

Meeting Summary

Following is a summary of issues discussed at the DJS Stat on August 12, 2011. Analysis is provided by StateStat and the Governor's Delivery Unit (GDU).

Follow-Up

- **Cheltenham Escape.** At the previous Stat, DJS provided a summation of a recent situation where two youths escaped from the Cheltenham Youth Facility. DJS stated that a corrective action plan was being created and this plan will be provided to the Governor's office.

It was also stated during the meeting that one of the youths in this case was from Washington DC and DJS was asked to provide an update on the collaboration that took place between DJS and DYRS in reference to this youth. DJS reported to StateStat, in their follow-up, that although the youth involved in the escape lived in D.C. he did not have a delinquent record or involvement with their juvenile system.

- **Southern Maryland Facility.** DJS officials recently hosted a hearing in Southern Maryland in reference to a proposed detention center in Waldorf. DJS reported at the previous Stat meeting that they will be doing more outreach in the area to try and assuage any concerns that citizen may have in terms of the creation of this facility. The excerpt of a letter (shown below) from the Southern Maryland News lists the concerns of one particular citizen. This constituent has questions about job creation, the need for another facility in Southern Maryland, as well as the actual size of the building itself. DJS stated that there has also been some positive feedback as well and they will do their best to answer the questions of all who are concerned.

Youth detention facility not needed in Charles County

Southern Maryland News

I just wanted to point out that the state first selected Nanjemoy as the location for this facility and it was met with tremendous opposition from many residents. Now, Waldorf is being looked at as the new location for this facility. Waldorf is a very urbanized area and a detention facility would not fit in its design.

We have been told that the detention facility would house approximately 48 youth and create approximately 125 new jobs in the county ["Md. wants Waldorf site for youth jail," Maryland Independent, July 15]; understand that this is not about economic development, but what is this really about?

Who or what benefits? What citizens will these jobs go to? Why is the facility proposed to be more than 70,000 square feet? What else is going to be put in there? What is the whole story?

There are many unanswered questions.
Natalie S. La Plata

Case Review

- Periodically, DJS and StateStat review cases at the meetings as a quality assurance measure. DJS reports changes they have made in their protocols based on the reviews. At this meeting, DJS reviewed the case of a youth who is AWOL from a DJS facility. DJS discussed the measures taken once a youth has absconded and how they collaborate with the police on these matters. As a follow-up item, DJS was asked to look into how juvenile warrants are prioritized by the police.

DJS also discussed their need for more beds in their secure facilities and they will provide updates on how they will try to increase capacity at locked placements.

Placements

- Out-of-State Youth.** DJS was asked, as a follow-up, to provide preliminary recidivism rates for youth who have completed out-of-state programs. The table below highlights FY09 data and DJS reports that FY10 outcomes will be released in the fall. When asked if there is a correlation between length-of-stay and better outcomes for youth, DJS noted that the recidivism study, which will be released in the fall, will include a breakdown of outcomes by lengths of stay.

Out Of State Programs (rates for FY09)	Female	Male	Total
	4	118	122
Juvenile/Adult Referrals/Rearrests	25%	58%	57%
Juvenile/Adult Readjudications/Convictions	0%	17%	16%
Juvenile/Adult Recommitted/Incarcerations	0%	14%	14%

DJS was also asked to list the facilities that are contributing towards the high Length-of-Stay rates. The list is as follows:

- Hardware secure : Mid-Atlantic ALOS - 330 days
- Staff Secure: Glen Mills ALOS - 360 days
- RTC: Bennington (high clinical) - 616 days
- Substance Abuse: Summit Academy - 312 days

DJS was asked to provide specific data for LOS based upon the fact that, as seen below, the LOS rate has been rising since February of this year. It should be noted that the June of 2011 rate is at its highest point since June of 2009.

Out-of-State Placement ADP and LOS

