



## Regional Youth Placement Continuum

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## Agenda



- Background
- Regional Approach
- Regional Framework
- Legislative Policy and Funding Requests
- Dakota County Impact

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Headlines

Minnesota struggles to treat young, violent offenders who have nowhere to go

By Paul Blume | Published: October 20, 2024 9:40pm CST | Crime and Public Safety | FOX 9 |

Minnesota spends millions sending troubled youth out-of-state for treatment

By Paul Blume | Published: November 24, 2024 10:30pm CST | Minnesota | FOX 9 |

Minnesota kids forced to cross the country for mental health help

Kids with complex needs have gone to Massachusetts, Texas and other states for care. County officials say far-flung placements are costly and traumatic.

By Jessie Van Berkel  
The Minnesota Star Tribune  
NOVEMBER 2, 2024 AT 7:00AM

LOCAL

Reducing juvenile crime in Minnesota will take more counselors, treatment options, panel tells lawmakers

The Legislative Working Group on Youth Interventions, made up of local leaders and law enforcement officials from across the state, recommends broad reforms to combat rising crime.

By Christopher Mogen  
The Minnesota Star Tribune  
FEBRUARY 24, 2024 AT 12:00PM

NEWS & POLITICS

Minnesota kids with mental health needs cycle through juvenile justice system, often without options

Youth ruled incompetent to stand trial cannot legally be housed in juvenile detention centers, but they frequently can't find beds at residential treatment facilities.

By Jessie Van Berkel and Liz Sawyer  
The Minnesota Star Tribune  
OCTOBER 19, 2024 AT 8:40AM

INVESTIGATIONS

KARE 11 Investigates: Judge puts Hennepin County on notice for illegally holding kids in jail

Judge Todd Fellman blasts Hennepin County for "insufficient urgency and effort" to solve the lack of mental health treatment for aggressive kids with mental illness.

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Background

Unmet placement needs

Small but significant number of County connected youth

Involved in multiple systems

Disproportionately affects youth and families of color

Working Group on Youth Interventions (Feb 2024) recommended regional system of care

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## Regional Approach



Regional oversight agreements  
Shared vision, values, and commitments  
Operations, infrastructure, space, programming, funding, and data-sharing strategies

Prevention  
strategies

Crisis  
Stabilization

Placement  
Continuum

Ongoing  
Support &  
Aftercare

Centering youth, family, and community support system  
Commitment to youth development, providing various levels of sustainable trauma informed care & supports

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## Regional Framework



Bring people together to develop initial frame of a regional approach and legislative proposals for future planning work and for immediate responses.  
Plan for and begin implementing crisis stabilization center.

**Immediate Response**  
Current- January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Develop a comprehensive implementation plan.  
Initiate additional legislative requests.  
Implement.

**Phase II: Final Design, Development, and Implementation**  
July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025-December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026

**Phase I: Planning & Initial Design**  
January 7<sup>th</sup> - July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025

Plan and develop regional continuum of care framework, infrastructure, and programming.  
April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025-Final recommendations delivered.  
Initiate immediate actions as approved and funded.

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## Legislative Policy and Funding Asks



- Legislative policy proposals in four areas:
  - Licensing and certification
  - Medicaid benefit policy
  - Reimbursement rate structure
  - Multi-disciplinary team
- Funding the Regional Continuum of Care

	2025	2026	2027	Total
Staffing stabilization	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$5,000,000
Programming/services	\$1,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$5,000,000
Facilities/providers	\$2,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$8,000,000
Buildout of regional framework	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	\$2,000,000
Total				\$20,000,000

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## Dakota County Impact



Regional approach



Alleviate internal system pressure



Prevention and Intervention  
emphasis



Cross-departmental collaborative  
approach



Aspen House

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## Dakota County Impact



- From 2019 to date in 2024, Community Corrections placed four youth in out-of-state programs, with a total cost of \$132,873.91.
- From 2019 to date in 2024, Social Services placed two youth in out-of-state programs, with a total cost of over \$30,000

## Future



- Youth Services Advisory Workgroup
- Development of regional facilities as well as other placement options

Questions?