

Out-of-State Placement Report MCA 52-2-311
Reporting Period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
MCA 52-2-311: OUT-OF-STATE PLACEMENT ANNUAL REPORT
SFY 2021

Children, Families, Health, and Human Services Interim Committee

August 30, 2021

Overview

The following statutorily required report is completed by the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) Children's Mental Health Bureau (CMHB), in coordination with the Child and Family Services Division (CFSD), the Youth Services Division of the Department of Corrections (DOC), and Youth Court or Juvenile Justice (JJ).

The following report is organized according to MCA 52-2-311 reporting requirements by section with findings under each section.

52-2-311. Out-of-state placement monitoring and reporting.

(1) The department shall collect the following information regarding high-risk children with multiagency service needs:

- (a) the number of children placed out-of-state;
- (b) the reasons each child was placed out-of-state;
- (c) the costs for each child placed out-of-state;
- (d) the process used to avoid out-of-state placements; *and*
- (e) the number of in-state providers participating in the pool.

(2) For children whose placement is funded in whole or in part by Medicaid, the report must include information indicating other department programs with which the child is involved.

(3) On an ongoing basis, the department shall attempt to reduce out-of-state placements.

(4) The department shall report annually to the children, families, health, and human services interim committee concerning the information it has collected under this section and the results of the efforts it has made to reduce out-of-state placements.

Definitions

"Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility" means a facility accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations (JCAHO), Council on Accreditation (COA), or the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) or any other organizations designated by the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services as authorized to accredit psychiatric hospitals for Medicaid participation, and which operates for the primary purpose of providing residential psychiatric care to persons under 21 years of age. The youth must meet the Montana Medicaid Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) criteria for PRTF services. The federal definition of Inpatient Psychiatric Services for Individuals Under Age 21 can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, Part 441, Subpart D, and the specific service requirements for Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities can be found in the Children's Mental Health Bureau Medicaid Services Provider Manual.

"Therapeutic Group Home (TGH)" means a treatment facility providing therapeutic services licensed and under contract with the department as a youth care facility with the supervision and intensity of

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treatment required to manage and treat up to eight youth who meet the SED diagnosis and functional impairment criteria as determined by the department. The definition of Therapeutic Group Home can be found in the Administrative Rules of Montana, Title 37, Chapter 97, subchapter 102 and the specific service requirements can be found in the Children’s Mental Health Bureau Medicaid Services Provider Manual.

Process

This report includes youth whose treatment is paid by all State agencies and divisions, though the report is compiled by the Children’s Mental Health Bureau (CMHB), which is a Medicaid bureau within DPHHS. The report distinguishes between youth whose treatment is funded solely by Medicaid, those whose treatment is funded by Medicaid, but the Child and Family Services Division (CFSD), Juvenile Justice (JJ), or the Department of Corrections (DOC) was the custodian and/or had placement authority, and those whose treatment is funded solely by CFSD, JJ, or DOC.

This is the annual report to the Legislature covering SFY 2021 (July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021) and includes only children who were in treatment out-of-state (OOS) on or after July 1, 2020 and on or before June 30, 2021. During this reporting period there were youth who received treatment in more than one out-of-state facility. These youth are only counted once regardless of the number of unique out-of-state facilities. In addition, some youth had both CFSD and JJ or DOC involvement so those youth are only counted once as well.

Results

MCA 52-2-311. Out-of-state placement monitoring and reporting.

(1) The department shall collect the following information regarding high-risk children with multiagency service needs:

a) The number of children placed out-of-state

The following table represents the total number of youth who received treatment in an out-of-state residential program, by agency, during the reporting period, July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, as well as the results from the annual report for SFY 2020 for reference.

