

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023



*IDJJ staff celebrate the first youth cohort to complete certifications through Greater West Town Project*

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Questions: Contact Dominique Newman, Public Information Officer  
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# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR: COLLABORATION & PARTNERSHIP

Dear Stakeholders,



It is hard to believe that 2023 is over, and that it is time once again to submit to you the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice's Annual Report. As I reflect on the accomplishments and challenges of 2023, I am incredibly proud, humbled and frankly, a little amazed by all the IDJJ team has accomplished over the past year, despite a national staffing crisis and continued COVID-related challenges. From launching our mobile intake unit to expanding our community partnerships; from reimagining IYC St. Charles as the Phoenix Emerging Adult Career and Education (P.E.A.C.E.) Center, to working to complete our new, close-to-home, therapeutic site in Lincoln;

from expanding our vocational certification opportunities to creating a dedicated family engagement unit, the IDJJ team continues to transform our agency into a 21st Century juvenile justice department—recognized nationally as a leader in the field.

What strikes me most about our accomplishments in 2023, however, is how many of them were driven by the people most impacted by our system. The mobile intake unit we launched, for example, was developed in response to recommendations made by a workgroup of impacted youth and families, IDJJ staff, community partners and system decision-makers. The P.E.A.C.E. Center model was developed collaboratively by incarcerated youth, families and IDJJ staff, and included input across multiple departments—from organized labor to our dietary team! The Department even sent a team that included parents, former IDJJ youth, and IDJJ employees to Washington, D.C. to complete a certificate program at Georgetown University aimed at implementing an anti-racist framework in juvenile justice.

It is clear from these examples as well as many others that much of IDJJ's success has come when we have allowed ourselves as a system to listen and be guided by the young people we are hoping to impact, and their families.

# DIRECTOR'S LETTER CONT.

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Likewise, forward progress is only possible with the input and experience of staff at all levels of the agency who are carrying out the work every day. That's why one of my personal goals in 2023 was to create more opportunities for the people most impacted by IDJJ to listen to one another and collaborate on solutions and goals.

Some of what I am most proud of in 2023 are the pathways we have opened for meaningful partnership with youth, families and our employees. This year, our youth interns helped develop a peer-to-peer orientation handbook, helped design the P.E.A.C.E program model, and met with our training team to provide feedback about the skills our staff demonstrate consistently and those that we may need more training on. Our Parent Advisory Board helped revise and edit DJJ policies, joined with our team to present at the National Partnership for Juvenile Services conference, and led a Lunch and Learn with our whole Department, sharing their experiences and suggestions. Our front-line staff and organized labor partners joined workgroups to iron out policy and protocol related to major Transformation initiatives, such as mobile intake, family home visits and the P.E.A.C.E Center facility reorganization.

This type of collaboration is the path forward for the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice, as well as the broader juvenile justice community in Illinois. As we look ahead to our goals and challenges in 2024, I know we must be even more intentional and determined to continue to foster partnership and collaboration. And I know that we cannot be successful without the partnership and collaboration of all of our system stakeholders and the community partners who support our young people.

And so, in 2024, I invite all of our stakeholders into partnership with IDJJ. Visit the Transformation page on our website and give us feedback ([IDJJ Transformation \(illinois.gov\)](#)), develop a program with us, or come visit our youth! We need your collaboration to make the 21st Century Transformation successful, and even more importantly, our kids and their families need your support to succeed.

In Service,  
Heidi Mueller

# ABOUT IDJJ

The Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (IDJJ) houses and provides services to youth committed to the Department's custody and assists them in transitioning back into the community. IDJJ does not serve youth who are in temporary detention awaiting adjudication, as those are managed at the county level through [Juvenile Detention Centers](#).

Formerly part of the Illinois Department of Corrections (DOC), IDJJ was created by statute in 2006 as an independent agency with the understanding that youth are physically, emotionally, and cognitively different from adults and should be treated in a developmentally appropriate manner. IDJJ provides comprehensive rehabilitative services to youth who are committed to the custody of IDJJ, and upon release, in transitioning young people back into the community through Aftercare.

Fiscal Year 2023 statistics:

- Average age of youth in IDJJ facilities: 17.4 years
- Average age of youth under Aftercare supervision in the community: 18.1 years.
- The average length of stay for youth IDJJ custody: 5.4 months

In the second week of December 2023, 171 youth were in IDJJ secure custody and 288 youth were being monitored and supported on Aftercare in communities throughout the state.

