

HENRY C. LEE COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND FORENSIC SCIENCES



Q & A Regarding COVID-19 Response Plans

Department of Corrections

- How many youth are currently in each facility?
- Is admission to detention or incarceration of youth still taking place?
 - Outside work community details are suspended, facility transfers are limited to essential only
- Are Judicial and DOC considering releasing youth who are pre-and post-adjudicated? If so, please describe the release process that is being put in place.
 - Per Gov. Lamont, no prison releases
- What transition plans are being put in place for youth who are transitioning back into the community?
 - Working with DOH and Coalition to End Homelessness to use rapid rehousing
- What information is being provided to youth awaiting release about COVID-19?
- How are educational, mental health, and medical services being provided?
 - USD#1 classes are still held
 - Religious services still held under 50 ppl
 - 1 individual allowed at a time in the gym
 - Legal visits encouraged to be calls
 - MAT therapy allowed access
- How are family visits and contact proceeding? How are agencies ensuring youth have access to contact with family?
 - No visits until further notice
 - 2 free phone calls per week for the next month

Judicial Branch (see separate attachment)

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- What transition plans are being put in place for youth who are transitioning back into the community?
- What information is being provided to youth awaiting release about COVID-19?
- How are educational, mental health, and medical services being provided?

- How are family visits and contact proceeding? How are agencies ensuring youth have access to contact with family?
- Has incarceration been eliminated as an option for technical violations?

Department of Children and Families

- CT Mobile Crisis Intervention Services: What services are still being provided? # of staff still active and able to respond to emergencies? Has there been an increase in emergencies?
 - EMPS is actively taking referrals and we were informed yesterday that they have much capacity as the referrals have been low. We need to keep in mind that EMPS will conduct as much work as possible over the phone. Only in circumstances where a child is viewed as being in danger or an emergency situations arises will they conduct an "inperson" response. This could mean seeing the family at a police department, school building, hospital or even a home visits. This response and approach to the work is consistent with other providers as well as DCF during these very difficult times.

State Department of Education

- Emergency Meal Program how many locations across the state? What is the distribution protocol for access to the meal?
 - 129 schools authorized at approximately 400 sites
 - https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/COVID-19/COVID-19 Communitywide Emergency Meal Program for Children
 - Visit each district's website or social media to find out more regarding location and pick up times.
 - Certain districts are authorized to provide meals and snacks to students and children in the household aged 18 or younger and others will are authorized to provide access to free meals to anyone aged 18 or younger.
- How is SDE/districts ensuring access to technology so children can continue their education?
 - The Partnership for CT announced that they would be donating more than 60,000 laptops to high-school students in under-resourced districts
 - The CT Commission for Education Technology published a webpage dedicated to helping teachers and students transition smoothly into distance learning. Available resources include access to free/low-cost internet to affected families during the crisis.
 - <u>https://portal.ct.gov/DAS/CTEdTech/Commission-for-Educational-</u> <u>Technology/Initiatives/Remote-Learning</u>
 - <u>https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-</u> <u>1vR6jH5HGGewiueowxS6rwdqMevxkuwXQCvpCZSm5PZPU4w39gn7LU6sZP8WX-</u> <u>hmEIs-BiUiJFYw6gMi/pub</u>

- Some districts have provided students with electronic devices such as laptops or tablets to engage in distance learning & some districts have given students access to internet hotspots if they have no access at home. No state-wide uniformity on either of these.
- How are school-based health centers being utilized?
 - Out of 22 DPH contractors all sites are current closed for operations in the school setting. Fourteen contractors are either working on establishing telehealth, are communicating with patients through telehealth, or are referring patients to the main Community Health Center sites for care. Others are working in conjunction with their local health department within their communities. They collect updates regularly so this information is changing often. Your local health department or the CT Association of SBHCs may be of help also.

Youth Service Bureau/Juvenile Review Boards

- Are Youth Service Bureaus still open? If so, which ones and what services are still being provided?
 - Erica Bromley is canvassing (via surveys, calls, etc.) to YSBs/JRBs to find out which ones are still open, available services, etc. They are mostly responding to their own town guidelines.
 - Many YSBs are mainly focusing on basic needs/essentials for clients
- Child Guidance Clinics:
 - Are they still open and for what services?

Law Enforcement

- What is law enforcement doing differently in regard to policing communities?
 - Glastonbury PD- limiting Officer response to certain non-emergency calls, handling certain calls over the phone, limiting custodial arrests, paying extra attention to closed business, grocery stores and pharmacies, and discontinuing certain services such as fingerprinting and car seat inspections.
- Are there any significant changes to case processing, especially juveniles?
 - Glastonbury PD- No specific changes or concerns re handling juveniles other than attempting to avoid custody and exposure situations. We have had some instances where groups of juveniles have been found loitering; not causing problems, just bored from being stuck at home. Of course this presents a social distancing problem, so the officers just send them back home.
- Have you experienced any challenges with juvenile referrals?

- What other information can you share regarding your police department's response to the coronavirus?
 - Glastonbury PD- Our changes reflect what most agencies are doing by now: