



VERMONT

AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES

DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Dr. Harry Chen, Interim Commissioner, Department for Children and Families

DCF, Family Services Division (FSD)

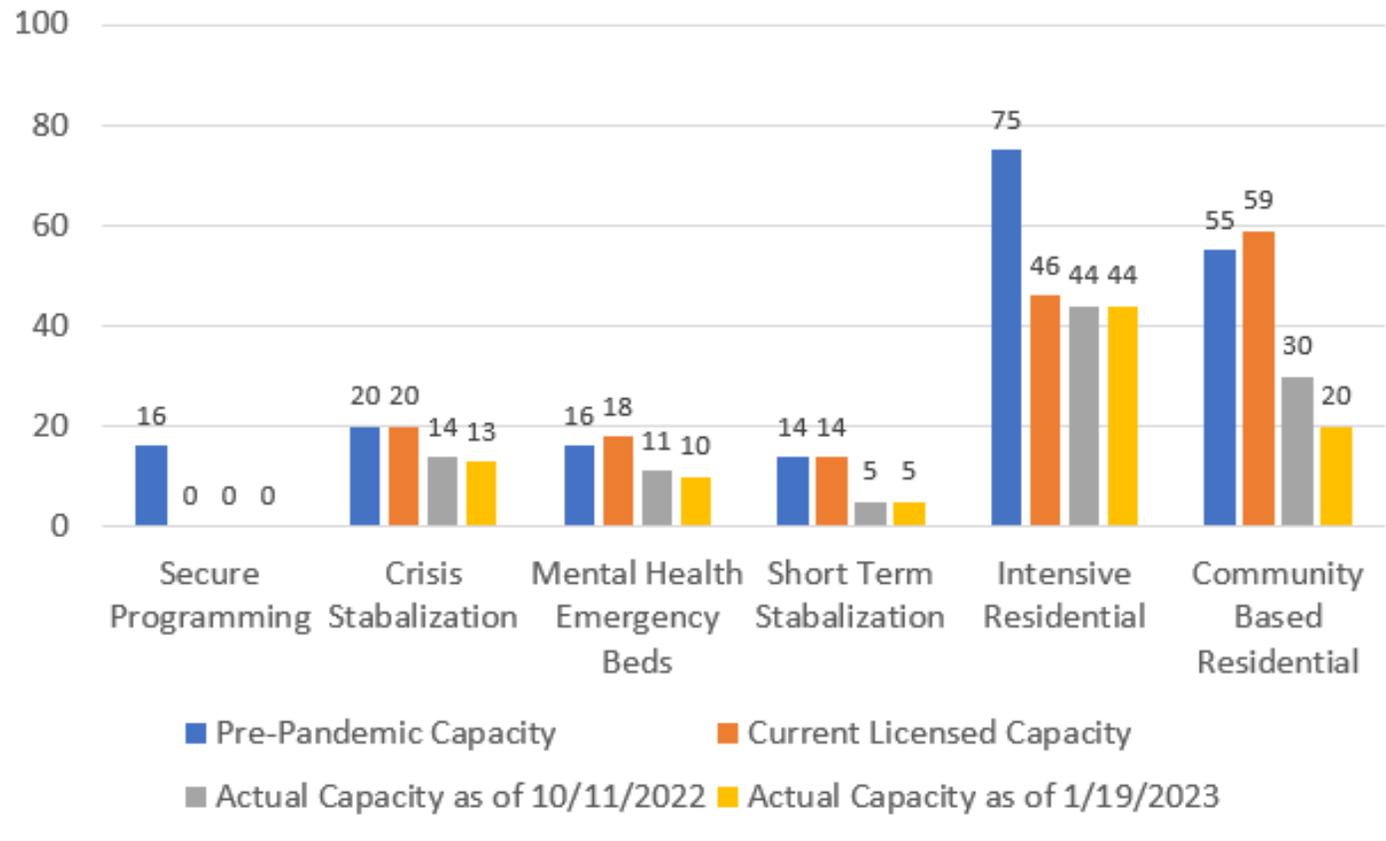
What does FSD do?

- FSD is one of six Divisions/Offices in DCF
- FSD focuses on child safety and law abidance for youth and emerging adults by engaging and working alongside family, foster parents, partner agencies and the community to achieve the best outcomes for the children and youth in our care and custody.
- Primary service areas include child abuse/neglect intake, investigations and assessments, support services to high-risk families, juvenile probation, and custody cases
- Currently there are **1093** children in DCF's Custody. These include abuse and neglect, delinquency cases, child behavior, etc.

How does FSD do this work?

- By working with families to:
 - Keep children and youth safe,
 - Keep youth free from harmful behaviors,
- And if that is not possible:
 - Caring for children and youth in DCF custody and attending to their well-being, while working towards safe reunification.
- And if that is not possible:
 - Achieving other forms of permanency for children and youth in DCF custody by providing safe, supportive, lifelong connections.

Vermont's Pre-Pandemic, Current Licensed, and Actual System of Care Capacity, as of 1/19/2023, Statewide



Data Source: Residential Capacity in Vermont- 1.19.2023 Spreadsheet.

Current High End System of Care Capacity

Proposed Plan, High End System of Care (HESOC)

Short Term Secure Stabilization: Hardware-secured physical structure with generalized therapeutic programming, designed to immediately manage acute safety crises for any justice-involved youth.

