

Division of Juvenile Corrections

DIRECT COMMITMENT PROCEDURES to PRIDE Program and Corrective Sanctions Program

Overview

County departments of social services/human services may recommend that a juvenile court directly commit a delinquent to the PRIDE Program (Personal Responsibility and Integrity in your Daily Environment) at Lincoln Hills School and the Corrective Sanctions Program (CSP) for community supervision.

Direct commitments to PRIDE or CSP require an agreement among the county department, Division of Juvenile Corrections (DJC) and Office of Juvenile Offender Review (OJOR) prior to the county formally recommending to the court the direct placement of a youth.

Direct Commitments to the PRIDE Program

PRIDE is a challenging, short-term, cost-effective alternative to other DJC programs. This voluntary program stresses educational achievement and experiential learning to create a positive and success-oriented environment. Youth learn the values of education, self-discipline, physical fitness, leadership, teamwork and community service.

It is the intent of the PRIDE Program to prepare youth for successful family and community reintegration by building on their educational achievements, personal competencies and enhanced self-esteem.

In PRIDE, youth are assigned to different groups on the basis of a risk assessment performed upon admission to LHS. Lower-risk youth will be placed in the 90-day program, while those who score as high risk will be in the program for 120 days.

PRIDE Program Components

- Education
- Counseling
- Experiential Team Building Activities
- Community Service Work Crew
- Treatment Groups focused on building Developmental Assets
- Environmental/Outdoor Education
- Youth in the 120-day program may be eligible for JCIP, ART, VIP as available

LHS Phase

- Youth receiving a direct commitment to PRIDE will be placed in the program after a 2- to 7-day Reception period.

- Youth selected for the program will be involved in structured programming 16 hours per day, 7 days a week
- PRIDE has three phases: Apprentice, Intern and Leadership. Each phase represents attainment of certain standards of behavior, learning and collaboration.
- Under the PRIDE “dress for success” component, youth will wear polo shirts in colors that indicate the phase they have achieved.
- PRIDE youth attend school 5 hours per day along with youth in the regular LHS population.
- The final component of PRIDE at LHS requires youth to participate in community service work crew activities.

Community Phase

Intensive community supervision is recommended for PRIDE youth as they transition from the highly structured JCI into less structured environment in the community. With prior arrangement between DJC and the committing county, many youth participate in the Corrective Sanctions Program (CSP). County agencies may also provide their own intensive aftercare services for PRIDE youth if they have chosen county aftercare under s. 938.57(4).

Legal Criteria for Direct Placement in PRIDE

Youth must meet the criteria for commitment to the Department of Corrections established in s.938.34 (4m)., Stats: Court found youth to be delinquent for the commission of an act, which if committed by an adult, would be punishable by a sentence of 6 months or more; Court found youth to be a danger to the public and in need of restrictive custodial treatment.

PRIDE Youth Characteristics

- Youth is a person the county department would normally consider placing in a Juvenile Correctional Institution (JCI)
- Youth does not require specialized AODA or sex offender treatment, or have serious mental health needs.
- Youth does not take certain psychotropic medications that would make the physical training aspects of PRIDE dangerous to the youth’s health.

County Department and Court Responsibilities

A county considering a direct placement to PRIDE should contact the Office of Juvenile Offender Review to discuss the youth's appropriateness for the program.

- South-central and southeast counties should contact Chuck Jagemann at 414-229-0900.
- Staff from counties elsewhere in the state should contact Al Crevier at 715-536-8386 ext. 1222.

If it appears the youth is appropriate for PRIDE, the county proceeds with the following:

- Writes a Dispositional Report recommending that the court commit the youth to DOC with a directed commitment to PRIDE. The report must include a clear and detailed transition plan for the youth's return to the community after completion of PRIDE.
- After the court issues the Dispositional Order placing the youth in PRIDE, arranges for youth placement at LHS
- Prepares a informational packet to send with the youth upon admission to LHS, including but not limited to:
 - Dispositional Order
 - Dispositional Report
 - School information
 - Prior Placement(s) information
 - Psychological information
 - Medical information.

The recommended wording for the Dispositional Order is the following:

"[Name of youth] is committed to the Wisconsin Department of Corrections for a period of [at least six months] for placement in the PRIDE Program at Lincoln Hills School. Upon completion of PRIDE, [Youth] is placed under the supervision of [Wisconsin Department of Corrections OR _____ County, whichever provides aftercare in that county]. If [Youth] fails to complete PRIDE, he will be placed in a Type 1 secured juvenile correctional facility unless this court determines otherwise."