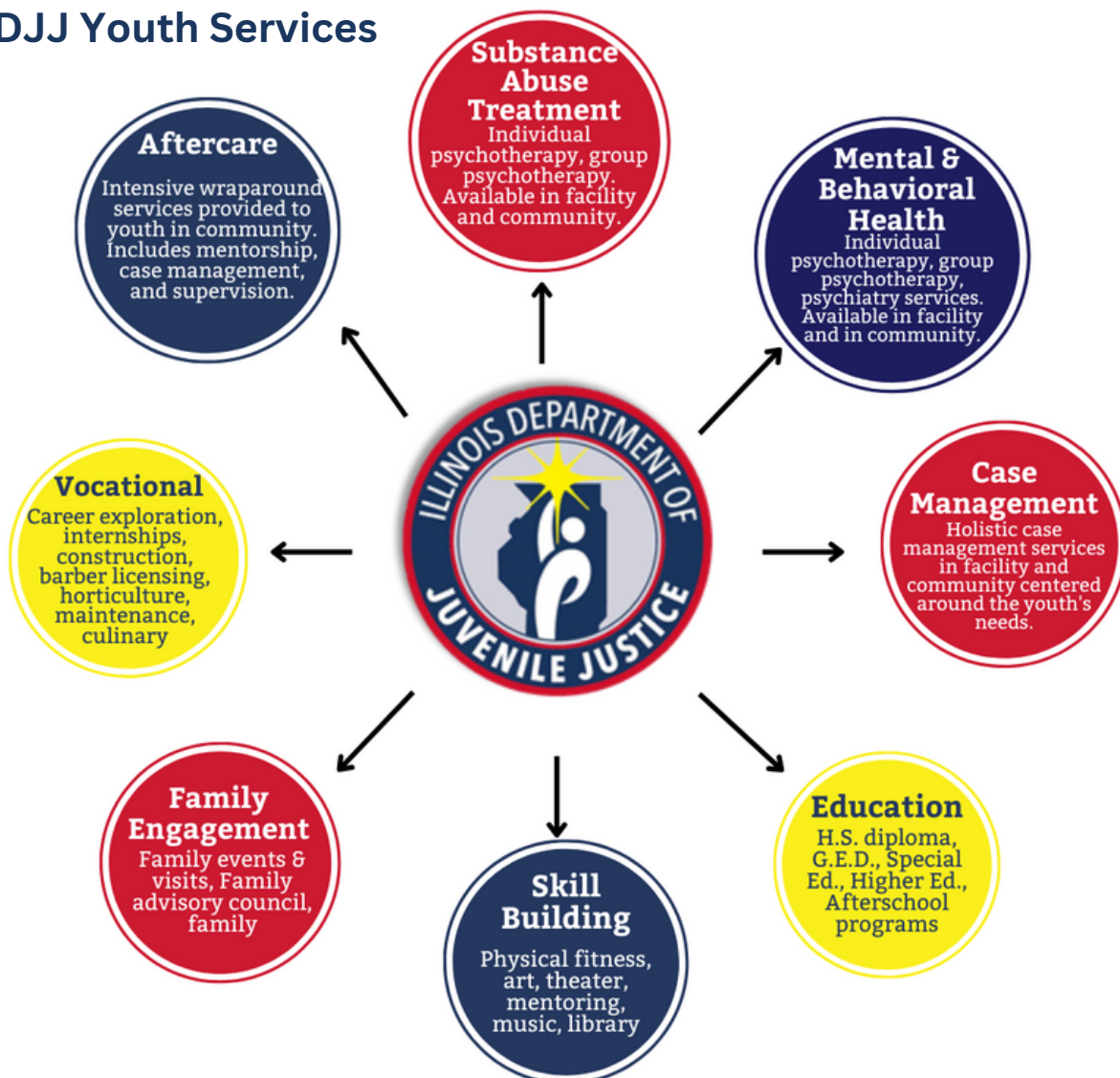
## POPULATION

IDJJ serves and houses youth who are committed to state custody through juvenile court proceedings, and also houses a small number of individuals who are convicted as adults in criminal court who are also under age 18 when sentenced to DOC. A minor found to be guilty may be committed to IDJJ under Section 5-750 of the Illinois Juvenile Court Act if the minor is at least 13 years and under 20 years of age if the minor was found guilty of a felony offense or first degree murder. Most youth are committed to IDJJ for an indeterminate sentence until the age of 21, which means that they do not have a required minimum sentence to complete, rather their release is contingent on the completion of programming. Since the early 2000s, there has been a national downward trend in juvenile justice system populations. IDJJ's population has declined similarly, with more significant decreases in recent years due to a focused statewide effort to reduce the use of secure confinement for youth. **From a peak of 2174 youth in 1999, the number of youth in custody has decreased by over 90%.**

# TRANSFORMATION UPDATE

In partnership with Lt. Governor Stratton's **Justice, Equity, and Opportunity Initiative (JEO)**, IDJJ utilized decades of evidence from across the country, and within its own system, to create a plan with the goal of achieving meaningful transformation, better youth outcomes, and increased community safety. **The 21st Century Illinois Transformation Plan** launched in July 2020, and IDJJ has worked diligently to fulfill its commitment to reduce the harm of incarceration by divesting from the adult prison model, creating a restorative close-to-home model, and building a continuum of care in the community. One of the key initiatives of the Transformation Plan is to invest significantly in intervention and therapeutic services for justice-involved youth. The infographic below portrays examples of services currently available to youth in the care of IDJJ.

## IDJJ Youth Services

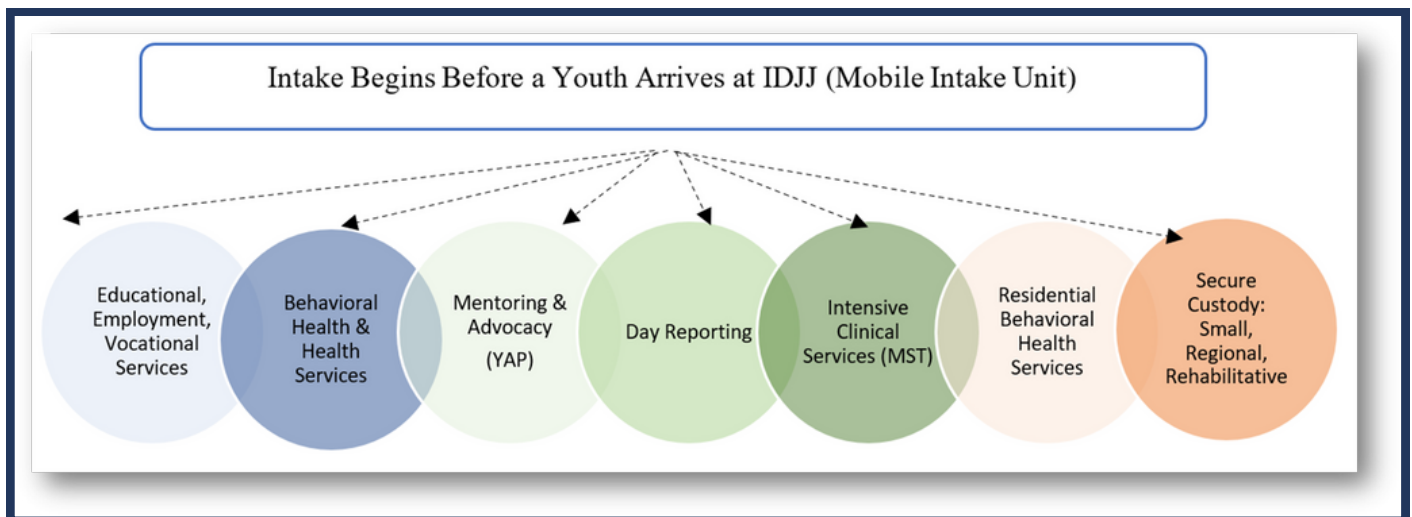


# TRANSFORMATION CONT.

In 2023, significant progress was made on transforming IDJJ, including expansion of mental and behavioral health services to youth, increased family engagement opportunities, and the addition and expansion of partnerships with community organizations, educational institutions, and career and job readiness programs. Additionally, the transformation also centered on increased training requirements and opportunities for staff, such as trauma-based relational intervention training and cultural responsiveness training.

