

Jefferson County Juvenile Detention



KYDJJ

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

Historical Information

- June 2019 – Ordinance 081 transfers juvenile detention from Louisville Metro Government to DJJ
- January 2020 – DJJ converts the former Rice Audubon youth development center into a 16-bed detention center
- December 2021 – DJJ expands the intake area and adds beds to house a maximum of 26 youth.

Numbers

- Jefferson Regional Juvenile Detention Center costs \$4.75M yearly for DJJ to operate at full staff
- Each youth per day costs \$539.31 state-wide
- DJJ has spent \$350,000 on JRJDC to date

Detention Process

- After a judge signs a juvenile detention order, the youth is brought to JRJDC and DJJ takes custody/control of the youth
- DJJ closely monitors the capacity numbers at JRJDC. In order to ensure there are open beds, DJJ transfers youth as needed to other regional detention centers.

DJJ Regional Juvenile Detention Centers

Fayette County

Warren County

Campbell County

Breathitt County

Boyd County

Adair County

McCracken County

Factors that weigh into decisions for who is moved:

- Date of next court appearance.
- Whether youth is undergoing psychological evaluation by local provider
- Keep-away orders as mandated by prosecutor/court
- Gang issues
- Family routinely visits vs. youth receives no visitors
- Individual circumstances (i.e., youth's brother was killed by someone else who is being detained in the building)

Maintaining contact with families and attorneys

- Youth are allowed to call home every day without cost to youth/family
- Youth mail as many letters as they wish postage free
- In-person visitation regardless of vaccine status and age has resumed at all facilities
- A large number of family and attorney visits are conducted virtually, including youth at JRJDC whose family and attorney may be local



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