

The State of Arkansas Division of Youth Services Juvenile Operational and Facilities Master Plan

Little Rock, Arkansas

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Project Completed.....September 2006

Chinn Planning, Inc. was hired by the State of Arkansas in April 2006 to develop a Juvenile Operational and Facilities Master Plan for the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Juvenile Services. The goal of the master plan was development of operational and facility improvements and an implementation plan to meet program, treatment, operational and facility needs of juvenile offenders committed to DYS custody. DYS has direct operational authority for eight juvenile correctional and treatment facilities operated from five sites. DYS also contracts with specialty providers throughout the state to meet the treatment needs of juvenile offenders.

The planning process involved numerous meetings with advisory committees to guide the development of the master plan. These included meetings to review the system and facility assessment, projected capacity requirements, best practices in juvenile operation and facility design, options for program improvements and expansion, and recommended capacity requirements and system recommendations.

Recommendations presented to the Arkansas Division of Youth Services included:

- Revise Mission Statement
- Provide Regional Coordination of Services
- Expand Community Based Services
- Enhance Risk Assessment and Intake Process
- Improve Operational Control Over DYS Facilities
- Reduce Average Length of Stay in DYS Custody
- Develop Short Term Residential Programming
- Expand Capacity for Special Needs Offenders
- Improve Treatment Program Selection and Delivery
- Decommission Two Antiquated Facilities and Replace and Expand DYS Facilities

Recommended Capacity Requirements by Type	
645 Total Residential Capacity	
	Recommended Capacity
Secure Diagnostic and Classification Center - Short-Term	64
High Security/Risk - Long-Term	140
Older Offender - Long-Term	64
Female - All Custody	64
Staff Secure - Short-Term	188
DYS Custody Subtotal	520
Specialty Provider Subtotal	125
Total Residential Capacity	645

Source: Chinn Planning, Inc.