

SB 411: Montana Developmental Center Closure *Client Status as of February 2016*

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for the Children, Families, Health, and Human Services Interim Committee
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Background

The 2015 Legislature passed Senate Bill 411, requiring the Department of Public Health and Human Services to develop and put into place a plan to close the Montana Developmental Center (MDC) by June 30, 2017. As part of that effort, the department is supposed to transition most of the residents out of the facility and into community services by Dec. 31, 2016.

This briefing paper discusses the number and status of MDC clients as of Feb. 26, 2016.

MDC Population

Since the last report on the MDC census in mid-December:

- one client has returned to a home placement and a person on a criminal commitment has been moved to the Montana State Prison, reducing the census from 52 on Dec. 18 to 50 on Feb. 26;
- A.W.A.R.E., Inc., has signed a contract to accept 21 clients into group homes in Butte over the next several months and another community provider has agreed to accept one client;
- 22 people remain on the so-called "port list" for community services; and
- DPHHS has developed estimates for the cost of providing community-based services to 13 of the clients who previously did not have cost plans. The department also increased the cost plans for four other clients.

Costs of Community Services

The newly developed cost plans for the 13 clients total about \$2.92 million. They range from \$191,201 to \$392,352 per client and average \$224,679 per person.

The cost plans for the other 31 clients total \$5.9 million. They range from \$155,422 to \$392,252 per client and average about \$190,000 per person.

Overall, the costs for providing community services for all 44 clients with cost plans total \$8.8 million, for an average of about \$200,250 per client. These costs do not include the incentive payments of \$60,000 per client that DPHHS will pay to A.W.A.R.E. and other providers who agreed before Oct. 1, 2015, to accept MDC clients for at least 12 months. Those payments are being made from the federal Title XX block grant for social services.

Snapshot of MDC Client Status as of Feb. 26

The table below summarizes key information about the number of individuals who were at MDC as of Feb. 26, 2016, by type of admission.

	Type of Admission		
	Civil	Voluntary	Criminal
Number of Clients	30	11	9
Port List*	19	2	1
Lowest Length of Stay (Days)	159	470	144
Highest Length of Stay (Days)	5,939	8,641	2,682
Average Length of Stay (Days)	1,562	2,695	1,261
Fewest Days on Port List*	29	29	105
Most Days on Port List*	1,513	29	105
Average Days on Port List*	230	29	105
Lowest Cost Plan	\$155,442	\$159,501	\$182,511
Highest Cost Plan	\$392,352	\$255,455	\$186,931
Average Cost Plan	\$203,385	\$195,833	\$184,875

* Individuals who have been accepted for community placements are not included in these numbers, even though they were still at MDC as of Feb. 26.