



Update on the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS) Operating Status during the COVID-19 Emergency

What is our operating status?

Along with the rest of District government, our agency remains operational. However, we have made changes to how services are being provided.

How does this impact what we do?

Community programming for youth – modified service. Some programming and group meetings for DYRS committed and previously committed youth in the community restarted in Phase One and will continue in Phase Two with modifications and appropriate safeguards. Additional support services will continue to be offered.

How does this impact our physical locations?

- **450 Achievement Center (at 450 H Street NW)** – modified hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 am – 7 pm through the duration of the public health emergency.
- **MLK Achievement Center (at 2101 Martin Luther King, Jr. Ave SE)** – modified hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 am – 7 pm through the duration of the public health emergency.
- **Youth Services Center** – will remain open. Beginning June 24th, as part of Phase Two, in-person visitation will occur on a limited basis requiring all attendees to wear the appropriate PPE, maintain the appropriate social distance, and subject themselves to a temperature screening before entering the facility.
- **New Beginnings Youth Development Center** – will remain open. Beginning June 24th, as part of Phase Two, in-person visitation will occur on a limited basis requiring all attendees to wear the appropriate PPE, maintain the appropriate social distance, and subject themselves to a temperature screening before entering the facility.

What else are we offering to meet your needs?

- **Services for Youth in the Community** – Staff from the Achievement Center, Care Coordination team and Credible Messengers will staff the Achievement Centers for drop-in services for committed and previously committed youth, including information about local clinics and COVID-19 testing locations. Some programming and group meetings for DYRS committed and previously

committed youth in the community restarted in Phase One and will continue in Phase Two with modifications and appropriate safeguards.

- **Mental Health Support** - The Community Mental Health Team will be available during the scheduled times in the Achievement Centers to offer mental health support for committed and previously committed youth.
- **Meals for Youth** - Meals will be provided for committed and previously committed youth at the Achievement Centers from 2 pm - 4:30 pm.

What precautions are we taking to limit the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19)?

Our employees are taking precautions to keep themselves healthy and limit the spread of infections like regularly washing their hands, cleaning facilities more frequently, and reducing close contact with each other and residents. Employees have been asked to let their supervisor know immediately if they feel sick.

Where should you go if you have questions?

For questions about any of the services we provide and information on any future changes, please contact us at 202-299-5362 or email dys@dc.gov. For more information, please visit www.coronavirus.dc.gov.