## Mobile Intake Unit

In 2023, IDJJ continued to pilot a mobile intake program that improves collaboration with county-level providers at the juvenile detention centers. The mobile intake unit allows IDJJ staff to begin the intake process before youth are transferred to an Illinois youth center. This allows youth needs to be assessed early on, so that needs for specific services can be met quickly upon arrival to IDJJ. The mobile intake unit will expand to more counties in 2024, with the goal of being rolled out statewide by the end of the year.



More information on the details and progress of IDJJ's Transformation, including quarterly Transformation reports, is available on IDJJ website's [Transformation page](#).

The mission of IDJJ is to build youth skills and strengthen families to promote community safety and positive youth outcomes. The following pages highlight some ways that IDJJ accomplished the mission in 2023.

# MISSION: BUILDING YOUTH SKILLS

## School District #428

School District #428 exists to enhance the quality and scope of education for IDJJ youth in Illinois youth centers. Youth are able to work toward and complete the requirements for high school graduation, and also have various Career & Technical Education opportunities. For youth who have completed high school graduation requirements, higher education courses and trade programs are available through partnerships with colleges and community partners. In 2023, SD 428 made substantial updates to curriculum and professional development.



School District #428	Completed 2022-23 school year
High School	43
GED	9
8th grade	10



## Career & Technical Education (CTE)

In 2023, IDJJ significantly expanded CTE offerings. An inaugural cohort of 3 young adults earned forklift certifications from Greater West Town Project and 11 young adults were certified through a new partnership with the Technology & Manufacturing Association of Illinois.



Other courses completed by youth in IDJJ care:

- **Career Exploration course: 66 students**
- **Financial Literacy course: 26 students**

Want to know more about CTE at IDJJ? Check out the [Quarterly Transformation Report](#) that is all about CTE!



# MISSION: BUILDING YOUTH SKILLS

## Afterschool Programs

IDJJ offers afterschool programming at several youth centers that helps to build youth skills outside of regular school hours. These enrichment programs are based on the qualifications of available staff as well as the interests and requests of students. Some 2023 afterschool programs are listed on the right.

## Higher Education

IDJJ has partnerships with various colleges and universities throughout Illinois. Youth who have completed high school are encouraged to enroll in higher education courses that fulfill general education requirements for most associates or bachelors degree programs or vocational programs at local colleges. In December of 2023, 67 youth were enrolled in post secondary education.

IDJJ has intergovernmental agreements with several colleges, including City Colleges of Chicago and Elgin Community College, to facilitate student enrollment in online courses while in custody that can be continued upon release.

### Afterschool Programs

Statistics in the NBA

Music Production & Recording

Life Skills

Learning Communication Skills

Workout

WOLF PACK

Art and Games

Science Club

Writing Fun Poems & Free Writes

Paint Through Your Pain

Art Program

Learn to play Pickleball

Chess/Strategic Thinking

Youth Can Ukelele



Youth visit Northern Illinois University

### IDJJ Higher Ed. Partnerships

- City Colleges of Chicago
- Elgin Community College
- Lakeland College
- Lewis & Clark Community College
- Northern Illinois University
- Northwestern University
- Principia College
- University of Chicago

# MISSION: STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

In 2023, IDJJ continued to expand engagement with families. The following highlights some of IDJJ's recent family engagement efforts:

- The **Family Advisory Council** moved to monthly meetings for increased frequency.
- IDJJ welcomed Dr. Edrena Davis-Abram, MSW, LCSW, Ed.D., the first licensed clinical social worker that will be focused exclusively on family engagement. Dr. Davis will manage a new **Family Support Unit** which will serve IDJJ youth and families, helping engage families and connect them to resources they need.



**Family Advisory Group**  
Thurs. Oct. 19, 2023  
5:00 p.m.

**YOU ARE INVITED**

Is a youth that is important to you residing at an IDJJ youth center, on IDJJ Aftercare, or previously involved with IDJJ? We want to hear from immediate and extended family members, guardians, and mentors of IDJJ-involved youth.

**ABOUT THE GROUP**

This group is a space for those who are deeply invested in the life of an IDJJ justice-involved youth to share concerns and exchange support. It is also an opportunity for IDJJ staff to get a better understanding of the needs of families of IDJJ youth.

**JOIN MEETING**

This group meets virtually via WebEx. See below for more info.

For more information or to register for the event & receive a link to join, contact Zakee Shahid at 312-655-5219 x4004 or email zakee.shahid@illinois.gov



**Family Connection**  
Helping families of justice-involved youth stay connected  
Summer 2023 | Issue 2

The mission of the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (IDJJ) is to build youth skills and strengthen families to promote community safety and positive youth outcomes.

**SUMMER**

Connect with other families  
Connect with IDJJ staff

Connect with the IDJJ Family Advisory Council  
The Family Advisory Group offers resources, information, and support for loved ones of IDJJ-involved youth. For more information, contact Zakee Shahid at 312-655-5219 x4004 or email zakee.shahid@illinois.gov. The next virtual meeting will be held on Thursday, August 17th at 5pm.

**Resource Connection**

- IDJJ Website
- IDJJ Youth Centers
- IDJJ Aftercare Locations
- IDJJ School District #219
- IDJJ Annual Report 2022
- Independent Ombudsman

Connect to the Independent Ombudsman

Understanding the connection between IDJJ and county juvenile detention centers.

- A quarterly **family engagement newsletter** launched in the spring of 2023 to connect families with important information and resources and to encourage participation in the family advisory group.
- The **"Families" section** of the IDJJ website is being built out to include more information and resources.

- **IYC Pere Marquette received a national award** for their work and improvements in family engagement. Read media coverage [here](#).

More information and updates on IDJJ's family engagement initiatives can be found in the IDJJ 2023 **Quarter 3 Transformation Report**.



*IDJJ team accepts national award for family engagement at IYC Pere Marquette*

# MISSION: PROMOTING COMMUNITY SAFETY

## Aftercare

Another component of IDJJ's mission is to promote community safety. IDJJ's **Aftercare program** provides vital case management, support, and supervision as youth transition back into their communities. Aftercare Specialists receive training to work with youth, family and community partners to help develop a continuum of service.

The primary goal of Aftercare is to provide comprehensive and individualized services to youth committed to IDJJ in order for them to successfully reintegrate back into their communities and reduce recidivism.



