

2014 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

PL-BD ENHANCED PAROLE SERVICES

Request	FY14	FY15	13-15
FTE	5.7	22.5	14.1
GF-State	\$567,000	\$2,266,000	\$2,833,000
Total	\$567,000	\$2,266,000	\$2,833,000

DECISION PACKAGE SUMMARY

The Juvenile Justice and Rehabilitation Administration (JJ&RA) requests additional staff to provide enhanced parole services for youth. Enhanced Parole (or Parole Aftercare services) protects communities, reduces disproportionate minority contact, reduces juvenile recidivism, builds family capacity, and supports transition and re-entry into the community. By funding this request, the Administration expects to serve an average daily population (ADP) of 135 youths per year.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

A 2011 study by the Research and Data Analysis (RDA) division of DSHS indicated youth who released without parole aftercare services were 48 percent more likely to be re-arrested during the nine months following release. Additionally, the youth without parole aftercare services were 55 percent less likely to be employed, and if they were, they made significantly less money than youth with parole aftercare. In Fiscal Year 2013, 677 total youth were released from JJ&RA, and 395 of those youth did not receive parole.

JJ&RA youth have a special education placement rate of 28 percent. Additionally, within six years of entering the 9th grade, high school graduates rates were at 14.1 percent. Approximately, 17.5 percent of JJ&RA youth that did not receive parole services from July 2009 to April 2013 were under the supervision of Department of Corrections at some point during that time period.

As an alternative to Parole Aftercare, JJ&RA provides pre-release transition efforts to connect youth and their families to key resources. However, this service is limited and does not allow JJ&RA to follow through post-release and work directly with the youth and family using our researched-based Functional Family Parole (FFP) case management services.

Lack of Parole Aftercare has a disparate effect on youth of color, as more youth of color are released without support or supervision. Most of these youth are at high risk to reoffend. While JJ&RA's total residential population has declined, the percent of youth of color has increased to 58 percent of the total population. Without Parole Aftercare services, youth of color, their families and communities will be impacted at higher rates for re-arrest, re-conviction, unemployment and lower wages. Without Parole Aftercare, youth released from JJ&RA leave without the support and resources needed to reenter their communities and reduce recidivism. This results in higher costs to the taxpayers in Washington State and higher risk to public safety.

PROPOSED SOLUTION

Parole counselors receive specialized training so they can provide research-based Functional Family Parole Aftercare to the youth on their caseloads. FFP is a specialized, research-based program that not only supports the youth in the reentry process, but therapeutic sessions with the youth and family also

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build the capacity of the family to support the youth during reentry. Parole counselors also serve as critical resources in developing relationships with community service providers, employers, and educators. These relationships are crucial in ensuring youth have access to the services they need for success. Parole Aftercare services not only make a difference for each youth's achievement, but the work of the parole counselors impacts disproportionate minority contact, protects the community, reduces recidivism and increases the economic contributions of former offenders. Parole Aftercare services are crucial for JJ&RA to meet the agency's mission of rehabilitation and personal success for each youth.

The implementation schedule is based upon the re-staffing of Parole Aftercare in the regional offices and an increased number of youth released from JJ&RA residential facilities receiving Parole Aftercare. Changes are not needed to existing statutes or codes as RCW 13.40.210 authorizes DSHS to provide parole supervision to youth releasing from its facilities.

EXPECTED RESULTS

All JJ&RA youth released to their communities will receive researched-based Functional Family Parole (FFP) Aftercare resulting in more youth successfully reintegrating into their families and communities. Other outcomes anticipated are fewer arrests, less violent crimes, less 'revolving door' admissions to correctional facilities, and less youth of color impacted by the cycle of confinement, poverty and crime.

Taxpayers will benefit by youth having significantly more chances for education, graduation, and employment, which will make them positive contributors to the local and state economy. Taxpayers and citizens of the state of Washington will benefit from improved public safety. Other potential benefits include the reduction in the high costs of crime including: costs for law enforcement, judicial processing, and incarceration. The average cost of parole services has decreased over the last four years, from \$29,414 in FY 2010 to \$24,298 in FY 2013. The efficiency of regional parole offices will improve due to an adequate workforce serving larger numbers of youth throughout the state.

This decision package supports the Results Washington goals to:

Help keep people safe in their homes, on their jobs, and in their communities and:

- Increase the percent of youth released from Juvenile Rehabilitation who do not return within 12 months.
- Decrease the percentage of youth of color in detention.

STAKEHOLDER IMPACT

Law enforcement, county juvenile courts, service providers, employers, educators, families, and the general public were very concerned when less youth received Parole Aftercare services. It is anticipated they will be very supportive of the enhancement of these critical services.