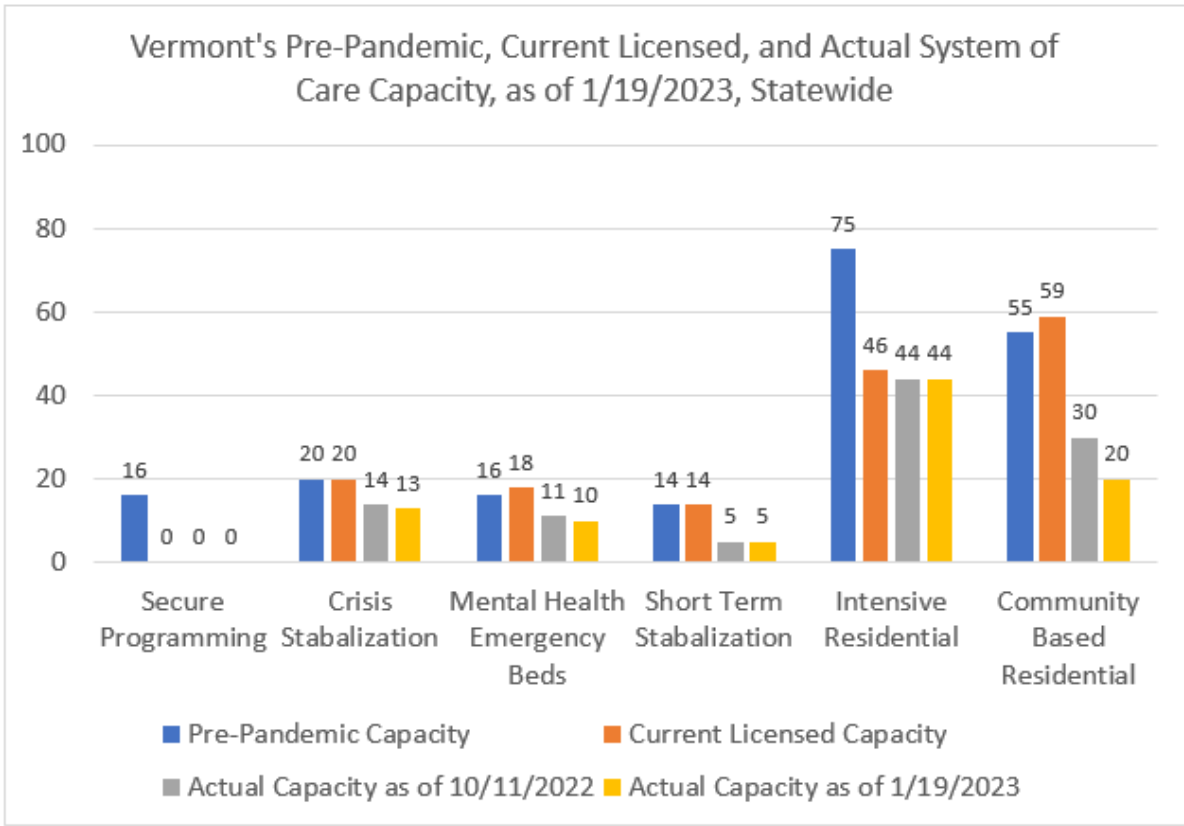




VERMONT

**AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES
DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

Department for Children and Families
Buildings and General Services



Data Source: Residential Capacity in Vermont- 1.19.2023 Spreadsheet.

Current High End System of Care Capacity

Current Challenges to the High End System of Care

Factors leading to a need for stabilization include: destructive or assaultive behaviors, mental health crises, placement disruption, concerns of risk to self or others, likelihood to "run," etc.

System impacts of high acuity-youth in crisis needing stabilization include: need for greater supervision reduces program capacity and creates "logjams," possible disruption of programming which consequently reduces capacity to address needs of that youth or other youths.

