Government of the District of Columbia

Executive Office of the Mayor



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Department of Corrections Transfers Juvenile Population to Correctional Treatment Facility

Washington, D.C. -- Mayor Adrian M. Fenty today announced a major milestone in the DC Department of Corrections' (DOC) efforts to ensure that the city's incarcerated youth are provided with adequate rehabilitative services.

As of Nov. 10, the District's youth who have been charged as adults will no longer be housed in the District's Central Detention Facility (CDF), but instead relocated to the Correctional Treatment Facility (CTF). This move will offer the youth the best possible environment the District can provide. The new location offers more space for education programs, recreation activities and overall livable room. In addition, CFT will also provide a wider variety of housing arrangements and security levels so that custody for youth is individualized.

"We want to ensure that our youth offenders receive the best services possible in an effort to obtain better rehabilitation outcomes," said Mayor Fenty. "The CTF creates more opportunity and a better quality of life for these youth."

The DOC offers services designed to promote the physical, mental, and social well-being of the juveniles who are either awaiting trial or in the process of being transferred to another correction facility.

Educational Services

DOC Juvenile inmates are able to continue their education through the District of Columbia Public School (DCPS) Incarcerated Youth Program. The program offers a broad slate of educational options at the jail, through a combination of on-site teachers and a computer-based instructional system. In addition, the program includes a licensed Reading Specialist and utilizes a Read 180 Lab – a proven intensive reading intervention program. Youth can choose a traditional high school track or an alternative ABE/GED (Adult Basic Education/General Education Diploma) track, as well as vocational services. DCPS provides specialized instruction and related service provision such as psychological counseling and speech language therapy to round out a comprehensive program.

Behavioral Health Services

The DOC has established new systems of employing behavior management techniques to assist in maintaining order and discipline for youth. UNITY Health Care, Inc. has assigned a Mental Health Clinician and adolescent counselor to service youth.

Religious Services

The DOC encourages youth to practice the faith of their choice and also provides Protestant and Islamic services on a weekly basis.

Additional Services

In an effort to further the rehabilitative progress of incarcerated youth, DOC has been expanding the set of programs and activities it makes available. Programs include art therapy, chess instruction, book club participation, indoor/outdoor recreation, religious services, anger management, and others. Dedicated DOC staff oversees the delivery of programs to youth.

"The Department of Corrections will continue to expand the array of approaches that have proven effective in promoting the progressive development of youthful offenders," said Devon Brown Director of the Department of Corrections.

Currently, there are 25 juveniles at the CTF, a low to medium security facility that houses female and low-security risk offenders.

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