Direct Commitments to the Youth Corrective Sanctions Program

Corrective Sanctions Program (CSP) services have been provided since 1994. Currently DJC provides aftercare supervision in 22 of Wisconsin's counties. DJC provides community supervision for Wisconsin youth in the Serious Juvenile Offender Program and CSP.

CSP Services

- Individual case planning
- Re-integration / transitional services
- Liaison services with all counties
- Individualized programming such as AODA, cognitive intervention program, independent living, sex offender treatment, victim impact
- Individual & family counseling
- Community service projects and payment of restitution
- In-home electronic monitoring
- Incremental level system to enhance community protection & re-integration of youth
- Lifework education program
- Utilization of community school systems.

Legal Criteria for Direct Placement in CSP

Youth must meet the criteria for commitment to the Department of Corrections established in s. 938.34 (4m)., Stats: Court found youth to be delinquent for the commission of an act,

which if committed by an adult, would be punishable by sentence of 6 months or more; Court found youth to be a danger to the public and in need of restrictive custodial treatment.

CSP Youth Characteristics

- Youth is a person the county department would normally consider placing in a Juvenile Correction Institution
- Youth does not require specialized AODA or sex offender treatment, or have serious mental health needs.

Referral Process for Direct Commitments for CSP

County Department consults with contacts in the local/regional DJC field office and Office of Juvenile Offender Review (OJOR) to provide basic information regarding the pending offense, offense history and primary contacts. The primary and secondary contacts are listed below:

Primary Contacts:

OJOR – Southeast Region 414-229-0900 (southeast and south-central counties)

OJOR- Lincoln Hills School: 715-536-8386 ext. 1222

OJOR- Copper Lake School: 715-536-8386 ext. 1165 (girls)

DJC Regional Offices:

Southeast Region (414)-229-0701 or (414)-229-0708

Northwest Region (608)-288-3353 or (715)-241-8892

Secondary Contacts:

OJOR Director: (608)-240-5918

Regional Chief: Southeast (414)-229-0709; Northwest (608)-288-3352.

Based upon the information, OJOR and a state field supervisor may conclude that circumstances of the case preclude the youth from participation in CSP. OJOR will inform the county.

If initially the referral appears appropriate, OJOR and a state field supervisor will request additional information regarding the youth and determine whether to consider the referral by completing the Family Home Assessment (FHA). OJOR will inform the county when the FHA will not be completed and the referral is rejected.

If approved, a CSP agent conducts a home visit with parent/guardian to review program requirements and community supervision rules and conditions, determine the parent/guardian's willingness to cooperate with program and verify appropriate telephone services for electronic monitoring.

Based on the visit, the CSP agent completes a FHA and provides recommendation to OJOR and a state field supervisor regarding the appropriateness of the referral.

OJOR approves or denies the referral for direct commitment to CSP based upon information provided by agents and notifies the referring county of the decision to accept or reject the referral.

County Department Responsibilities if CSP Referral is Appropriate

- County writes a dispositional report recommending that the court commit the youth directly to CSP.
- Contacts OJOR when court issues the direct commitment order and arranges for the youth's placement at a JCI for the assessment and evaluation process.
- Prepares a packet of information to send with the youth upon admission to a JCI including, but not limited to:
 - Dispositional Order
 - Dispositional Report
 - School information
 - Prior Placement information
 - Psychological information
 - Medical information
 - School Information.

Court Responsibilities for CSP

Court commits the youth to DOC for at least 10 months with the understanding the youth will complete a 21-day Reception process at a JCI.

The recommended wording for the Dispositional Order is the following:

"(Name of Youth) is committed to the Department of Corrections for a period of (number) months until (dd/mm/yy) for placement in the Corrective Sanctions Program. Upon successful completion of CSP, DOC may discharge the youth or place the youth on state or county aftercare. If the youth fails to complete CSP, DOC may place the youth in a Type 1 facility unless otherwise directed by the court."

DJC-JCI Responsibilities for CSP

- While at a JCI, CSP youth complete the 21-day Reception process including being involved in an initial Joint Planning and Review Committee meeting.
- If at any time during the Reception process OJOR determines that the youth should not be placed in CSP, OJOR will immediately notify the committing county and court.
- At the initial JPRC, members determine the appropriateness of administratively transferring the youth to CSP. OJOR either transfer the youth to CSP or notifies the court and county that the youth is not appropriate for CSP.

DJC-CSP Responsibilities

- Ensure CSP youth meet all supervision requirements.
- Respond to violations according to proper procedures.

- Upon successful completion of CSP, DJC may discharge the youth or release the youth to state or county aftercare.
- If youth fails to complete CSP, staff will immediately notify the committing county and court that the youth failed. The court has two options - order the youth to finish the commitment period at a JCI or return the youth to court for a change in placement.