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Table 1: Number of Youth who Received Treatment in an Out-of-State Residential Program

Reporting Agency	SFY 20 (07/01/19-06/30/20)		SFY 21 (07/01/20-06/30/21)	
	PRTF	TGH	PRTF	TGH
Children’s Mental Health Bureau/ Medicaid	144	60	158	59
Child and Family Services Division	45	59	46	39
Juvenile Justice	27	73	14	55
Department of Corrections	3	0	0	2
Totals	219	192	218	155

To provide context to these numbers, the CMHB served 21,933 youth in SFY 20. In addition to receiving mental health services from primary care providers and local qualified health centers, youth received the following community-based mental health services:

Service	Youth Served
Licensed Professional Counselor	8,366
Licensed Clinical Social Worker	6,158
Comprehensive School and Community Treatment	4,535
Targeted Case Management	3,654
Psychiatrist	2,404
Mental Health Center	1,541
Psychologist	1,164
Home Support Services / Therapeutic Foster Care	613

b) The reasons each child was placed out-of-state;

While the Children’s Mental Health Bureau is not a placing facility, Medicaid funding is only available after a youth has been determined to meet medical necessity criteria for PRTF level of care *and* has been denied admission by all in-state PRTFs. To meet medical necessity criteria for PRTF, a youth must exhibit behaviors or symptoms of serious emotional disturbance of a severe and persistent nature requiring 24-hour treatment under the direction of a physician. In addition, the prognosis for treatment at the PRTF level of care must reasonably be expected to improve the clinical condition/serious emotional disturbance of the youth or prevent further regression based upon a physician’s evaluation.

Table 2 shows the denial reasons as reported on initial stay requests for out-of-state PRTF placements. The most common reasons youth are denied admission to in-state PRTFs are:

- Aggression
- Elopement risk (runs away)
- No beds available
- Over age requirement
- Unable to treat current condition (too acute, sexualized behaviors, or substance use disorder)

The following table displays the reasons noted by each reporting agency as to why the youth needed an out-of-state placement during the reporting period, July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Information in this section is obtained from prior authorization records for Medicaid funded placements. Reporting

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agencies using non-Medicaid funding sources did not list denials, as this is not required within their agencies.

Table 2: Reasons for PRTF Out-of-State Placement

In-State Denial Reasons	Percentage of youth with In-State Denials in SFY 2021 (07/01/20-06/30/21)	
	PRTF 1	PRTF 2
Aggression	17%	11%
Elopement risk (runs away)	17%	1%
Has met maximum benefit from PRTF treatment	1%	9%
No beds available	26%	53%
Not a good fit for current milieu	2%	1%
Does not meet age requirement	17%	14%
Unable to treat current condition (too acute, sexualized behaviors, or substance use disorder)	20%	11%
Other (special circumstances)	1%	-

c) The costs for each child placed out-of-state;

Table 3 displays the average cost per youth for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, by provider type. The cost was calculated by multiplying the average days youth were placed by the average cost per day. This section also includes a Table 3 that displays the average cost per youth who have received services in an out-of-state facility that spans SFY 20 (7/1/2019-6/30/2020) and SFY 21 (7/1/2020-6/30/2021).

Table 3: Cost Per Youth

Average Length and Cost	SFY 20 07/01/19-06/30/20		SFY 21 07/01/20-06/30/21	
	PRTF	TGH	PRTF	TGH
Average Length of Stay	115 days	129 days	128 days	147 days
Average Cost per Youth per Day	\$440	\$196	\$451	\$200
Average Cost per Youth per Length of Stay	\$50,592	\$25,370	\$57,730	\$29,407

Table 3a: Montana Medicaid Reimbursement Rates

SFY 20		SFY 21	
PRTF	TGH*	PRTF	TGH*
50% of usual and customary charges, not to exceed \$439.51	\$196.23	50% of usual and customary charges, not to exceed \$447.56	\$199.82

*In-state and out-of-state TGHs are paid at the same rate.

d) The process used to avoid out-of-state placements

The Children's Mental Health Bureau (CMHB) is not a placing agency; however, CMHB has policies in place to reduce out-of-state placements for youth with Medicaid funding. CMHB requires specific utilization review of medical necessity criteria for both in and out-of-state Therapeutic Group Home (TGH) and Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTFs); review of medical necessity every 30 days for PRTFs; and assigned Regional Care Coordinators and Regional Resource Specialists to each out-of-state PRTF to ensure that youth are being treated in the least restrictive level of care at the earliest possible time in their home communities.

