Wisconsin Department of Corrections

Governor Tony Evers | Secretary Jared Hoy
Division of Juvenile Corrections

ADMINISTRATOR'S MEMO TO COUNTIES

MEMO # 26-04

Date: 10/26/2026
To: LHS Youth and Families
From: Lance Horozewski, DJC Administrator
Subject: Transfer of Youth to Southeast Regional Care Center for Youth (SERC)

The Division of Juvenile Corrections (DJC) is preparing for the opening of a new facility; the Southeast Regional Care Center for Youth (SERC) located in Milwaukee. The facility will start accepting youth in November 2026. As part of the process, Administration will be reviewing youth currently placed at Lincoln Hills School to determine appropriateness for transfer to the new facility.

Youth residing in Milwaukee County will receive priority consideration for available placements at the new facility based on their needs and bed availability. SERC has a bed capacity of 32 male youth, so not every youth will be transferred. Decisions on who will transfer will be determined by each youth's treatment and educational needs, current placement dynamics, behavioral adjustment, safety considerations, available services, and other circumstances that may impact the appropriateness of a transfer.

Consideration for transfer is not an indication of any wrongdoing on the part of the youth. Nor does it mean there is any concern with their current placement. A transfer may simply be determined to be an appropriate next step based on the youth's individual circumstances.

We recognize that a transfer to a new facility can create questions or uncertainty for youth and families. Transfer decisions are currently being made with the goal of the first youth transfers occurring the week of November 2nd. Youth and families will be notified on the day of transfer by each youth's assigned social worker/case manager. When youth arrive at SERC, contact will be made with the family to notify them of safe arrival. Following the initial week of transfers, additional youth will be transferred beginning the week of November 16th and each week thereafter. The same process of

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notification will occur each subsequent week of transfer. Youth or family members with questions can reach out to the assigned social worker/case manager.

Cc: Jared Hoy, Secretary, DOC
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