

**State of Alaska
FY2005 Governor's Operating Budget**

**Department of Health and Social Services
Bethel Youth Facility
Component Budget Summary**

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Component: Bethel Youth Facility

Contribution to Department's Mission

The Bethel Youth Facility exists to provide co-ed juvenile short-term secure detention and court ordered institutional treatment services for Southwest Alaska. These services are provided in a manner consistent with the Division of Juvenile Justice mission to hold juvenile offenders accountable for their behavior, promote the safety and restoration of victims and communities, and assist offenders and their families in developing skills to prevent crime.

Core Services

The Bethel Youth Facility provides its services through two separate, secure living units, both of which are accredited through the American Correctional Association:

1. A Detention Unit with a design capacity of eight residents. This unit houses and offers services to alleged and adjudicated offenders who are either involved in the court process or awaiting other placement. Staff working in the Detention Unit are responsible for scheduling and monitoring all resident activity; ensuring compliance with court orders; maintaining the secure custody of residents and a safe environment for residents and staff; and providing programs and activities designed to promote social and moral growth and acceptance of responsibility by the residents. All Detention residents attend year-round schooling as well as participating in the behavior management system, recreational opportunities, and other programs both of a general nature and specific to their individual needs. Additional professional services include medical, dental, psychiatric/psychological, and substance abuse assessment are available on a referral basis.
2. A Treatment Unit with a design capacity of eleven residents. This unit houses and offers rehabilitative services to adjudicated offenders who have been institutionalized by the Court. Treatment Unit staff serve functions similar to Detention Unit staff, with an additional responsibility for serving as treatment team members for an assigned caseload of residents; monitoring and reporting on resident progress in established treatment goals; facilitating more in-depth and long-term treatment groups, assignments and activities; and working with residents, families, and communities to prepare the resident for release.

The population of the facility is largely Alaska Native, particularly Yup'ik Eskimo, and comes to the facility from a wide geographic area including Southcentral communities as well as Barrow, Nome, Kotzebue, Fairbanks, and the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta. Residents during FY03 continued to represent a wide range of offenses, including a significant number of youth adjudicated for murder charges. A significant number of residents have Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders and other mental health needs. Approximately half of treatment unit residents were on medication for depression or other mental health conditions during FY03.

The staff at the Bethel Youth Facility strive to provide correctional programs that offer community protection; hold youthful offenders accountable for their behavior; create opportunities for offenders to develop skills and experience success; and structure opportunities for offenders to begin to repair the harm they have caused their victims and communities. Additionally, BYF staff seek to understand and respect the cultural backgrounds of the youth in their care, and remain sensitive to the cultural nuances that affect interactions with residents, families and communities.

BYF staff worked closely with community partners to support the development of resources for youth and families in the communities of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta. Our staff is involved in ongoing partnerships and work groups with many local service agencies, including the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation, Bethel Community Services, Yukon Kuskokwim Correctional Center, Tundra Swan Inhalant Abuse Treatment Center, Bethel Recovery Resource Center, Bethel Superior Court, and Orutsararmiut Native Council. BYF facility staff also work cooperatively with the DJJ Bethel Juvenile Probation office.

FY2005 Resources Allocated to Achieve Results

FY2005 Component Budget: \$2,823,000	Personnel:	
	Full time	26
	Part time	0
	Total	26

Key Component Challenges

FY03 saw increases in BYF's detention and treatment populations compared with the year before. The Detention Unit, with a design capacity of 8 residents, had an average population of 13.2 in FY03, a 45% increase over the FY02 population. The average length of stay for these youth was 15.86 days in FY03, also a significant increase from the year before. BYF's Treatment Unit, with a design capacity of 11 residents, had an average population of 10.40 in FY03, a slight increase from the year before. Length of stay for residents increased from 11.05 months in FY02 to 16.4 months in FY03. Much of the overall increase in length of stay can be attributed to the seriousness of the offenses committed by all the youth on the unit. The total number of admissions to detention increased from 233 in FY02 to 258 in FY03.

Consistent overcrowding in the Detention Unit places a strain on all aspects of facility operations, including staff and resident safety. Increases in resident population necessitate higher staffing levels to adequately supervise, treat, provide court and medical escorts, etc. Sometimes Detention Unit residents are double- or even triple-bunked, or they are transferred to other facilities—a solution that is both expensive and that prevents families and local communities to effectively intervene and prepare for an offender's eventual release. The component budget continues to be strained due to increased costs in all areas including food, clothing, utilities, medical care, facility maintenance, and staffing.