Impacts on youth include: absent a short term, secure stabilization program, the Department is left to staff youth directly in alternative and potentially destabilizing settings.

A complete system of care meets youth where they are and in the most appropriate and supportive environment.

Proposed Plan, High End System of Care (HESOC)

Short-Term Secure Stabilization: Hardware-secured physical structure with generalized therapeutic programming, designed to immediately manage acute safety crises for any justice-involved youth.

Short-Term Secure Treatment: Hardware-secured physical structure with specialized therapeutic programming, designed to address behaviors that present risk to personal or public safety for appropriate justice-involved youth.

Staff-Secure Crisis Stabilization: Community-based physical structure with generalized or specialized therapeutic programming, designed to immediately manage acute crises for any youth.

Psychiatric Residential Treatment: Community-based physical structure with specialized therapeutic services designed to serve youth with intensive mental health or developmental needs.

Windham County Collaboration – Two Programs

The Rest Stop

Currently in operation; an alternative, emergency placement solution for one youth to be temporarily held while awaiting more permanent placement.

Relies on Staffing pattern utilizing FSD staff, sheriffs, and other providers as appropriate.

Staff-Secure Crisis Stabilization

Two bed, staff-secure crisis stabilization program with sheriff support.

Current in design, contracting, and construction phase.

Proposed Plan, High End System of Care (HESOC)

Short-Term Secure Stabilization: Hardware-secured physical structure with generalized therapeutic programming, designed to immediately manage acute safety crises for any justice-involved youth.

Short-Term Secure Treatment: Hardware-secured physical structure with specialized therapeutic programming, designed to address behaviors that present risk to personal or public safety for appropriate justice-involved youth.

Staff-Secure Crisis Stabilization: Community-based physical structure with generalized or specialized therapeutic programming, designed to immediately manage acute crises for any youth.

Psychiatric Residential Treatment: Community-based physical structure with specialized therapeutic services designed to serve youth with intensive mental health or developmental needs.

Temporary Secure Stabilization- Modular Build

BGS and DCF are designing and developing temporary solutions for an architecturally secure facility to accommodate the needs **of up to 8 justice-involved youth** of any age or gender requiring secure treatment, education, and care.


Working with architects, BGS and DCF are developing plans for modular buildings.

BGS and DCF staff conducted site analyses to identify the most viable locations for the rapid development of a temporary facility; these site visits have assessed both existing structures and grounds review.

Project emphasis is on physical security, therapeutic quality of space, and timelines.

This temporary facility will meet the need for secure stabilization until a permanent facility can be built.

DCF Outreach Efforts to Date

- DCF Commissioner began conversations with Legislators in December 2022, and the Department and Agency have continued those conversations since.
 - DCF met with Franklin County legislators on February 1 at the State House by offering drop-in conversations with the Commissioner and his team.
 - DCF Commissioner reached out to St. Albans Town officials in early January to open a dialogue locally. Dr. Chen and Geoffrey Pippenger, Director of Policy and Planning, appeared at the St. Albans Town Selectboard meeting on Monday, February 6.
 - DCF and BGS continue to be in discussion with stakeholders, including the Town, and will continue to do so throughout the process.
- 