*Aftercare youth participating in a volleyball tournament*



*Aftercare office hosting Black History Month celebration*

The Aftercare model creates a youth-focused intervention of rehabilitation and therapeutic services. These services may include the identification of substance abuse and mental health treatment and services, education and vocational programs, workforce development and job training, mentoring, and anger management counseling.

## 2023 Highlights

- Day Reporting Program at Arrowhead to serve the quad-cities region established
- Residential “step up, step down” unit at Arrowhead designed to reduce length of stay and deflect admissions for youth from the quad-cities region
- National Youth Advocacy Program intensive outpatient program now serving the greater Peoria region

# MISSION: POSITIVE YOUTH OUTCOMES

## Day Release Work Programs

### Youth Internship Program

In February of 2023, IDJJ launched an internship at the Director's office. IDJJ youth that are selected through an application and interview process spend time developing office skills, researching, writing, and learning about the office environment two days per week over an eight week period.



*Youth interns present their work to DJJ administrators*

In May of 2023, IDJJ's partnership with **Curt's Café** expanded to include the opportunity for select young adults at IDJJ to learn marketable skills and preparation for future employment. Curt's Café teaches culinary techniques but also provides instruction to young adults to fill in educational gaps, gain confidence, and become job-ready. Additionally, Curt's will assist young adults with employment upon re-entry into the community.

### Curt's Cafe Internships



### SkyART Internship (launched June 2023)

IDJJ's partnership with **SkyART** expanded in 2023 to include paid youth internships at SkyART. SkyART has been conducting art therapy in several IDJJ facilities for several years, but the expansion to on site internships has allowed selected youth to gain valuable work experience and important skills for future success.

# MISSION: POSITIVE YOUTH OUTCOMES

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Approximately 12 youth participated in a Constitutional Law Class at University of Chicago

Youth at IYC Chicago participated in a college visit to the campus of Northern Illinois University

Three youth earned personal trainer certifications through a new program with NIU's Project Flex

Youth at IYC Warrenville participated in the center's 1st annual "Voices of the Future: College Collaboration" event and assembly

Over 100 youth and their families participated in family therapy

Youth at IYC St. Charles have a brand new fitness room thanks to the generosity of It Takes a Village, Inc.

Storycatchers Theatre celebration of 20 years of working with youth at IYC Warrenville included a former youth sharing her success story.

# NOTEWORTHY 2023

Aftercare Administrator Tom DeBetta graduated from the inaugural Governor's Office Academy of Leadership (G.O.A.L.) program.



IDJJ Chief Legal Counsel Jullian Brevard was selected as Catholic Law's 2023 Distinguished Public Service Award Recipient



An IDJJ team that included staff, a former DJJ youth, and a DJJ parent participated in Georgetown University's Center for Juvenile Justice Reform "Advancing Racial Justice and Equity in Youth Legal Systems" Certificate Program



IDJJ School District #428 School Board Member Briana Morales was selected Illinois Teacher of the Year



A team from IDJJ presented at The National Partnership for Juvenile Services 2023 symposium on the topic of making young people and their families feel seen, heard and valued.



IDJJ Director Heidi Mueller was appointed to the executive board of the Council of Juvenile Justice Administrators

The American Bar Association Journal ran a story on IDJJ's youth who participated in a University of Chicago Constitutional Law Class

IDJJ leaders presented to Rotary Club chapters in Lincoln and St. Charles

IDJJ Chief of Performance & Innovation John Albright presented to the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement and also the Juvenile Justice Initiative

IDJJ Deputy Director of Aftercare Eva Moore won the Distinguished Court Services Award from the National Partnership for Juvenile Services

Jakki Alexander, Superintendent of IYC Warrenville, was chosen for the 2024 Governor's Office Academy of Leadership (G.O.A.L.) program

# DATA & DEMOGRAPHICS 2023

## AVERAGE AGE FISCAL YEAR 2023:

**17.4 YEARS**  
FACILITIES

**18.1 YEARS**  
AFTERCARE

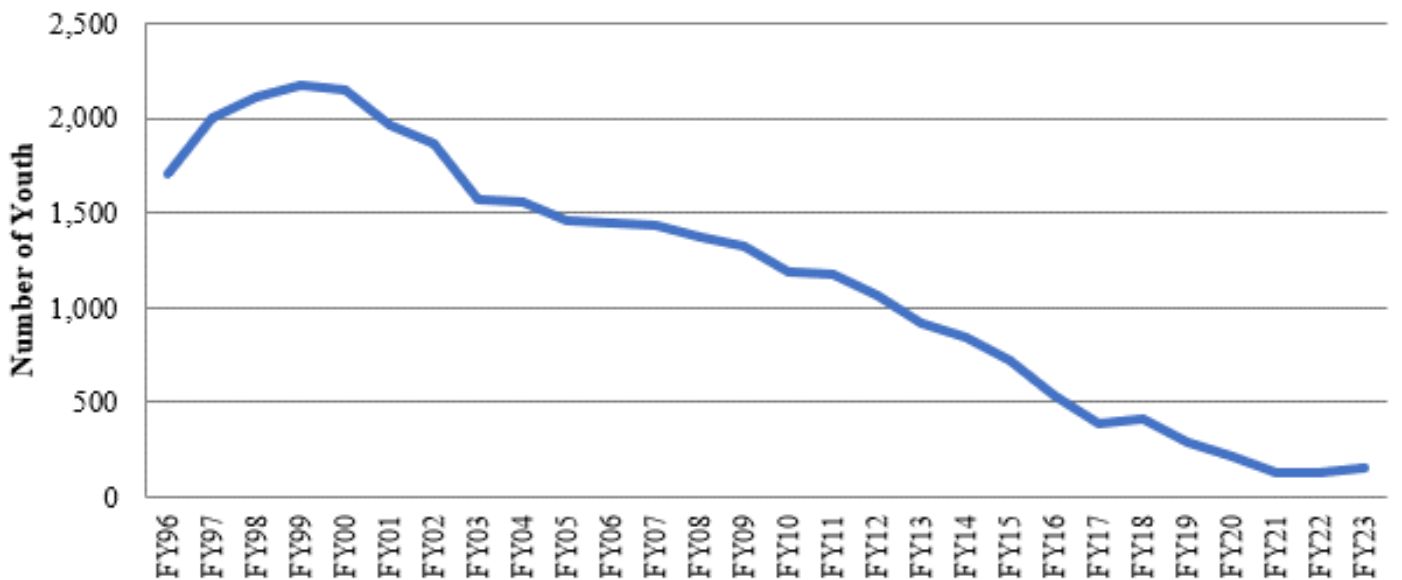
## POPULATION AT THE END OF 2023 :

