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ADMINISTRATOR'S MEMO TO COUNTIES

MEMO # 17-03

DATE: June 29, 2017

TO: County Departments of Human/Social Services Directors

FROM: John D. Paquin, Administrator 
Shelby A. B. McCulley, Assistant Administrator 

SUBJECT: DJC Community Supervision Programming Changes

Statutory Changes to DJC Community Supervision

In September 2015, the Division of Juvenile Corrections (DJC) issued a memo to counties (#15-13) announcing statutory changes to our community supervision programming established in Wisconsin's 2015-17 Biennial Budget, effectively combining state aftercare and the Corrective Sanction Program into a single community supervision program. Effective July 1, 2017, in accordance with s. 938.533, Wis. Stats., DJC may purchase or provide any of the following juvenile community correctional supervision services:

- surveillance available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, including electronic or GPS monitoring, based on the juvenile's risk level and community safety;
- report center programming, including social, behavioral, academic, community service, and other programming after school, in the evening, on weekends, on other non-school days, and at other times when the juvenile is not under immediate adult supervision;
- contacts with the juvenile and the juvenile's family of a type, frequency, and duration commensurate with the juvenile's level of risk and individual treatment needs;
- case management services provided by a juvenile community supervision agent; and
- any other treatment or services that are needed to meet the needs of the juvenile as determined by the department.

Supervision Pilot Project

To prepare for providing these services in alignment with evidence-based practices, DJC conducted a pilot project. From October 2015 through September 2016, sixteen DJC managers and staff developed and implemented a new community supervision program with 48 youth. The enhanced supervision model is based on fluid phases, from engaging the youth upon release from

the juvenile correctional facility, to helping youth develop pro-social skills and attitudes, to helping youth and families sustain positive changes they have made with continued support from the agent through the end of their supervision. Our comprehensive pilot approach included training staff in core correctional competencies, practicing high-quality staff contacts with youth focused on pro-social skill practice addressing individual risks and needs, prioritizing positive reinforcement over punishment for compliance with supervision rules, increasing the emphasis on case planning for guiding youth success, and evaluating staff implementation of new skills and procedures.

The pilot was an informative process that has enabled DJC to introduce and practice new evidence-based techniques, identify resource and staff training needs, and create policies and procedures that will support successful scaling up of the new supervision model. Since the pilot concluded, all DJC community supervision staff have been trained in the same areas as pilot staff and are transitioning youth to the case-plan based, risk- and need-driven supervision protocol developed during the pilot. As of July 1, all youth released to community supervision from a juvenile correctional facility will be supervised using this model.

New Procedures Effective July 1, 2017

It is important to note that the statutory revision ending Corrective Sanctions necessitates a change in the recommended wording for a Dispositional Order committing a youth directly to DJC Type 2 community supervision. The new recommended wording for the Dispositional Order is the following:

"[Name of Youth] is committed to the State Department of Corrections for a period of [number] months until [date] for placement in Type 2 community supervision."

If the youth fails to cooperate with the rules and expectations of Type 2 community supervision, DOC may place the youth in a secure facility unless otherwise directed by the court. Likewise, counties currently using state aftercare should now request "community supervision by DOC" rather than "aftercare by DOC."

For youth preparing to return to the community from Copper Lake School, Lincoln Hills School, or Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center, the current Joint Planning and Review Committee (JPRC) process, led by the Office of Juvenile Offender Review (OJOR), will remain the same. However, decisions made during that process will be adjusted to comply with the statutory changes.

- Youth will be released to aftercare if provided by their county.
- OJOR will transfer youth to Type 2 community supervision if recommended by the JPRC based on youth's risks and needs.
- Some youth may be placed on DJC community supervision without Type 2 status if warranted by individual circumstances.

- A county that provides its own aftercare may request DJC Type 2 community supervision for a specific youth, as could be done in the past with CSP.

The process for setting the daily rate(s) charged to counties for DJC community supervision programming is also changing. Rather than setting the rate(s) biennially through the state budget process, the rate(s) will be calculated annually and presented to the Joint Committee on Finance for passive review. DJC has established two rates: one for youth placed in foster care, a group home, a Residential Care Center, or a staffed transitional living placement (Alternate Care Supervision Rate) and a separate rate for youth placed at home or in an apartment/independent living setting (Home Placement Supervision Rate). In fiscal year 2018, the Placement Rate is \$73.00/day and the Home Rate is \$165.00/day. As DJC continues to collect more robust data on how the cost and intensity of supervision services vary based on individual youth risks and needs, we anticipate working toward a rate structure that more directly reflects those variations.

DJC recognizes that providing quality, research-based interventions to Wisconsin youth and families is imperative to the success of our juvenile justice system and the youth that we serve. We believe that our new supervision program will help us to better serve our county partners while promoting public safety, reducing recidivism, and improving the welfare of our youth.

Cc: Jon E. Litscher, Secretary, DOC
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