Lack of adequate space for staff as well as residents poses challenges. Probation Officers are required to share offices or sit at the reception desk. Visiting contracted service providers must use offices of facility staff (compromising the ability of both workers to perform their duties). Other visitors, such as attorneys and clinicians must frequently see their clients in the Detention time-out room. The maintenance worker for the facility gave up his office for probation staff several years ago and remains without a work place.

Security enhancements for the Bethel Youth Facility have been designed but remain uncompleted. These modifications are crucial to providing a safe and secure working environment for staff, visitors, and youth. Currently, there remains unimpeded access by the public to the administrative and probation offices.

Facility maintenance continues to be an increasing concern due to both normal wear and tear and the destructiveness of the resident population. As the facility enters its fifteenth year of operation, the need for repairs and renovations is increasing. The lift station, which is currently housed beneath a classroom, needs to be relocated and renovated, as their servicing has become so frequent that the work regularly disrupts classes. Much of the furniture in the facility dates back to the facility's opening and also needs to be replaced or repaired.

Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2005

The implementation of an objective risk-based detention assessment instrument by the Division in early November 2003, while anticipated to result in lower numbers of youth referred for detention in other youth facilities in Alaska, may actually result in increasing the number of youth who are recommended to receive secure detention services in the area served by Bethel. These possible increases of detention admissions for youths posing a risk to the community may be offset by reductions in detention admissions of youth previously held for protective custody due to severe alcohol intoxication or mental health needs. The overall challenge in the Y-K Delta will be the urgent need for highly structured detention alternatives that are community-based.

Major Component Accomplishments in 2003

During FY03, significant progress was made in the ongoing development of an aftercare program for youth released from the treatment program. A juvenile probation officer focusing his efforts on aftercare services continued to participate in

formal aftercare training, and has made numerous contacts in the villages of the Y-K Delta to develop and coordinate services. A referral process to Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation's Wrap-Around Services program has been formalized, which includes village wellness counselors, regional mental health clinicians, field supervisors, family advocates, and elders. The aftercare probation officer made a number of village trips with residents preparing for release and, in addition to those providers mentioned above, has coordinated meetings including the village traditional councils, village police, school district staff, and Community Justice Associates in those communities with this resource. Additionally, the Aftercare PO has worked with the facility's contract mental health clinician to coordinate family counseling and identify issues to be addressed. Having the Aftercare PO involved with the youth throughout their institutional stay allows the PO to participate in treatment team meetings and review board hearings, interact informally with the residents on an ongoing basis, and assist the treatment team with supervision of residents on pass for purposes of community reintegration, employment, and development of independent living skills.

Once again this year BYF staff met or exceeded all of the training requirements of the American Correctional Association and BYF policy and procedure. Two staff were re-certified as Control Tactics trainers, two were trained as Be Proud/Be Responsible HIV/AIDS curriculum trainers, and two were involved in the substance abuse counselor certification program and are certified as Level I Substance Abuse Counselors (these staff have since been active in providing a substance abuse prevention curriculum for our residents). Staff from Mat-Su Youth Facility traveled to Bethel to provide Mandt training, and several staff with training as trainers provided a variety of on-site training opportunities for BYF staff.

During FY03 there were some very successful cultural components to the BYF program specifically geared for the Yup'ik Eskimo youth who comprise the majority of the resident population. The school program had its annual cultural heritage week, which brought in local elders to work with the residents on a number of native crafts and projects. The week culminated in our most successful potlatch ever, with all program unit residents having family members or other guests in attendance. In addition, we now have a volunteer who has been teaching the residents Eskimo dancing. The program residents have learned three dances, which they have performed for audiences such as those in attendance for a high school graduation ceremony, and the DHSS Commissioner during a visit to Bethel. The Bethel Arts Council is planning to donate a drum to the group, and would like the BYF "Wolverine Dancers" to perform at the Camai Festival this Spring.

