GET INVOLVED

1. College Internships
   The Department of Juvenile Services provides a wide variety of internships for current undergraduate and graduate students. Interns will receive unmatched exposure to the juvenile justice system. Internships are available in our community offices, facilities, and at headquarters.

2. Volunteer Opportunities
   Individual, community groups, civic organizations, and corporate groups can volunteer time with youth who are housed at the Department of Juvenile Services residential facilities. Some of the activities that youth would enjoy include: music workshops, games, arts and crafts, financial workshops, faith based services, computer training, and tutoring.

3. Join a Facility Advisory Board
   The department has established Facility Advisory boards for all state-operated detention centers and committed facilities. The advisory boards are valued partners who develop strategies to improve services for youth in the Department of Juvenile Services’ care and educate the community on the department’s efforts.

4. For additional information related to these opportunities, please visit djs.maryland.gov.

CAREERS IN JUVENILE SERVICES

The department regularly recruits for competent, qualified candidates who have a passion for working with youth. The department offers a safe working environment, training, Maryland State benefits, competitive salaries, and potential job growth. If interested, please visit the Career Opportunities section on the department’s website. The department is an equal opportunity employer.

DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE SERVICES MISSION

By law, DJS is a child-serving agency responsible for assessing the individual needs of referred youth and providing intake, detention, probation, commitment, and after-care services.

DJS collaborates with youth, families, schools, community partners, law enforcement, and other public agencies to coordinate services and resources to contribute to safer communities.

GOALS

- Improve positive outcomes for justice-involved youth.
- Only use incarceration when necessary for public safety.
- Keep committed and detained youth safe while delivering services to meet youth needs.
- Ensure a continuum of care for justice-involved youth that is age- and developmentally-appropriate.
- Build, value, and retain a diverse, competent, and professional workforce.
- Enhance the quality, availability, and use of technology to improve services for staff, youth, and families.

PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT (PREA)

The Department of Juvenile Services has a zero tolerance policy for sexual abuse or sexual harassment of youth. If you suspect or have knowledge of a youth being sexually abused or sexually harassed by either a staff member or another youth, please contact the Office of the Inspector General at 855-821-2103.

Maryland DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE SERVICES

217 East Redwood Street, Baltimore, MD 21202
(888) 639-7499 Fax: (410) 333-4197
TDD: (800)735-2258
djs.maryland.gov
The Department of Juvenile Services is an executive agency whose primary role is to manage, supervise, and treat youth who are involved in the juvenile justice system in Maryland.

The department uses objective and comprehensive assessment tools to inform recommendations to the court on whether a youth should be held in secure detention or in the community while awaiting a hearing on a criminal complaint. If the court orders treatment for the child, the department will then provide individualized, evidence-based, and robust care to youth with a treatment team comprised of social workers, behavioral health professionals, case workers, educators, and families.

The Maryland State Department of Education provides year-round education programming to each child, for six hours a day, in department-operated and licensed facilities. The department also works closely with the Maryland Department of Human Resources and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to ensure youth receive the services they need.

SERVICES TO YOUTH IN OUR CARE
- Risk Assessment
- Case Management
- Community Supervision
- Substance Abuse Counseling
- Behavior Modification Programs
- Individual, Group, and Family Therapies
- Medical and Mental/Behavioral Health Treatment
- Educational Services by State Department of Education
- Vocational Training
- Re-Entry and Aftercare Support
- Post-Secondary Educational Services

DJS INITIATIVES
- Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative
- Human Sex Trafficking Screening
- Trauma Informed Care
- Behavioral Health Diversion Initiative
- Comprehensive Re-Entry Support

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
The department’s partnerships start in the community. Throughout Maryland, the department works with local law enforcement, courts, health departments, attorneys, and other stakeholders to keep department youth safe and supported. Field staff make referrals to community-based providers who help meet the treatment needs of youth under supervision in the community.

State partners such as the Maryland State Department of Education, the Department of Human Services, and the Department of Health collaborate with the department at many levels to deliver services in the most effective manner.

FACILITIES
The Department of Juvenile Services operates seven detention facilities across the state. Each facility houses a population of youth awaiting their court hearing, as well as those individuals who are awaiting placement into a treatment facility. The department also operates five treatment facilities in the state and contracts with others in-state and out-of-state. The court determines what level of specialized care each individual needs. The department will then place the child in one of its facilities or a licensed private facility, which can include Foster Homes, Group Homes, an Independent Living Program, Intermediate Care Facilities for Addictions, and Residential Treatment Centers.