

Memo



To: Dane County Board of Supervisors
From: John Bauman, Juvenile Court Administrator
CC:
Date: September 13, 2018
Re: 2019 budget

My department has been working with the Office of Equity and Inclusion during 2018 to complete an equity plan and will present it at the October RESJ Core team meeting.

We have continued to focus on equity in staffing and currently have nearly half of department staff who are of a racial or ethnic minority group. In addition to hiring, we have increased cross training across the different programs and have continued to focus on staff training, providing numerous internship placements and have increased the number of outside community members who are invited to work with youth in Detention. This provides a linkage for youth in the community when they leave Detention.

The department also has been focusing on creating learning opportunities for youth who are in our care. Some examples over the past year for Detention youth have been employment skills training through Briarpatch, weekly yoga lessons and art projects that have included two large wall murals, and for Shelter Home youth, some of the activities have been golf lessons, weekly volunteer work at a food pantry and numerous group community activities.

The department has continued to be as sustainable as possible and with the delivery of two hybrid cars to our Home Detention Program this year, fuel usage has decreased for that program.

Finally, the plans to open local secure residential care center as a part of our facility in the next two years for youth ordered to corrections, rather than sending them up north to Irma, WI will be a significant improvement in the lives of youth who are in need of these placements and their families.