

Louisiana Streamlining Commission

Suggested Recommendations to Advisory Committee Chairmen

Preamble:

The following comments on this cover sheet have been prepared at the Mercatus Center by Hon. Maurice McTigue. The purpose of the analysis was to identify issues that the committee might pursue and finally develop into recommendations to the full commission.

- The suggested recommendations are based on very limited information and the committee's local knowledge may determine that the suggestions are not viable. In that case the Committee should discard the suggested recommendation.
- If the Committee thinks the suggestion has merit then they should refer it to officials for their analysis.
- Some of our suggestions may be recommending a practice that is already in place, in which case the recommendation may be put aside or may be worded to endorse that practice or to extend it further than is the current practice.

Department of Office of Juvenile Justice

- The core business of the department should replace the target audience as "at risk youth" instead of "youth who are adjudicated delinquent."
- The outcome addressed by the Administration program should be to diminish the risk of youth offending or to diminish recidivism. The measures used to determine success should be reflecting the changes in rate of offending over time. To determine that the societal issued addressed by this program is getting better, there should be a quantifiable factor taken into consideration.
- The Swanson, Jetson and Bridge City Centers for Youth Program should be guided by two factors: public safety and reduced offending rates. The level of success over the past three years has deteriorated slightly each year but is described as getting better.
- The outcome for the Contract Services Program should be focused in two factors: diversion and prevention.
- The level of success for the Contract Services Program should be linked to the total number of youth under supervision so that the percentage of return to custody is clear.

Savings: Total Budget \$162.061 million

- The three detention centers have significantly different costs per person per year.
- Monroe \$46,263 per person
- Baton Rouge \$86,696 per person
- New Orleans \$49,073 per person.



Department name: Office of Juvenile Justice
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State in one sentence the core business of your department:

The Office of Juvenile Justice (OJJ) is a public safety agency that has policy oversight and support responsibilities for state programs, including secure facilities, probation and parole services, and community based services, for youth who are adjudicated delinquent; as well as any youth and their families ruled in need of services by courts of juvenile jurisdiction.

Program name: Administration

- **Outcome addressed by this program:** This program effectively designs, implements, and administers a state-level system of care, including custody, supervision, and community services on behalf of public safety.
- **How many members of the public are directly involved in or affected by this program:** Effective administration of youth services preserves public safety for all Louisiana citizens.
- **How much money was expended on this program in the last fiscal year: FY09:** \$13,866,911.21
- **Measure used to determine success:** Quality assurance process for facilities, field, and contract services.
- **Level of success during each of the last three years:**
FY 07: Moderately successful – implemented Performance based Standards, a system for agencies and facilities to identify, monitor, and improve conditions and treatment services provided to incarcerated youth using national standards and outcome measures.
FY 08: Successful – expanded quality assurance reviews
FY 09: Successful – began formal quality assurance review meetings; implemented RFP process that includes outcome measures and focuses on evidence based practices; implemented processes to identify efficiencies
- **The societal issue addressed by this program is getting *better, remaining static, or deteriorating*:**
Getting better

Program name: Swanson Center for Youth (Monroe)

- **Outcome addressed by this program:** Intensive residential facility, operating 24 hours per day, for male youth adjudicated delinquent for an offense that would be a crime if committed by an adult. Provides for the custody, care, and treatment of adjudicated youth offenders through enforcement of the law and the implementation of programs designed to ensure the safety of the public, staff, and youth, and to reintegrate youth into society.
- **How many members of the public are directly involved in or affected by this program:**
FY 09 number of youth served annually: 483
- **How much money was expended on this program in the last fiscal year:** FY 09
\$22,345,362.55
- **Measure used to determine success:** Delivery of treatment services; Youth who reintegrate successfully into the community; Note that as reform initiatives are implemented, the population of youth in custody consist of more serious offenders than in previous years.
- **Level of success during each of the last three years:** Recidivism rate: Percent of youth who return OJJ custody or supervision, or move to the adult system. Measured one year from time of release in:
2006: 8.2% return to custody 2007: 8.7% return to custody 2008: 8.8% return to custody
- **The societal issue addressed by this program is getting *better, remaining static, or deteriorating*:**
Getting better

Program name: Jetson Center for Youth (Baton Rouge)