**171 YOUTH**  
FACILITIES

**288 YOUTH**  
AFTERCARE

## AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION FISCAL YEAR 2023:

Figure 1: Average Daily Population



<b>154.2</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>52.7</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>43.2</b>	<b>22.2</b>
YOUTH IN IDJJ FACILITIES	CHI	HRB	PM	STC	WRV

CHI=CHICAGO, HRB=HARRISBURG, PM=PERE MARQUETTE, STC=ST. CHARLES, WRV=WARRENVILLE

# DATA & DEMOGRAPHICS 2023

SEX*	FACILITIES #	FACILITIES %	AFTERCARE #	AFTERCARE %
MALE	162	97.0%	260	93.9%
FEMALE	5	3.0%	17	6.1%

AGE*	FACILITIES #	FACILITIES %	AFTERCARE #	AFTERCARE %
16 & UNDER	62	37.1%	55	19.9%
17-20	101	60.5%	205	74.3%
20.5 & OVER	4	2.4%	16	5.8%
AVERAGE AGE	17.4		18.1	

RACE/ ETHNICITY*	FACILITIES #	FACILITIES %	AFTERCARE #	AFTERCARE %
BLACK	117	70.1%	201	72.6%
WHITE	33	19.8%	41	14.8%
HISPANIC	10	6.0%	22	7.9%
MULTI-RACIAL	7	4.2%	12	4.4%
ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER	0	0%	1	.4%

\*AS OF JUNE 30TH, 2023



# DATA & DEMOGRAPHICS 2023

COMMITTING COUNTIES*	FACILITIES #	FACILITIES %	AFTERCARE #	AFTERCARE %
COOK	35	21.0%	73	26.4%
COLLAR COUNTIES	5	3.0%	22	7.9%
METRO-EAST	14	8.4%	13	4.7%
CENTRAL	72	43.1%	97	35.0%
SOUTHERN	14	8.4%	19	6.9%
NORTHERN	27	16.2%	48	17.3%
OUT OF STATE	0	0%	5	1.8%

\*COMMITTING COUNTIES: COOK = COOK; COLLAR COUNTIES = DUPAGE, KANE, LAKE, MCHENRY, WILL; METRO EAST COUNTIES = MADISON, ST. CLAIR; CENTRAL IL COUNTIES = ADAMS, BOND, BROWN, CALHOUN, CASS, CHAMPAIGN, CHRISTIAN, CLARK, COLES, CRAWFORD, CUMBERLAND, DEWITT, DOUGLAS, EDGAR, EFFINGHAM, FAYETTE, FORD, FULTON, GREENE, HANCOCK, HENDERSON, IROQUOIS, JASPER, JERSEY, KNOX, LIVINGSTON, LOGAN, MCDONOUGH, MCLEAN, MACON, MACOUPIN, MARSHALL, MASON, MENARD, MONTGOMERY, MORGAN, MOULTRIE, PEORIA, PIATT, PIKE, SANGAMON, SCHUYLER, SCOTT, SHELBY, STARK, TAZEWELL, VERMILLION WARREN, WOODFORD; SOUTH IL COUNTIES = ALEXANDER, CLAY, CLINTON, EDWARDS, FRANKLIN, GALLATIN, HAMILTON, HARDIN, JACKSON, JEFFERSON, JOHNSON, LAWRENCE, MARION, MASSAC, MONROE, PERRY, POPE, PULASKI, RANDOLPH, RICHLAND, SALINE, UNION, WABASH, WASHINGTON, WAYNE, WHITE, WILLIAMSON; NORTH, IL COUNTIES = BOONE, BUREAU, CARROLL, DEKALB, GRUNDY, HENRY, JO-DAVIESS, KANKAKEE, KENDALL, LASALLE, LEE, MERCER, OGLE, PUTNAM, ROCK ISLAND, STEPHENSON, WHITESIDE, WINNEBAGO; OTHER = OUT OF STATE

\*AS OF JUNE 30TH, 2023

# DATA & DEMOGRAPHICS 2023

PREFIX	FACILITIES #	FACILITIES %	AFTERCARE #	AFTERCARE %
COURT EVALUATION	3	1.8%	1	0.4%
DELINQUENT	99	59.3%	243	87.7%
EXTENDED JURISDICTION	8	4.8%	8	2.9%
FELON	42	25.1%	3	1.1%
FIRST DEGREE MURDER	8	4.8%	1	0.4%
VIOLENT JUVENILE	1	0.6%	3	1.1%
HABITUAL JUVENILE	6	3.6%	13	4.7%
FROM OTHER STATE	0	0%	5	1.8%

OFFENSE CLASS	FACILITIES #	FACILITIES %	AFTERCARE #	AFTERCARE %
MURDER	19	11.4%	1	0.4%
CLASS X FELONY	52	31.1%	69	24.9%
CLASS 1 FELONY	33	19.8%	67	24.2%
CLASS 2 FELONY	40	24.0%	91	32.9%
CLASS 3 FELONY	9	5.4%	22	7.9%
CLASS 4 FELONY	14	8.4%	22	7.9%

