



Department of
Youth Services

Message from DYS Director Harvey Reed Governor's Proposed Executive Budget

February 3, 2015

Governor John R. Kasich released the Fiscal Years 2016-2017 Proposed Executive Budget yesterday under the banner of "Blueprint for a New Ohio." The proposed budget allows DYS to focus on the priorities of habilitating youth, empowering families and communities, and promoting public safety.

Under the proposed budget, DYS will advance cost-effective, evidence-based practices for youth who come into contact with Ohio's juvenile justice system. The proposed budget:

Invests in Community Programs: The proposed budget provides funding and technical assistance for a continuum of programs and interventions that serve youth closer to their families and in the least restrictive appropriate setting. This includes statewide support of juvenile courts and county partners through RECLAIM Ohio, Targeted RECLAIM, Competitive RECLAIM, Youth Services Grant, and Behavioral Health/Juvenile Justice (BH/JJ), and Community Corrections Facilities. This community investment will continue to provide youth with the intensity of treatment and community supervision that matches their risk to reoffend.

Preserves Treatment for High-Need Youth: Proposed funding preserves the quality of staffing and services in juvenile correctional facilities and parole services to meet the complex needs of youth committed to DYS. Funding for security, education, behavioral health services, medical, dental, unit programming, recreation, life skills, occupational therapy, reentry and other specialized services will continue for youth to provide the help and skills they need to succeed.

Supports Community Continuum for Youth: DYS will strengthen efforts to provide youth with a continuum of care; from prevention, to early intervention, to the commitment decision and continuing through reentry into the community. Our goals are more coordinated, comprehensive, and strategic assessments; case plan development and treatment, and reentry planning involving family members and community partners throughout the process.

I value your commitment to Ohio's juvenile justice system and look forward to our work to improve outcomes for youth. The Governor's proposed budget reflects the agency's focus on investing in community options, providing quality treatment for youth, and supporting public safety.