In October, 2002, BYF underwent another successful re-accreditation audit by the American Correctional Association. BYF is audited under two sets of standards, Juvenile Training Schools (JTS) and Small Juvenile Detention Facility (SJD). For re-accreditation, a score of 100% compliance is required for mandatory standards, and a minimum of 90% for non-mandatory standards. BYF was found to be in compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards for both JTS and SJD. For non-mandatory standards, BYF received a score of 97.4% for JTS standards, and 97% for SJD standards. Additionally, the ACA auditors commented very favorably on the facility staff and the quality of their work with a group of residents they found to be very demanding in terms of their multiple and complex needs. "It is apparent that this is a harmonious group who holds each other in high esteem and respects boundaries and roles. Based upon numerous discussions, it is evident that the staff are very compassionate and are committed to the residents," the auditors wrote.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

AS 47.05 Administration of Welfare, Social Services and Institutions
AS 47.10 Children in Need of Aid
AS 47.12 Delinquent Minors
AS 47.14 Juvenile Institutions
AS 47.15 Uniform Interstate Compact on Juveniles
AS 47.17 Child Protection
AS 47.18 Programs and Services Related to Adolescents
AS 47.21 Adventure Based Education
AS 47.37 Uniform Alcoholism and Intoxication Treatment Act
7 AAC 52 Juvenile Correctional Facilities & Juvenile Detention Facilities
7 AAC 54 Administration

Contact Information

Contact: Janet Clarke, Director, Administrative Services
Phone: (907) 465-1630
Fax: (907) 465-2499
E-mail: Janet_Clarke@health.state.ak.us

Bethel Youth Facility Component Financial Summary

All dollars shown in thousands

	FY2003 Actuals	FY2004 Authorized	FY2005 Governor
Non-Formula Program:			
Component Expenditures:			
71000 Personal Services	2,111.1	2,031.7	2,383.7
72000 Travel	4.7	10.6	6.5
73000 Contractual	225.3	183.3	197.0
74000 Supplies	99.2	142.7	155.0
75000 Equipment	0.8	0.7	3.3
76000 Land/Buildings	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Claims	101.0	29.8	77.5
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
Expenditure Totals	2,542.1	2,398.8	2,823.0
Funding Sources:			
1002 Federal Receipts	74.9	76.2	76.2
1004 General Fund Receipts	2,380.2	2,220.7	2,644.4
1007 Inter-Agency Receipts	36.1	48.3	48.3
1037 General Fund / Mental Health	50.9	53.6	54.1
Funding Totals	2,542.1	2,398.8	2,823.0

Estimated Revenue Collections

Description	Master Revenue Account	FY2003 Actuals	FY2004 Authorized	FY2005 Governor
Unrestricted Revenues				
None.		0.0	0.0	0.0
Unrestricted Total		0.0	0.0	0.0
Restricted Revenues				
Federal Receipts	51010	74.9	76.2	76.2
Interagency Receipts	51015	36.1	48.3	48.3
Restricted Total		111.0	124.5	124.5
Total Estimated Revenues		111.0	124.5	124.5

**Summary of Component Budget Changes
From FY2004 Authorized to FY2005 Governor**

All dollars shown in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2004 Authorized	2,274.3	76.2	48.3	2,398.8
Adjustments which will continue current level of service:				
-BYF-Transfer in from McLaughlin Youth Center to meet anticipated operational needs	290.4	0.0	0.0	290.4
-Transfer in funding for position from KRYF	49.7	0.0	0.0	49.7
-Changes to Retirement and Other Personal Services Rates	85.1	0.0	0.0	85.1
Proposed budget decreases:				
-Department-wide travel reduction	-1.0	0.0	0.0	-1.0
FY2005 Governor	2,698.5	76.2	48.3	2,823.0

**Bethel Youth Facility
Personal Services Information**

Authorized Positions		Personal Services Costs		
	<u>FY2004</u> <u>Authorized</u>	<u>FY2005</u> <u>Governor</u>		
Full-time	24	26	Annual Salaries	1,593,354
Part-time	1	0	Premium Pay	0
Nonpermanent	0	0	Annual Benefits	648,609
			<i>Less 0.00% Vacancy Factor</i>	(0)
			Lump Sum Premium Pay	141,737
Totals	25	26	Total Personal Services	2,383,700

Position Classification Summary

Job Class Title	Anchorage	Fairbanks	Juneau	Others	Total
Administrative Clerk III	0	0	0	1	1
Juvenile Prob Officer II	0	0	0	1	1
Maint Gen Journey	0	0	0	1	1
Nurse II	0	0	0	1	1
Unit Leader	0	0	0	2	2
Youth Center Supt I	0	0	0	1	1
Youth Counselor I	0	0	0	1	1
Youth Counselor II	0	0	0	14	14
Youth Counselor III	0	0	0	4	4
Totals	0	0	0	26	26