Presentation to the Legislative Oversight Committee

North Carolina’s Developmental Centers

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NC DEVELOPMENTAL CENTERS

Touching Lives. Enriching Futures.

JIRDC

Murdoch

Caswell

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North Carolina’s Developmental Centers: Who We Support; What We Do

- NC’s Developmental Centers provide services and supports to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and complex behavioral challenges and/or medical conditions whose clinical treatment needs exceed the level of care available in the community.
Services and supports include:

- Residential, medical, habilitation (help in developing functional living skills) and training to promote independence and self-determination.

- Facility-based therapeutic respite services to provide evaluations and assessments to individuals with specific medical and/or behavioral challenges.

- Facility-based respite services to provide caregivers temporary relief.

- Specialized programs that provide time-limited services to challenging target populations.
Location and Operating Capacity

**East:** Caswell Developmental Center, Kinston – 430

**Central:** Murdoch Dev. Center, Butner – 568

**West:** J. Iverson Riddle Dev. Center, Morganton – 325
Collaboration and Partnerships

- All admissions must be endorsed by the LME, with focus on return to community.

- New admissions to general population are authorized for one year; LMEs may request re-authorization prior to designated discharge date. Each specialty program has a designated length of stay.

- Families/guardians, LMEs, developmental center treatment teams collaborate for transition planning. Community provider agencies are included upon selection by family/guardian.

- Developmental Center staff and NC START partner for transition planning, post-discharge follow up and consultation in the community.
# Admissions and Discharges from the three Developmental Centers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Number of Admissions General Population</th>
<th>Number of Discharges General Population</th>
<th>Number of Admissions Specialty Programs</th>
<th>Number of Discharges Specialty Programs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>27</td>
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The three state operated Developmental Centers are all:

- ICF/MR-certified facilities
- Operated by the Division of State Operated Healthcare Facilities (DSOHF) under the Department of Health and Human Services
- Federal Medicaid funded, covering almost all of the operating costs
All three Developmental Centers:

- Provide therapeutic homelike environments
- Offer specialized programs using their professional expertise, providing a vital safety net for the community.
  
  - Murdoch has 4 specialized, time-limited residential programs for persons with challenging behaviors
  
  - Caswell has a time-limited specialized DD/MI for adult males persons with challenging behaviors and mental health needs (in addition to DD needs)
  
  - JIRDC has created individualized and specialized residential treatment programs as needed, and offers a “Rapid Response” team to assist Broughton Hospital when challenging cases with I/DD arise
All three Developmental Centers:

- Serve as a vital safety net for the community:
  - The centers are placements of last resort. Admission referrals are carefully screened to ensure that community options have been exhausted.
  - For an individual to be admitted to a developmental center, the community must clearly demonstrate that the individual needs the level of care and expertise offered in the center.
  - The centers work in partnership with the LMEs and families/guardians on both admissions and transitions back out to the community.
Murdoch Developmental Center currently serves 517 individuals; 463 in its general population and 54 in its specialized statewide programs.
All individuals receive comprehensive residential care and supports to address their specific needs. A team of professionals, along with the family and the individual, develops a comprehensive Person-Centered Plan which outlines an intensive treatment plan addressing the specific needs and wishes of the person.
Team members include representatives from Direct Care, Nursing, Social Work, Speech and Hearing, Education, Psychology, Physical and Occupational Therapy. Physicians, psychiatrists, recreation therapists, dentists, dieticians, pharmacists, and vocational instructors may also participate depending on the needs of the individual.
Interesting Facts:

- 245 individuals participate in our Vocational Enterprise program, earning wages for work performed on-campus and in the community. Jobs can be tailored to the person’s abilities and challenges, allowing employment opportunities not typically available in the community. Schedules can be adjusted as needed (e.g., illness).
Interesting Facts:

- Our Dental Clinic, in addition to meeting the needs of all of our individuals, provides 181 outpatient services per year; a vital community service, as there are few dentists willing to serve this population.
Interesting Facts:

- Due to the special needs of our population, over 3,000,000 medications and treatments are administered annually. This is the equivalent of over 8200 per day.
Interesting Facts:

- Murdoch has an ICF-MR certified infirmary, providing close to hospital-level care for individuals when they need it.
- This facilitates faster return from the hospital and actually helps avoid hospital admissions. This is better for the person, and results in a considerable reduction in cost for the Center.
General Population

- Individuals residing in the general population have significant behavioral, medical, and/or daily living skills needs.

- They typically (95%) have severe-profound intellectual disabilities.
General Population (cont’d)

- Within the general population there are three primary categories:
  - Persons with increasing health needs
  - Persons with challenging behaviors
  - Persons aging in place (median age = 53+ years)
Specialized Statewide Programs

Murdoch Developmental Center also has four specialty programs that serve individuals from across the entire state.

All of these statewide programs are ICF-MR funded and serve individuals with intense behavioral challenges.
Specialized Statewide Programs

These four specialty programs all form the basis for our own Local Education Agency (LEA) serving school-age children and youth.

The Center provides formal elementary, middle, and high school classes, as well as adult education.

In addition, PATH has a classroom in the community, currently at Butner-Stem Middle School.
Specialized Statewide Programs

These four specialty programs all utilize an evidence-based behavioral treatment model. This is coordinated well with other models, such as TEACCH, as indicated by individual need.

All the developmental centers offer an integrated inter-disciplinary treatment program using person-centered philosophy and practice.
The **BART** (Behaviorally Advanced Residential Treatment) Program

- Serves young adult males
- Diagnosis of DD and very severe behavioral challenges
- History of multiple failed placements
- 10 beds (plus 2 therapeutic respite beds)
The PATH (Partners in Autism Treatment & Habilitation) Program

- Serves children ages 6 to 16 with Autism (ASD) and very severe behavioral challenges
- 10 beds on campus (+ 2 therapeutic respite beds)
- Two “step-down” community group homes (4 beds each); located in Oxford and Franklinton
- Maximum stay is 2 years
The **STARS** (Specialized Treatment For Adolescents in a Residential Setting) Program

- Serves males and females aged 13-17
- Diagnoses of I/DD, MI and severe behavioral challenges; hx of residential/school failures
- 16 beds with a maximum of a one year stay
- Note: These individuals do extremely well during their time in STARS. However, it has been very difficult to find appropriate supports in the community upon re-entry. As a result, a troubling number of graduates are not maintaining their gains after discharge.
The TRACK (Therapeutic Respite Addressing Crisis for Kids) Program

- Serves males and females aged 5-17
- Diagnosis of I/DD and in behavioral crisis
- Safety net to avoid psychiatric hospitalization or emergency room stays
- Stays between 3 and 45 days
- Serves a maximum of 6 children at this time