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

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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 April 22, 2016.

MDC Population

Since the last report on the MDC census in late February, 10 clients have left the facility. The MDC census was 40 in late April, compared with 50 in February.

Of the 10 clients who left MDC:

- six moved into group homes operated by A.W.A.R.E. Inc. in Butte;
- two moved into group homes operated by Quality Life Concepts in Great Falls;
- one was placed at the Montana Mental Health Nursing Care Center in Lewistown; and
- one who was at MDC on a voluntary basis left the facility.

Of the remaining 40 clients:

- 31 had been committed through a civil commitment process originally, and nine had committed crimes and been sentenced to DPHHS custody;
- 21 of the civilly committed clients and four of the criminally committed clients have been accepted by providers for future placement in community services; and
- the remaining 15 clients are awaiting placement.

Eight of the 31 civilly committed clients were at MDC voluntarily on April 22 because their original commitment orders had expired and they had not yet moved into community services.

The table on the following page summarizes key information about the number of individuals who were at MDC as of April 22, 2016, by type of admission.

Snapshot of MDC Client Status as of April 22

	Type of Admission		
	Civil	Voluntary	Criminal
Number of Clients	23	8	9
Port List*	9	1	0
Lowest Length of Stay (Days)	214	525	199
Highest Length of Stay (Days)	5,994	6,812	2,737
Average Length of Stay (Days)	1,645	2,067	1,316
Fewest Days on Port List*	84	84	
Most Days on Port List*	1,568	84	-
Average Days on Port List*	257	84	
Lowest Cost Plan	\$182,511	\$160,221	\$182,511
Highest Cost Plan	\$392,352	\$255,455	\$186,931
Average Cost Plan	\$214,117	\$207,732	\$184,875

^{*} Individuals who have been accepted for community placements are not included in the Port List numbers, even though they were still at MDC as of April 22.

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