

Department for Children and Families—Family Services Division

Sec. X. STAKEHOLDER WORKING GROUP; FACILITY PLANNING FOR
JUSTICE-INVOLVED YOUTH

(a) The Department for Children and Families shall assemble a stakeholder working group to provide regular input to the Department on the development and implementation of the temporary stabilization facility for youth and on the development of a long-term plan for the high-end system of care.

(b) The stakeholder working group, constituted as a subcommittee of, or drawn from, existing groups or created as a separate group, may include representatives from:

- (1) the families of children in the Department's custody for delinquency offenses;
- (2) youth who have been in custody for juvenile offenses;
- (3) the Juvenile Defender's Office;
- (4) the Office of State's Attorneys;
- (5) the Family Court;
- (6) the Office of Racial Equity;
- (7) the Vermont Family Network;
- (8) the Vermont Federation of Families;
- (9) the Children and Family Council for Prevention Programs;
- (10) the Vermont Protection and Advocacy;
- (11) the Department of Mental Health;
- (12) the Department of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living;
- (13) the State Program Standing Committees for Developmental Services, Children's Mental Health, and Adult Mental Health; and
- (14) any other groups the Department may select.

(c) The Department shall regularly present relevant information to the stakeholder working group established pursuant to this section and review recommendations from the working group regarding:

(1) facility design layout, programming, and policy development for the temporary stabilization facility, including data on the number of cases and types of case mix, as well as likely length of stay; and

(2) the Department's data and assumptions for size, type of treatment, and security levels for future permanent facilities included in the planning process proposed in the fiscal year 2024 capital bill; optimal locations, including whether a campus plan is appropriate; and any plans regarding the use of outside contractors for facility operations, including State oversight of appropriate quality of care.

(d) On or before January 15, 2024, the Department shall develop and submit a strategic plan to the House Committee on Human Services and to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, as part of the overall planning process for development of the high-end system of care, for preventing the disproportionality of youth who are Black, Indigenous, or Persons of Color in staff- or building-secure facilities. The strategic plan shall include mechanisms for collecting necessary data, and the process of development shall include input from relevant public stakeholders.

Sec. X. LUND; SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

The Department for Children and Families, in collaboration with Lund, shall develop a sustainability plan that address the unique funding streams that support Lund and the needs of parents in recovery and their children. On or before November 15, 2023, the Department shall submit the sustainability plan to the House Committees on Page 7 of 11

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Appropriations and on Human Services and to the Senate Committees on Appropriations and on Health and Welfare.