- **Outcome addressed by this program:** Intensive residential facility, operating 24 hours per day, for male youth adjudicated delinquent for an offense that would be a crime if committed by an adult. Provides for the custody, care, and treatment of adjudicated youth offenders through enforcement of the law and the implementation of programs designed to ensure the safety of the public, staff, and youth, and to reintegrate youth into society.
- **How many members of the public are directly involved in or affected by this program:**
FY 09 number of youth served annually: 230
- **How much money was expended on this program in the last fiscal year:** FY 09
\$19,940,152.84

- **Measure used to determine success:** Delivery of treatment services; Youth who reintegrate successfully into the community; Note that as reform initiatives are implemented, the population of youth in custody consist of more serious offenders than in previous years.
- **Level of success during each of the last three years:** Recidivism rate: Percent of youth who return OJJ custody or supervision, or move to the adult system. Measured one year from time of release in:
2006: 8.2% return to custody 2007: 8.7% return to custody 2008: 8.8% return to custody
- **The societal issue addressed by this program is getting *better, remaining static, or deteriorating*:** Getting better

Program name: Bridge City Center for Youth (New Orleans area)

- **Outcome addressed by this program:** Intensive residential facility, operating 24 hours per day, for male youth adjudicated delinquent for an offense that would be a crime if committed by an adult. Provides for the custody, care, and treatment of adjudicated youth offenders through enforcement of the law and the implementation of programs designed to ensure the safety of the public, staff, and youth, and to reintegrate youth into society.
- **How many members of the public are directly involved in or affected by this program:**
FY 09 number of youth served annually: 291
- **How much money was expended on this program in the last fiscal year:** FY 09
\$14,280,404.42
- **Measure used to determine success:** Delivery of treatment services; Youth who reintegrate successfully into the community; Note that as reform initiatives are implemented, the population of youth in custody consist of more serious offenders than in previous years.
- **Level of success during each of the last three years:** Recidivism rate: Percent of youth who return OJJ custody or supervision, or move to the adult system. Measured one year from time of release in:
2006: 8.2% return to custody 2007: 8.7% return to custody 2008: 8.8% return to custody
- **The societal issue addressed by this program is getting *better, remaining static, or deteriorating*:** Getting better

Program name: Field Services

- **Outcome addressed by this program:** Provide probation and parole supervision, residential, non-residential treatment services for adjudicated youth, status offenders and their families while protecting public safety.
- **How many members of the public are directly involved in or affected by this program:** FY 09 number of youth served: 7,595 youth under supervision or in non-secure residential program
- **How much money was expended on this program in the last fiscal year:** FY 09 \$21,592,013.34
- **Measure used to determine success:** Youth who reintegrate successfully into the community; Note that as reform initiatives are implemented, the population of youth in custody consist of more serious offenders than in previous years.
- **Level of success during each of the last three years:** Recidivism rate: Percent of youth who return OJJ custody or supervision, or move to the adult system. Measured one year from time of release in:
2006: 8.2% return to custody 2007: 8.7% return to custody 2008: 8.8% return to custody
- **The societal issue addressed by this program is getting *better, remaining static, or deteriorating*:** Getting better

Program name: Contract Services

- **Outcome addressed by this program:** Provide for system of graduated sanctions which serve youth committed to OJJ custody or supervision in the least restrictive environment; Provide prevention services to at-risk youth to keep from entering system.
- **How many members of the public are directly involved in or affected by this program:**
FY 09 number of youth served: up to 7,595 youth and their families
FY 09 number of contract providers: 190
- **How much money was expended on this program in the last fiscal year:** FY 09 \$70,070,271.96
- **Measure used to determine success:** Youth who reintegrate successfully into the community; Note that as reform initiatives are implemented, the population of youth in custody consist of more serious offenders than in previous years.

- **Level of success during each of the last three years:** Recidivism rate: Percent of youth who return OJJ custody or supervision, or move to the adult system. Measured one year from time of release in:
2006: 8.2% return to custody 2007: 8.7% return to custody 2008: 8.8% return to custody
- **The societal issue addressed by this program is getting *better, remaining static, or deteriorating*:** Getting better

Program name: Auxiliary

- **Outcome addressed by this program:** N/A; This program represents fees and self generated revenue for the youth welfare fund and canteen
- **How many members of the public are directly involved in or affected by this program:** FY 09: 1,360 youth in secure custody
- **How much money was expended on this program in the last fiscal year:** FY 09 \$82,914.99
- **Measure used to determine success:** N/A
- **Level of success during each of the last three years:** N/A
- **The societal issue addressed by this program is getting *better, remaining static, or deteriorating*:** N/A