\*AS OF JUNE 30TH, 2023

# DATA & DEMOGRAPHICS 2023

## RECIDIVISM RATE

**FISCAL YEAR 2020 EXITS- 29.8%**

**Fiscal Year 2019 exits- 35.7%**

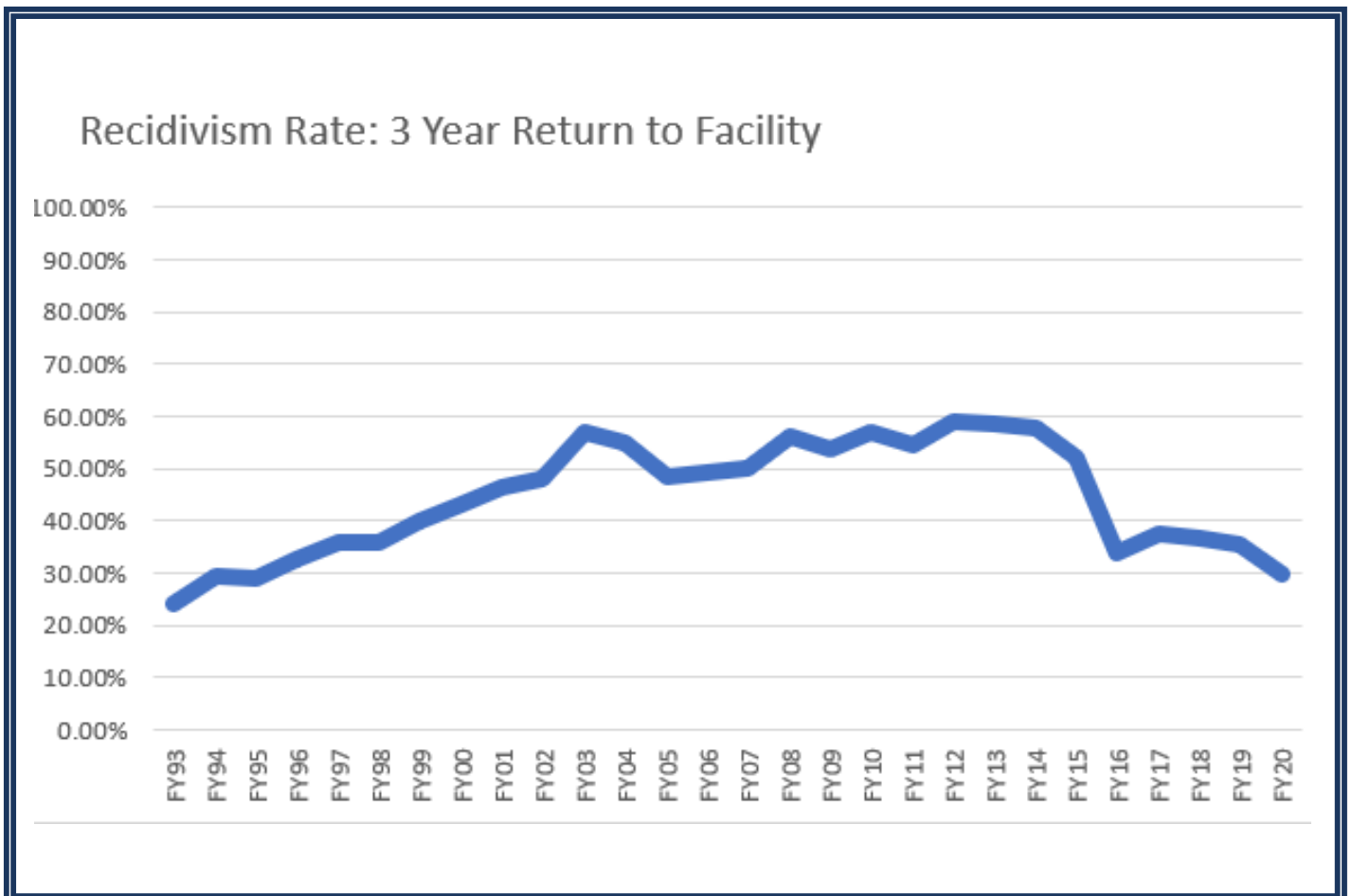
**Fiscal Year 2018 exits- 36.9%**

**Fiscal Year 2017 exits- 37.7%**

**Fiscal Year 2016 exits- 33.7%**

**Fiscal Year 2015 exits- 52.1%**

The Fiscal Year 2023 recidivism rate is calculated from all youth who were released from an IDJJ facility in FY 2020. It measures the percent of youth returning to an IDJJ facility within 3 years of release.



# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2023

Recent legislation that impacts the work of IDJJ is highlighted below. Gray arrows indicate legislation that was initiated by IDJJ.

**Bill Number:** HB1119

**Description:** Makes changes to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Board membership makeup by now requiring two members be individuals who have been formally incarcerated. Effective immediately.

**Bill Number:** HB2054

**Description:** Expands the acceptable qualifications required by applicants applying for an Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice Specialist position. Effective immediately.

**Bill Number:** HB3345

**Description:** Requires the Illinois Secretary of State to provide individuals committed to the Illinois Department of Corrections or the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice with an Illinois ID upon receipt of identifying documents. Effective: January 1, 2024

**Bill Number:** SB0424

**Description:** Removes the sunset date of the First Time Weapon Offense Program to allow the program to continue indefinitely. Effective: July 1, 2023

**Bill Number:** SB1463

**Description:** Eliminates fees and fines assessed in cases against minors who are under the age of 18. Effective immediately.

**Bill Number:** SB2197

**Description:** Extends the duties of The Office of Independent Juvenile Ombudsman into county operated juvenile detention centers. Effective: January 1, 2025

# CONSENT DECREE PROGRESS 2023

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## HISTORY

In 2012, a lawsuit was filed alleging that certain IDJJ conditions and services violated the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution and the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Specifically, the complaint addressed various aspects of IDJJ's mental health services, general and special education services, and other practices affecting the general safety and welfare of the youth in IDJJ custody.

To address the allegations of the lawsuit, the court approved a consent decree that required IDJJ to improve conditions and services. A consent decree is an agreement between parties of a case that establishes a detailed plan of action that is enforceable by the court. In the case of the RJ Consent Decree, a Remedial Plan was created which required sustainable reforms to the Department's policies, practices, and services to youth. The court also appointed independent experts to monitor IDJJ's efforts to comply with the requirements of the Remedial Plan. Each year, the monitors file reports with their compliance findings and recommendations.

In 2022, IDJJ achieved substantial compliance in all areas of the remedial plans for mental health and general welfare and safety.

## **In 2023, IDJJ continued to make progress on the remedial plan for education:**

IDJJ made solid progress on education staffing shortages in 2023 and worked on setting up and providing the compensatory education services that were ordered in 2022. Eligible youth who opted in for compensatory education services receive incentives for participation and are working with [Varsity Tutors](#) and [Literacy Volunteers of Illinois](#).

IDJJ anticipates meeting all requirements of the educational remedial plan in 2024 and hopes to completely exit the consent decree next year!