For a youth to be admitted into an out-of-state PRTF:

- (1) The provider must request admission from all Montana PRTFs and be denied admission. The provider must document the denials in the file of the youth.
- (2) The Montana PRTFs may deny services for one of the following reasons:
 - (a) the facility cannot meet the clinical and/or treatment needs of the youth; or
 - (b) an opening is not available.
- (3) The Montana PRTFs must specify the reasons the facility is unable to meet the needs of the youth or state when the next bed opening will be available for the youth.
- (4) Legal representatives of all Montana Medicaid youth who are admitted to OOS PRTFs must complete an Interstate Compact Agreement before the youth leaves the state as part of the prior authorization process. The form is located on the department's website at: Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC)

Reference: [Children's Mental Health Bureau Medicaid Services Provider Manual](#), pg. 18.

e) The number of in-state providers participating in the pool.

See list of provider pool in [Appendix A](#).

2) For children whose placement is funded in whole or in part by Medicaid, the report must include information indicating other department programs with which the child is involved.

The table below represents the number of youth placed in an out-of-state placement and which agency funded whole or in part for the reporting period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

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Table 4: Funding Source

Funding Source	SFY 20 07/01/19-06/30/20		SFY 21 07/01/20-06/30/21	
	PRTF	TGH	PRTF	TGH
Parent or Guardian placement authority with Medicaid Funding	166	60	153	53
Parent or Guardian placement Authority with EPSDT single case agreement funding	0	0	4	0
CFS placement authority with Medicaid Funding	29	59	34	62
DOC placement authority with Medicaid Funding	2	0	0	2
JJ placement authority with Medicaid Funding	1	51	14	23
Child & Family Services Only	2	1	11	0
Department of Corrections Only	1	2	0	0
Juvenile Justice Only	1	16	1	11
Both CFS and either JJ or DOC involvement, funding by Medicaid	14	2	1	4
Placed by and funding with both CFS and either DOC or JJ	3	1	0	0
Total	219	192	218	155

Table 5 displays the instances of Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) diagnosis for youth being treated in out-of-state residential programs. The primary diagnosis is found in either the Qualitrac database operated by Telligen, in claims data, or as reported by the placement agency.

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Table 5: Percentage of Instance of SED Diagnosis 7/1/20-06/30/21

SED Diagnosis	Percentage of Youth with Diagnosis	
	PRTF	TGH
Anxiety Disorders	3%	4%
Autism Spectrum Disorder	1%	1%
Bipolar and Related Disorders	11%	7%
Depressive Disorders	23%	29%
Disruptive and Impulse Control Disorders	31%	25%
Schizophrenia Spectrum	3%	1%
Trauma and Stressor Related Disorders	22%	25%
Other/Unknown	5%	8%

Appendix A: Provider Pool between July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021

Number of In-State Providers Participating in Pool as of 7/1/2020 – 6/30/2021

In-State Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities:

Shodair Children's Hospital, Helena, MT
Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch, Billings, MT

In-State Therapeutic Group Homes:

AWARE

Castle Pines Group Home, Great Falls, MT
Clark Fork Group Home, Anaconda, MT
Franklin Group Home, Missoula, MT
Gilbert Group Home, Missoula, MT
Gold Creek Group Home, Anaconda, MT
Hyacinth Group Home, Billings, MT
Lost Creek Group Home, Anaconda, MT
Mount Powell Group Home, Anaconda, MT
Ottawa Group Home, Butte, MT
Pinski Group Home, Great Falls, MT
Pintlar Group Home, Anaconda, MT
Renz Group Home, Butte, MT
Washoe Group Home, Anaconda, MT
Whiteway Group Home, Butte, MT