Short Term Secure Treatment: Hardware-secured physical structure with specialized therapeutic programming, designed to address behaviors that present risk to personal or public safety for appropriate justice-involved youth.

Staff-Secure Crisis Stabilization: Community-based physical structure with generalized or specialized therapeutic programming, designed to immediately manage acute crises for any youth,

Psychiatric Residential Treatment: Community-based physical structure with specialized therapeutic services designed to serve youth with intensive mental health or developmental needs.

Temporary Secure Stabilization- Modular Build

- BGS and DCF are designing and developing temporary solutions for an architecturally secure facility to accommodate the needs **of up to 8 justice-involved youth** of any age or gender requiring secure treatment, education, and care
- Working with architects, BGS and DCF are developing plans for modular buildings
- Project emphasis is on physical security, therapeutic quality of space, and timelines
- BGS and DCF staff conducted site analyses to identify the most viable locations for the rapid development of a temporary facility; these site visits have assessed both existing structures and grounds review
- This temporary facility will meet the need for secure stabilization until a permanent facility can be built

Modular Build, cont.

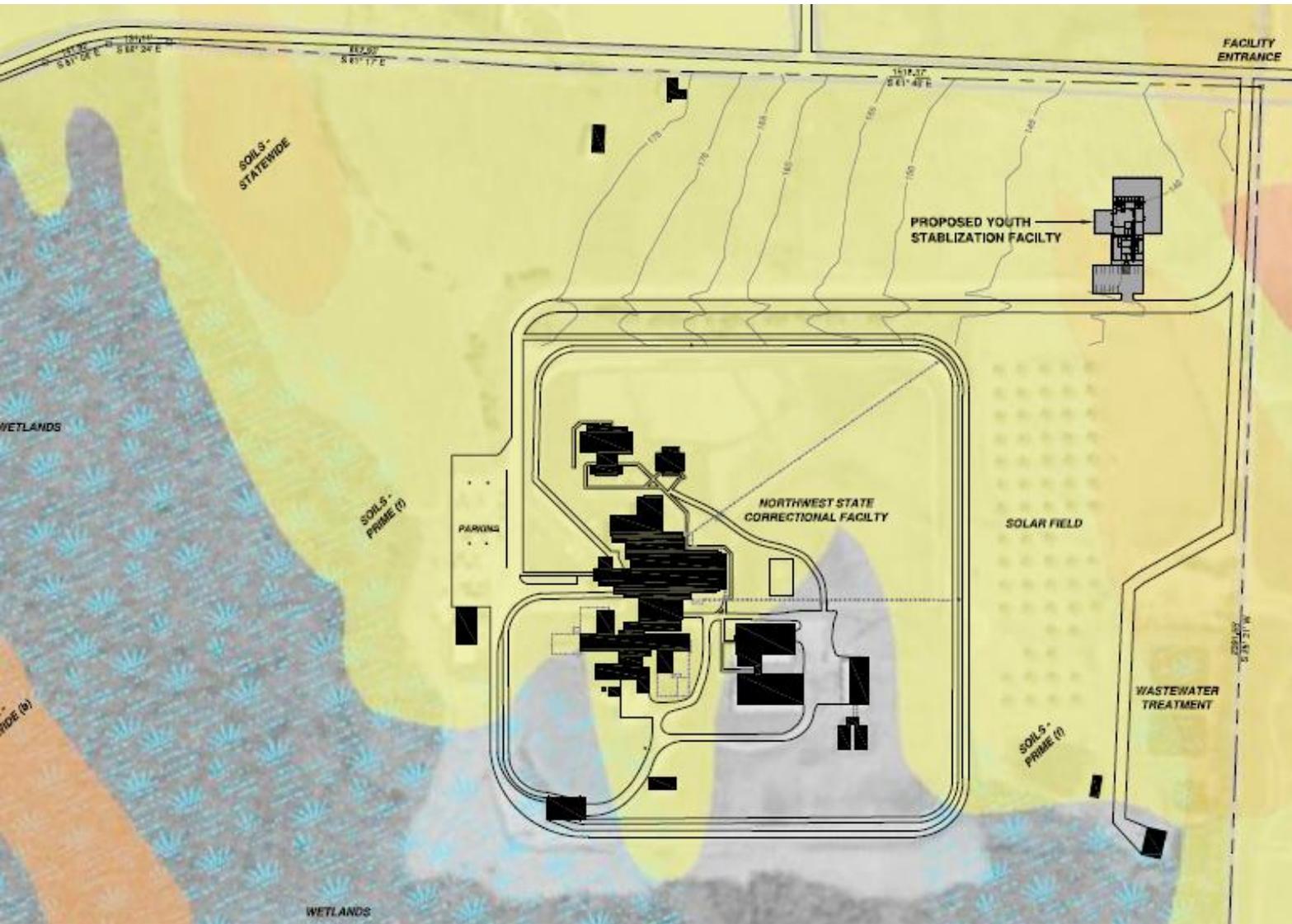


Examples of modular or “pod” solutions for facilities



Floor Plan Example





Potential Siting Option

Timeline and Next Steps

Evaluate the potential temporary placement of modular unit on the NW property. Consideration of sight and sound separation is critical.

It will likely take up to one year to develop, build, and set modular units.

BGS is currently preparing documents to begin the required local permitting process and Act 250 permitting process

The modular facility will meet the need for secure stabilization until a permanent facility is built, and it is imperative to move forward as quickly as possible with planning – including siting – for a permanent facility.