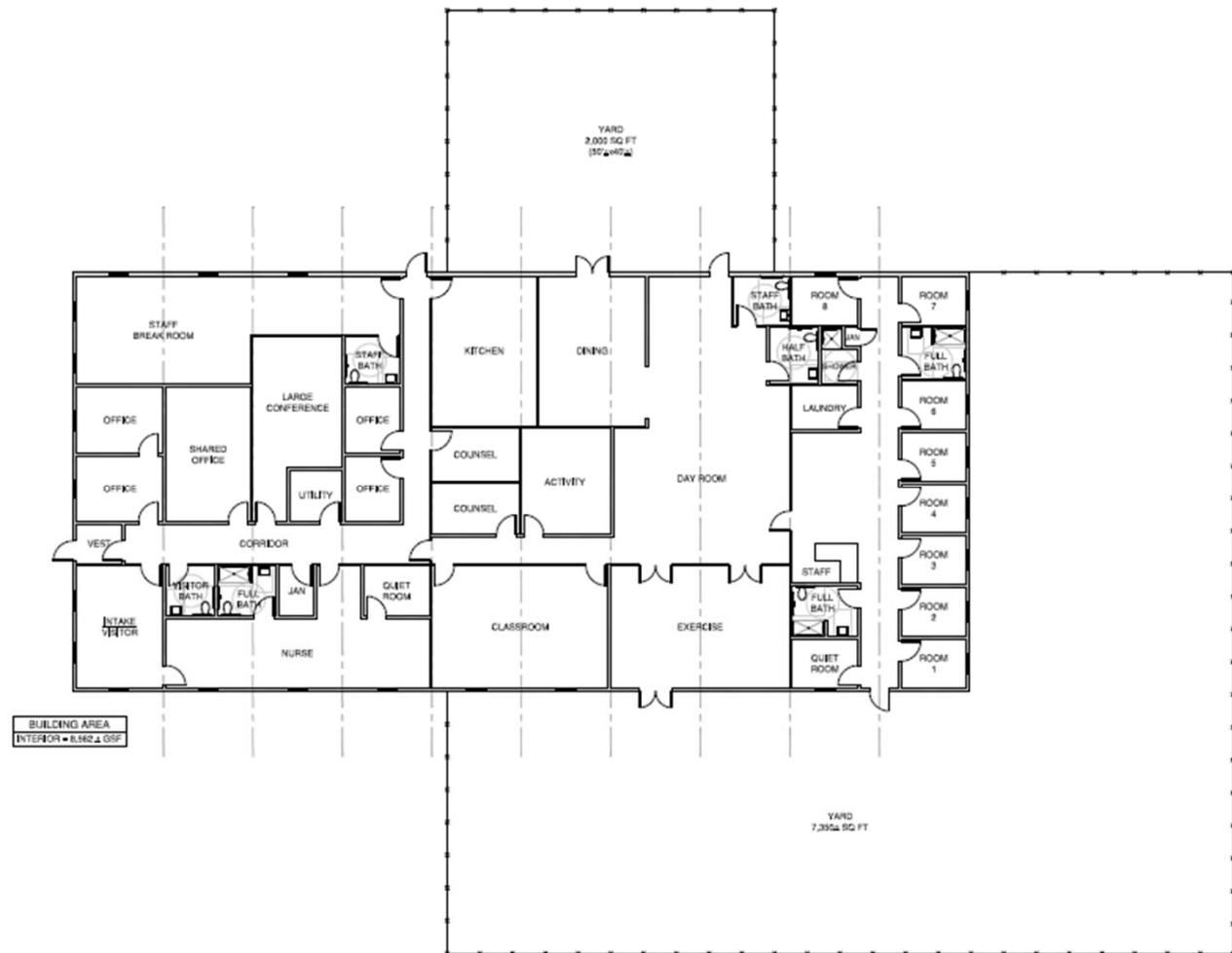
Modular Build, cont.