Intermountain

Intermountain Children's Home Cottages 1-4, Helena, MT
Providence Home, Somers, MT

Montana Community Services

Miles Avenue Group Home, Billings, MT
Custer Group Home, Billings, MT
Parkhill Group Home, Billings, MT

New Day

New Day Inc, Units 1 through 5, Billings, MT
New Day Inc, Unit 7, Billings, MT

Partnership for Children

Gallagher Children's Home, Missoula, MT
Sunrise Children's Home, Missoula, MT

Shodair

Jack Casey Bumblebee Home, Helena, MT
Jack Casey Honeybee Home, Helena, MT

Youth Dynamics

Rimview Group Home, Billings, MT

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S.T.A.R. Group Home, Billings, MT
Rivers Edge Group Home, Billings, MT
North Skyline Youth Home, Great Falls, MT
Choices Group Home, Boulder, MT
New Beginnings Group Home, Boulder, MT
New Journey Group Home, Boulder, MT
Opportunity Group Home, Boulder, MT
Lewis & Clark Group Home, Helena, MT

Youth Homes

Radtke Home for Boys, Missoula, MT
Talbot Boys Home, Missoula, MT
Talbot Girls Home, Missoula, MT

Recently Closed In State Facilities

Acadia Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (Closed June 2019)
Brandon Way – AWARE Home in Missoula (November 2019)
Jan Shaw Home for Girls, Helena, MT (Closed December 2019)
Center 4 Mental Health – Great Falls (March 2020)
Excel Group Home, Billings, MT (Closed in 2020)
Portage Place – Changed from TGH to Shelter Care (April 2021)

TEMPORARY Closures in SFY21

Intermountain Children’s Home Cottages 1-4, Helena, MT – *1 cottage closed due to staffing*
Intermountain Providence Home, Somers, MT – *temporarily reduced bed due to staffing*
AWARE Clark Fork Group Home, Anaconda, MT *Possibly closed temporarily due to staffing*
AWARE Gold Creek Group Home, Anaconda, MT *Possibly closed temporarily due to staffing*
AWARE Lost Creek Group Home, Anaconda, MT *Possibly closed temporarily due to staffing*
AWARE Mount Powell Group Home, Anaconda, MT *Possibly closed temporarily due to staffing*
AWARE Pintlar Group Home, Anaconda, MT *Possibly closed temporarily due to staffing*

Out-of-State Medicaid Enrolled Providers as of 7/1/2020 - 6/30/2021

Out-of-State Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities:

Benchmark Behavioral Health, Woods Cross, UT
Detroit Behavioral Institute, Detroit, MI
Devereux Cleo Wallace, Westminster, CO
Habilitation Center, LLC, Conway, AR
Habilitation Center, LLC, Fordyce, AR
Havenwood Academy, Cedar City, UT
Kids Behavioral Health of Utah, West Jordan, UT
Lakeland Behavioral Health, Springfield, MO
Piney Ridge Center, Waynesville, MO
Rolling Hills Hospital, Ada, OK
UHS of Provo Canyon, Inc., Provo, UT
UHS of Savannah, LLC, Savannah, GA
UHS of Wyoming, Inc., Casper, WY
Woodridge of Missouri, Waynesville, MO

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Wyoming Behavioral Institute, Casper, WY
Zion Hills Academy, Inc., Cedar City, UT

Out-of-State Therapeutic Group Home

Falcon Crest, St. George, UT
Normative Services, Sheridan, WY
Mountain Home Academy, Mountain Home, ID
Falcon Ridge Ranch, Virgin, UT
Lava Heights, Toquerville, UT
Woodward Youth Corporation, Estherville, IA
Youth Health Associates, Clearfield, UT

Recently Closed Out-of-State Facilities

Normative Services, Inc. (March 2021)