

ORC 103.75 defines a “youth services facility” as a facility operated, or contracted for, by the department of youth services that is used for the care, protection, treatment, or secure confinement of any child committed to the department’s custody.

Under ORC 5139.01 (15) “Secure facility” means any facility that is designed and operated to ensure that all of its entrances and exits are under the exclusive control of its staff and to ensure that, because of that exclusive control, no child who has been institutionalized in the facility may leave the facility without permission or supervision.

If the provider is only willing to accept youth up to the age of 18, would that preclude the provider from being awarded this contract?

No, but the solicitation identifies the target population as females committed to DYS, ages 12-20, with mental health and/or substance abuse diagnoses.

Is the youth’s length of stay based on her treatment needs or on her sentencing?

All youth have prescribed minimum sentences based upon the committing offense(s). Judges have discretion to release youth before the prescribed minimum sentence. On an individual basis, the DYS Release Authority and committing juvenile court may advocate for an extension in the length of stay if the treatment services are not available in the community and are in the best interest of the youth.

How many youth placed under this contract would maintain Medicaid coverage?

The percent of DYS youth placed in community-based alternatives to DYS facilities has varied significantly from county to county based upon local interpretation of Medicaid guidelines.

If the youth is non-Medicaid, would the contract include payment for aftercare services?

This solicitation is for residential services only. An open solicitation (RFQ NUMBER: DYS120102) for non-residential services may be found at <http://www.dys.ohio.gov/DNN/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=Z1wmBgmVK1o%3d&tabid=121&mid=756>

Can DYS females be housed on a unit with female youth from other referral sources, or must they remain only with other DYS females placed under this contract?

The solicitation desires “a discrete unit of approximately 6 to 10 beds.”

If a youth was doing well in the “secure” portion of the campus, could that youth potentially move to a less restrictive portion of the campus (i.e. an “open” unit) or would that youth need to remain in the “secure” portion only?

If a youth is doing well in the program, movement from a ‘secure’ portion of the campus to a ‘less restrictive portion of the campus’ is permissible with the agreement of the DYS Release Authority, the provider’s treatment team, and committing juvenile court.

What will the roll-out period be post-award of the contract? Would the provider be sent one youth at a time, or might there be the expectation of the provider accepting multiple youth at the contract's inception?

Placement of youth into the community-based treatment program is targeted for December 1st. DYS will negotiate with the selected provider the frequency at which youth are placed. This may vary based upon an individual provider's capacity to effectively serve youth during the roll-out period.

When a youth is in Franklin County, much family work that we do takes place in the home as well as in the residential setting. Would this be permitted with these DYS female youth?

Yes.

When considering outcomes of this project, would the outcomes be compared to youth receiving no such services (incarcerated only), or to national data of similar projects?

As stated in the solicitation, the applicant must provide a statement demonstrating commitment to using mutually agreed-upon (by DYS and the applicant) outcome measures. These measures, at the discretion of DYS, may be compared to local, regional or national outcomes.

Can DYS female youth be housed with a roommate, or are singles required?

A female may be housed with a roommate.

Are these DYS female youth permitted home visits? Would every pass or home visit require an entry from the court?

Females are permitted home visits. Every home visit would not require an entry from the court.