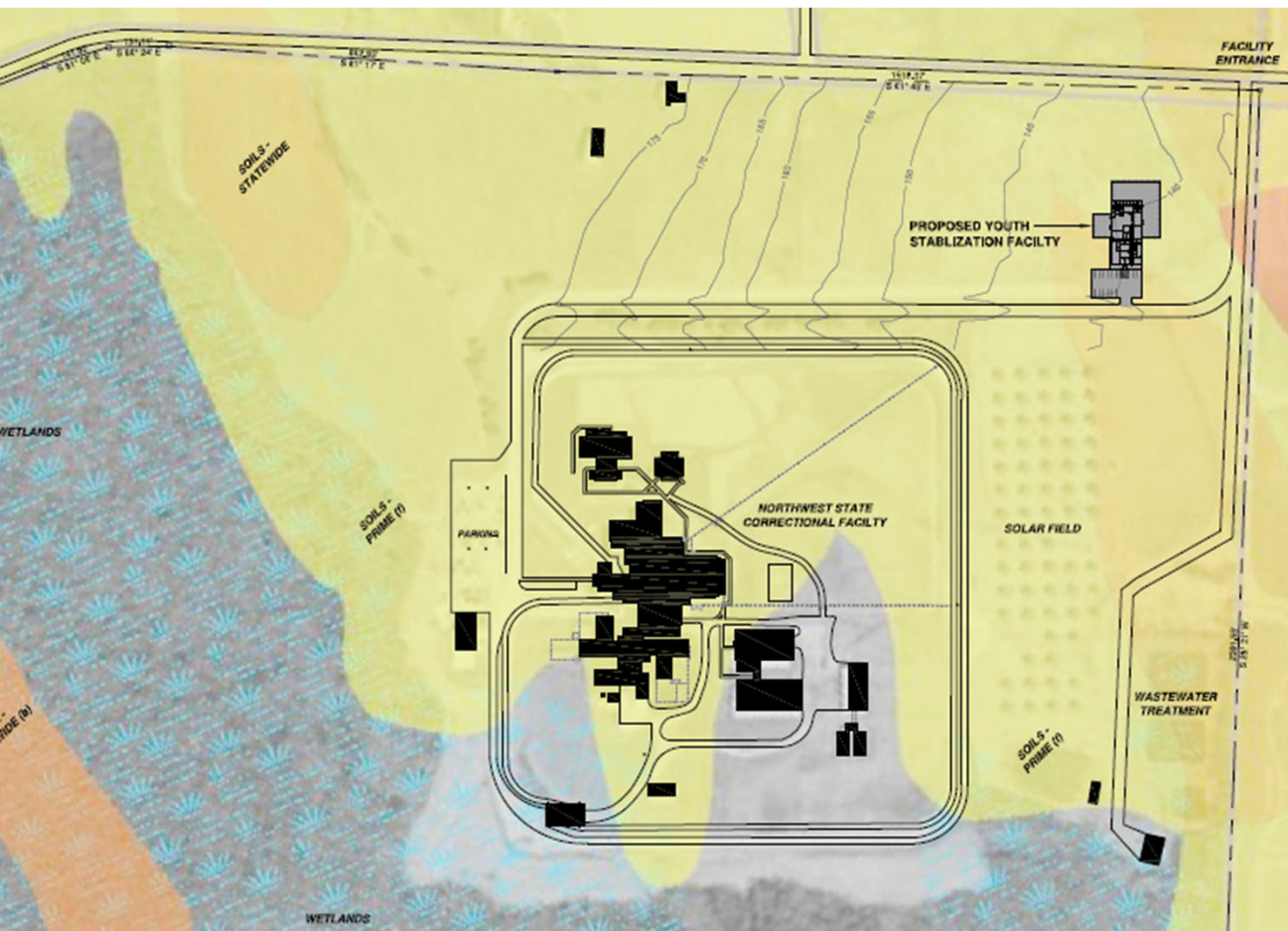


Examples of modular or “pod” solutions for facilities



Floor Plan Example





Potential Siting Option

Timeline and Next Steps

Identify a site for modular unit placement. Consideration of sight and sound separation is critical.

It will likely take up to one year to develop, build, and set modular units.

Continued evaluation of potential temporary placement on the NW property and continued engagement with stakeholders including local officials.

BGS is following up regarding required permitting, zoning questions, etc.

\$1m in the Capital Bill designated for planning for a permanent site and program.

The modular facility will meet the need for secure stabilization until a permanent facility is built, and it is imperative to move forward as quickly as possible with planning – including siting – for a permanent facility.