# STAFFING UPDATE 2023

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One of IDJJ's top priorities in FY24 continues to be onboarding the necessary personnel to fully separate from the Department of Corrections and the Shared Services Model. Developing the infrastructure to function as a stand-alone agency is necessary to eliminate audit findings, help IDJJ successfully exit consent decree litigation, and ensure a healthy and supportive workplace for staff and youth in our care. Establishing a fully functioning, independent HR team is absolutely critical at a time when juvenile justice and child services agencies across the country face a staffing crisis.

The HR team, in partnership with other internal departments, continues their work in enhancing recruitment strategies, specifically to target hard-to-fill roles, like security and education, to include an improved Juvenile Justice Specialist Intern screening process, Handshake/IASA job bank online presence, and increased career fair participation.

Additionally, with the anticipated opening of IYC Lincoln in Fall 2024 and the anticipated go-live of a new HR system in February 2024, the HR team will continue its' focus on streamlining archaic processes, optimizing the use of technology, and enhancing employee engagement and retention.

Like our sister agencies in Illinois and around the country, IDJJ expects staff shortages to continue to be a serious challenge in 2024 and beyond. However, a strong HR Department, and strong agency leaders make us much better equipped to respond to and plan for the changing workforce landscape.

# STAFF TRAINING UPDATE- 2023

The Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice training department focuses on on-boarding training for new employees, annual training for existing employees, and specialty trainings. On-boarding training for new employees occurs quarterly in the form of a week-long training for new non-security staff and a six-week academy for all new juvenile justice specialists. This year IDJJ graduated 66 juvenile justice specialist interns, including the 39 interns in the final class of the year. This was the largest class since COVID!



Through annual training IDJJ provides all requisite trainings, but it also offers opportunities to introduce new topics, such as professional boundaries and adolescent development and behavior. Annual training topics, which are skill focused, are updated yearly with new trainings added to keep the training relevant and the staff engaged. The quality of annual training has also resulted in an exemption from the state's required on-line cultural competency and LGBTQIA plus training, instead allowing the Department to utilize its own cultural responsiveness and LGBTQI trainings to meet the requirement.

Lastly, training has been paramount in the introduction and rollout of Department wide initiatives including response to youth behavior through non-violent crisis intervention and the introduction of trauma informed care. Comprehensive and ongoing training at all levels of IDJJ is vital to the success of staff and youth.

# BUDGET 2023

Organization	Fund Name	Appropriation Name	Appropriation	Expenditure
General Office	General Revenue	Regular Positions	\$3,586,600.00	\$3,242,634.16
General Office	General Revenue	Social Security/Medicare	\$362,300.00	\$279,297.97
General Office	General Revenue	Contractual Services	\$2,529,700.00	\$2,366,514.95
General Office	General Revenue	Travel	\$43,000.00	\$42,502.26
General Office	General Revenue	Commodities	\$15,900.00	\$13,562.05
General Office	General Revenue	Printing	\$1,500.00	\$1,066.09
General Office	General Revenue	Equipment	\$20,500.00	\$20,092.97
General Office	General Revenue	EDP	\$3,178,000.00	\$3,171,347.90
General Office	General Revenue	Telecommunications	\$434,700.00	\$117,080.03
General Office	General Revenue	Op of Auto Equipment	\$25,800.00	\$25,244.50
General Office	General Revenue	Statewide Hospitalization	\$6,300.00	\$727.51
General Office	General Revenue	Independent Office of the Ombudsperson	\$406,900.00	\$234,808.81
General Office	General Revenue	Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports	\$60,800.00	\$54,960.16
General Office	General Revenue	Tort Claims	\$86,000.00	\$40,905.30
General Office	General Revenue	Sheriff Fee for Conveying Juveniles	\$4,200.00	\$1,512.25
General Office	General Revenue	Repairs and Maintenance	\$838,400.00	\$655,116.91
General Office	General Revenue	Refunds	\$600.00	\$0.00
General Office	DJJ Reimbursement	School District Programs	\$2,500,000.00	\$0.00
General Office	DJJ Reimbursement	Expenditures of Federal Programs	\$1,500,000.00	\$0.00
General Office	DJJ Reimbursement	Expenditures of Misc Programs	\$2,500,000.00	\$0.00
General Office	DOC Reimbursement	School District Programs	\$2,500,000.00	\$1,405,829.39
General Office	DOC Reimbursement	Expenditures of Federal Programs	\$1,500,000.00	\$1,071,264.96
General Office	DOC Reimbursement	Expenditures of Misc Programs	\$2,500,000.00	\$5,983.26
School District	General Revenue	Regular Positions	\$6,268,600.00	\$4,744,821.48
School District	General Revenue	TRS Contribution	\$0.00	\$0.00
School District	General Revenue	Social Security/Medicare	\$471,300.00	\$345,342.58
School District	General Revenue	Contractual Services	\$878,200.00	\$694,164.22
School District	General Revenue	Travel	\$4,100.00	\$35.00
School District	General Revenue	Commodities	\$20,000.00	\$3,419.14
School District	General Revenue	Printing	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
School District	General Revenue	Equipment	\$5,100.00	\$1,268.10
School District	General Revenue	Telecommunications	\$47,200.00	\$16,677.50
School District	General Revenue	Op of Auto Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00
School District	General Revenue	High School Education Services	\$2,458,900.00	\$0.00
Community Services	General Revenue	Regular Positions	\$6,240,200.00	\$5,902,555.68
Community Services	General Revenue	Social Security/Medicare	\$467,000.00	\$436,450.72
Community Services	General Revenue	Contractual Services	\$11,399,200.00	\$10,688,192.45
Community Services	General Revenue	Travel	\$16,600.00	\$10,076.55
Community Services	General Revenue	Travel and Allowances	\$600.00	\$0.00
Community Services	General Revenue	Commodities	\$4,800.00	\$2,488.39
Community Services	General Revenue	Printing	\$4,200.00	\$3,685.02
Community Services	General Revenue	Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00
Community Services	General Revenue	Equipment	\$5,100.00	\$0.00
Community Services	General Revenue	Telecommunications	\$283,000.00	\$128,404.75
Community Services	General Revenue	Op of Auto Equipment	\$104,800.00	\$104,730.14



