Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

JJ&RA - JUVENILE REHABILITATION

Parent Pay Recovery



2015-17 BIENNIAL BUDGET

ML Request	FY16	FY17	15-17
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0
GF-State	\$516,000	\$516,000	\$1,032,000
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0

DECISION PACKAGE SUMMARY

The Juvenile Justice and Rehabilitation Administration (JJRA) requests \$1,032,000 GF-State in order to offset a decrease in payments received from the parents of youth in Juvenile Rehabilitation (JR) facilities. Parents of juvenile residents are required to pay a portion of their gross income to offset the department's cost. Parent payments have not been at the level assumed in the JJRA budget (local authority). By funding this request, JJRA will have sufficient funds to provide adequate, essential services without impacting other programs.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

State law requires that parents of juvenile residents pay a percentage of their gross income to the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) for the cost of the juvenile's support, treatment, and confinement in DSHS JR facilities. The ability to pay is based on a parent's income in accordance with a fee schedule. JR uses these funds to offset the cost of youth at the residential facilities. JJRA has been impacted adversely as parents are either unable to pay their portion or, due to a graduated fee schedule, are only required to pay a minimal amount. Therefore, JJRA has not been able to recover the total costs assumed in its budget.

Failure to fund this request will mean the shortfall of local funds will continue to reduce the overall institutional budget and decrease services to youth. The local funds authority from parent payments is part of the funding assumed for residential facilities. Therefore, not earning these funds decreases overall total funds available for the program.

PROPOSED SOLUTION

This decision package requests a fund adjustment between unearned local funding authority and GF-State to ensure the residential facilities are adequately funded. The adjustment will enable DSHS to meet current obligations to the youth at residential facilities.



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EXPECTED RESULTS

This budget request supports DSHS Goal 2: Safety – Each individual and each community will be safe and Goal 5: Public Trust – Strong management practices will be used to ensure quality and efficiency. This decision package is essential to implement JR's Strategic Objective 5.1 Maintain a productive, effective organization and maximize service delivery capacity within available resources.

It is JR's obligation to provide essential services to youth in its custody. When appropriate funding is provided, JR can provide effective and needed services to youth.

STAKEHOLDER IMPACT

Taxpayers and citizens of the State of Washington benefit from the ability to provide essential services to youth in JR's care.



DSHS VISION
People are healthy • People are safe • People are supported • Taxpayer resources are guarded
DSHS MISSION
To transform lives
DSHS VALUES