

JJ&RA - SPECIAL COMMITMENT CENTER
Staff - Secure Community Transition Facility



2015-17 BIENNIAL BUDGET

ML Request	FY16	FY17	15-17
FTE	7.0	7.0	7.0
GF-State	\$473,000	\$463,000	\$936,000
Total	\$473,000	\$463,000	\$936,000

DECISION PACKAGE SUMMARY

The Juvenile Justice and Rehabilitation Administration (JJRA), Special Commitment Center (SCC) requests seven FTEs for staffing at the Secure Community Transition Facilities (SCTFs) in order to support the increased number of residents that are being approved for community transition and ensure compliance with RCW 71.09. By funding this request, the Special Commitment Center (SCC) program is expected to benefit from a more efficient operation that is in alignment with legal requirements, a reduction in overtime costs, and an improved capability to provide quality service for residents at the SCTFs.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

RCW 71.09 sets the staffing requirements for the SCTFs (King and Pierce County) and clearly identifies the community escort requirements needed to be in compliance with the law. The law requires that all residents residing at a SCTF must have a trained staff escort or a court approved chaperone with them at all times. It is the obligation of the SCC to ensure that residents at the SCTF are transported to and from treatment sessions (individual and group), meetings with their Community Corrections Officers, independent living trips (groceries) and recreational trips to assist in the residents' community integration. With the growing number of residents successfully transitioning to the SCTFs (and with additional transitions pending court review) there is an increasing demand for trips to maintain our obligations. These requirements will further increase as residents continue to be accepted into education programs and obtain employment. The current number of residential counselors cannot support the required trips without creating excessive amounts of overtime.

Further, the Pierce County SCTF is currently being managed by the Community Programs Administrator (CPA). The additional duties for the CPA has had a significant negative impact on service delivery to residents and virtually stopped all program development for the Pierce County SCTF. The population at the Pierce County facility continues to grow and staff continue to be pulled in multiple directions to ensure the delivery of the very basic of services.



DSHS VISION

People are healthy • People are safe • People are supported • Taxpayer resources are guarded

DSHS MISSION

To transform lives

DSHS VALUES

Honesty and Integrity • Pursuit of Excellence • Open Communication • Diversity and Inclusion • Commitment to Service

JJ&RA - SPECIAL COMMITMENT CENTER Secure Community Transition Facility Staffing



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PROPOSED SOLUTION

With the addition of funding, the SCC can create six additional Residential Rehabilitation Counselors dispersed between the two SCTF programs. These new positions will allow the SCC to have sufficient staff to support day-to-day functions as required by the law at the staffing level assigned by the court. In addition, the creation of these positions will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the program by reducing overtime costs associated with program operations.

The establishment of a SCTF Manager (WMS) will allow for better program supervision and will relieve the CPA of day to day supervision duties. The CPA will then be able to dedicate time to program development, such as working more closely with contracted service providers to ensure quality work products and to be more fully integrated into the residents' transition teams.

If funded, the SCC can establish, recruit, and hire for these positions within a 4 to 6 month timeframe.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The budget request supports DSHS Goal 2: Safety – Each individual and community will be safe, DSHS Goal 4: Quality of Life – Those in need will be supported to attain the highest possible quality of life, and DSHS Goal 5: Public Trust – Strong management practices will be used to ensure quality and efficiency. The decision package is essential to implementing the JJRA Strategic Objective 2.4: Increase public safety through provision of coordinated rehabilitative services to residents at SCC, and Objective 5.1: Maintain a productive, effective organization and maximize service delivery capacity within available resources, and overall to DSHS Goal 4: Quality of Life by ensuring that residents are allowed to maintain a least restrictive alternative to total confinement.

It is imperative to ensure that residents are maintained only in the lowest level of restriction necessary to keep the community safe. If SCC is not able to maintain obligations set forth by the law and allow residents opportunities to re-enter into the community, the program runs the risk it cannot meet the goals set forth by DSHS. Increasing the number of staff to fulfill the requirements ensures that all goals and objectives are met and that SCC continues to pursue the mission of safety and reintegration through quality treatment.

STAKEHOLDER IMPACT

Stakeholders will support the establishment of these positions to ensure adequate service delivery and community safety during the provision of services to the residents.



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