.	Facilities should provide spiritual and cultural opportunities.	0
Total		138

	Topic Area 4: Family and Community Engagement	
#	**Recommendation**	**Votes**
4.	Facilities should use close proximity models, e.g., small facilities close to youths' communities.	19
15.	Facilities should assess each family's needs/strengths to determine the best course of treatment for the family unit.	19
5.	Facilities should have furlough allowances and community-based programming to promote successful re-entry and maintain family/ community ties.	16
10.	Visiting area should include space for families to be together as they would at home, not "clinical." Space should be trauma-informed, calming, comfortable, have room for kids to play. Culturally appropriate, opportunities for privacy, yet feel safe for all.	15
8.	Facilities should use a broad definition of "family & community" to include caring and supportive adults who may not be family members but have been a reliable presence for youth.	14
17.	Services for families should include teaching "soft skills" together – e.g., financial and life skills.	10
7.	Facilities should provide structured transition planning for after-care programming, starting at entry.	9
1.	Families should be engaged so that they are strengthened/ better able to support their youth	7
6.	Mental health assessments should be reviewed in advance of re-entry, similar to chapter 51 re-entry.	7
2.	Family and community engagement should increase youths' sense of connection	4
14.	Facilities should build time into the schedules to allow for families to engage- longer visitation and opportunities for family recreation, family meals, visiting family pets.	4
12.	Facilities should provide transportation as needed to facilitate programming needs and visitation.	3
20.	Facility staff should view themselves as in a co-parenting role with the parents, teaching the parents/caregivers the literacy of relationships.	3
23.	Facility staff should identify the "credible messengers" – mentors – to deliver programming, such as local business people, students in local fraternities/sororities.	3
16.	Facilities should use technology in family therapy and work with community-based organizations to offer technology resources for families who do not have technology to participate from their home.	2
19.	Facilities should offer programs that teach families how to de-escalate conflict, help parents to understand how the system works.	2
11.	Facilities should support efforts to engage/foster grandparent relationships and compensate them for travel.	1
3.	Facilities need to address the barriers posed by distance between youths and their families/ communities.	0

9.	Facilities should allow a staff member to be a continual mentor following release; sometimes they become the only trusted, caring adult in the youth's life.	**0**
13.	Facilities should provide outdoor activities/space for family visits.	**0**
18.	Facilities should offer attachment and wrap-around programs for the whole family.	**0**
21.	Facilities should teach independent living skills.	**0**
22.	Facilities should teach entrepreneurship and self-sustainability.	**0**
24.	Facilities should seek out and partner with community based programs, as partners for services/resources.	**0**
25.	Facilities should allow community volunteers in the facility, and volunteer opportunities for youth within the community.	**0**
Total		**138**