

Juvenile Justice & Youth Services

Office of Secure Care Programs



Secure Care Overview

The Utah Division of Juvenile Justice and Youth Services (JJYS) provides a continuum of interventions, supervision, and rehabilitation programs to youth offenders while ensuring public safety. The JJYS Secure Care Facilities provide long term, secure, temporary housing, re-entry support services, and skills development for youth returning to the community.

Youth are ordered to Secure Care by a Utah Juvenile Court Judge. Upon commitment, the Youth Parole Authority assumes responsibility. Once committed, youth are assessed to determine their rehabilitative needs and areas of focus in order to reduce their risk of reoffending. The length of stay in the facility and parole dates are determined by the Youth Parole Authority.

Each case is reviewed on a regularly scheduled basis. Youth placed in Secure Care are rated daily on their individual progress, treatment goals, and their behavior in the facility. To help promote success, youths are provided with mental health, educational, recreational, and medical services. Youth also have the ability to participate in classes and programs to enhance their individual talents, become more employable, and to improve their independent living skills.

Facility / Directors:

Office of Secure Care Programs

Program Director

Jill McKinlay - jmckinla@utah.gov

Decker Lake Youth Center - West Valley City

Assistant Program Director

Meisi Collins - mcollin@utah.gov

Farmington Bay Youth Center - Farmington

Assistant Program Director

Jarrett Kelton - jkkelton@utah.gov

Mill Creek Youth Center - Ogden

Assistant Program Director

Darce Afuvai - dafuvai@utah.gov

Slate Canyon Youth Center - Provo

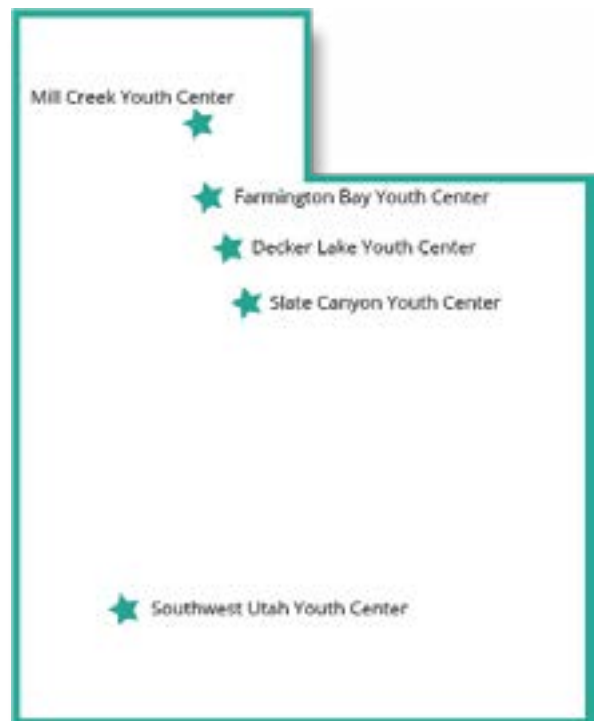
Assistant Program Director

Eli Valenzuela - evalenzu@utah.gov

Southwest Utah Youth Center - Cedar City

Assistant Program Director

Cody Stratton - cstratto@utah.gov



Clinical Support Team

We provide clinical support for our secure care team in identifying our youths' evaluation, treatment, and placement needs. This team also provides supervisory support for the Clinical Support Team.

Therapist Supervisor, [Daniel Caldwell, LCMHC - dcaldwell@utah.gov](mailto:dcaldwell@utah.gov)

Northern Clinical Consultant, [Heidi Orosco, LCMHC - horosco@utah.gov](mailto:horosco@utah.gov)

Southern Clinical Consultant, [Beth Adair, LCSW - bethadair@utah.gov](mailto:bethadair@utah.gov)

Clinical Behavior Analyst, [Shawner Mathis, LMFT, BCaBA, LaBA - slmathis@utah.gov](mailto:slmathis@utah.gov)



Secure Care Programs & Services

- ✔ **Skills Based Groups:**
Transition Support Services Workbook, resume writing/interviewing, job applications, finances, electrical, car repair, meal preparation, food purchasing, yard care and application for housing.
- ✔ **Vocational Training and Certifications:**
On-site employment skills in screen printing, carpentry, computer tech and other work related areas to include: Microsoft, Servsafe, Alive at 25, CPR First Aid, OSHA certificates, Drivers Ed, Food Handlers, OSHA, Fire Extinguisher, Flagger, Bicycle Collective, and certification for completion of any of the Evidence Based-Curricula noted above.
- ✔ **Education:**
Provided on-site through the local school districts.
- ✔ **Higher Education:**
All secure youth have the opportunity to take college courses free of charge with Utah. Youth also have the opportunity to continue their college education and or degrees when they leave our programs.
- ✔ **Restitution/Work:**
Secure care residents will receive support from staff to pay restitution and complete community service hours to repay the victims of their crimes.
- ✔ **Employment Opportunities:**
Federal funding is provided for youth transitioning out into the community to find Employment and training. This is overseen by the Employment Coordinator.
- ✔ **Clinical Support:**
Licensed Clinical Therapists provide Secure care residents with evidence-based therapy in substance use disorder for acute and ongoing therapeutic needs as indicated by assessment or as defined by the Utah Juvenile Court and/or Youth Parole Authority.
- ✔ **Family Involvement:**
Secure Care encourages parents and families to play an active role in treatment through Child & Family Team Meetings, weekly updates and visitation. A 14-week program, Strengthening Families, will be offered at each facility. This will allow youths and their families to eat a meal together and participate in groups. The classes address areas such as: communication and family meetings; rules, rewards and responsibilities; limits and consequences; problem solving and win-win negotiation; stress and anger management; drugs and alcohol; choosing good friends; and values and traditions.