# BUDGET CONT.

IYC Chicago	General Revenue	Regular Positions	\$8,717,200.00	\$8,212,137.23
IYC Chicago	General Revenue	Student, Member, Inmate Compensation	\$3,600.00	\$3,155.31
IYC Chicago	General Revenue	Social Security/Medicare	\$679,500.00	\$603,754.66
IYC Chicago	General Revenue	Contractual Services	\$3,417,900.00	\$3,227,742.26
IYC Chicago	General Revenue	Travel	\$3,500.00	\$2,594.65
IYC Chicago	General Revenue	Commodities	\$305,600.00	\$247,166.71
IYC Chicago	General Revenue	Printing	\$18,500.00	\$12,364.25
IYC Chicago	General Revenue	Equipment	\$27,800.00	\$13,101.33
IYC Chicago	General Revenue	Telecommunications	\$140,500.00	\$139,153.80
IYC Chicago	General Revenue	Op of Auto Equipment	\$9,200.00	\$7,848.89
IYC Harrisburg	General Revenue	Regular Positions	\$17,068,600.00	\$17,065,896.08
IYC Harrisburg	General Revenue	Student, Member, Inmate Compensation	\$10,900.00	\$4,312.17
IYC Harrisburg	General Revenue	Social Security/Medicare	\$1,246,500.00	\$1,240,292.22
IYC Harrisburg	General Revenue	Contractual Services	\$3,135,100.00	\$3,113,561.99
IYC Harrisburg	General Revenue	Travel	\$17,800.00	\$14,381.57
IYC Harrisburg	General Revenue	Travel and Allowances	\$1,900.00	\$380.79
IYC Harrisburg	General Revenue	Commodities	\$238,900.00	\$238,791.37
IYC Harrisburg	General Revenue	Printing	\$4,200.00	\$3,395.20
IYC Harrisburg	General Revenue	Equipment	\$47,100.00	\$38,174.52
IYC Harrisburg	General Revenue	Telecommunications	\$54,500.00	\$53,965.78
IYC Harrisburg	General Revenue	Op of Auto Equipment	\$23,900.00	\$22,798.04
IYC Lincoln	General Revenue	Equipment	\$1,031,800.00	\$1,199.45
IYC Pere Marquette	General Revenue	Regular Positions	\$5,914,300.00	\$5,276,920.56
IYC Pere Marquette	General Revenue	Student, Member, Inmate Compensation	\$4,200.00	\$3,180.55
IYC Pere Marquette	General Revenue	Social Security/Medicare	\$437,000.00	\$383,522.19
IYC Pere Marquette	General Revenue	Contractual Services	\$1,098,300.00	\$1,037,365.01
IYC Pere Marquette	General Revenue	Travel	\$11,500.00	\$7,154.71
IYC Pere Marquette	General Revenue	Travel and Allowances	\$500.00	\$0.00
IYC Pere Marquette	General Revenue	Commodities	\$193,500.00	\$186,994.76
IYC Pere Marquette	General Revenue	Printing	\$5,200.00	\$5,161.87
IYC Pere Marquette	General Revenue	Equipment	\$23,600.00	\$9,411.63
IYC Pere Marquette	General Revenue	Telecommunications	\$44,100.00	\$43,567.44
IYC Pere Marquette	General Revenue	Op of Auto Equipment	\$22,300.00	\$21,553.47
IYC St Charles	General Revenue	Regular Positions	\$16,839,000.00	\$16,087,898.62
IYC St Charles	General Revenue	Student, Member, Inmate Compensation	\$3,700.00	\$3,442.51
IYC St Charles	General Revenue	Social Security/Medicare	\$1,245,100.00	\$1,179,258.43
IYC St Charles	General Revenue	Contractual Services	\$6,009,400.00	\$5,887,247.69
IYC St Charles	General Revenue	Travel	\$4,200.00	\$2,239.46
IYC St Charles	General Revenue	Travel and Allowances	\$0.00	\$0.00
IYC St Charles	General Revenue	Commodities	\$442,100.00	\$405,128.45
IYC St Charles	General Revenue	Printing	\$9,400.00	\$7,715.53
IYC St Charles	General Revenue	Equipment	\$91,700.00	\$29,617.94
IYC St Charles	General Revenue	Telecommunications	\$90,300.00	\$65,862.22
IYC St Charles	General Revenue	Op of Auto Equipment	\$62,300.00	\$58,700.75
IYC Warrenville	General Revenue	Regular Positions	\$8,898,100.00	\$8,284,049.28
IYC Warrenville	General Revenue	Student, Member, Inmate Compensation	\$4,000.00	\$1,191.05
IYC Warrenville	General Revenue	Social Security/Medicare	\$668,100.00	\$608,200.66
IYC Warrenville	General Revenue	Contractual Services	\$2,339,000.00	\$2,271,396.92
IYC Warrenville	General Revenue	Travel	\$8,300.00	\$1,735.04
IYC Warrenville	General Revenue	Commodities	\$248,600.00	\$224,915.79
IYC Warrenville	General Revenue	Printing	\$6,200.00	\$5,344.69
IYC Warrenville	General Revenue	Equipment	\$42,000.00	\$34,101.05
IYC Warrenville	General Revenue	Telecommunications	\$73,800.00	\$57,990.70
IYC Warrenville	General Revenue	Op of Auto Equipment	\$29,500.00	\$29,380.09

# LOOKING AHEAD TO 2024

## Phoenix Emerging Adult Career & Education (PEACE) Center at St. Charles

In early 2024, IDJJ will launch the Phoenix Emerging Adults Career & Education Center (PEACE) at a reimagined IYC St. Charles. The purpose of PEACE is to equip graduate young adults ages 17-20 with vocational, career, educational, and life skill development opportunities in a setting that is developmentally appropriate for young adults. There will be a variety of programming opportunities to support each young adult's successful and sustainable reintegration into the community. IDJJ estimates 25- 30 young adults will participate as the transition begins.



## Lincoln Youth Center

In late 2024, IDJJ anticipates the opening of the new Illinois Youth Center in Lincoln, Illinois. This youth center is designed to be trauma-informed, therapeutic, rehabilitative, and dorm-like in order to reduce the harm of incarceration and implement best practices in juvenile justice. IYC Lincoln will be welcoming to families and will allow youth from central Illinois who are in secure custody of the state to remain closer to home.



*Groundbreaking at site of Lincoln youth center-summer 2023*

## Final Words

IDJJ is grateful to the many staff, families, advocates, and community partners that have contributed to the accomplishments of 2023 and whose dedication will undoubtedly help IDJJ to accomplish our mission. By working together to build youth skills and strengthen families, we will promote community safety and produce even more positive outcomes for our youth in 2024!