



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES
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Sept. 12, 2024

TO: JR Staff & Residents
FROM: Felice Upton *Felice Upton*
JR Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Misleading and Inaccurate News Article

I wanted to immediately address a misleading article that was published in the Seattle Times today. The outlet reported that “men in juvenile detention might be sent to an adult prison.” That is simply not the case, young people would remain in the custody of DCYF. If we were to open a facility at Stafford Creek, it would be a DCYF-run facility at Stafford Creek.

As soon as becoming aware of the article, our Office of Public Affairs submitted a request for immediate correction and expect that will be addressed soon by the media outlet.

As I stated in my memo to you yesterday, DCYF would provide the programming, health, education, and transportation needs at Stafford Creek. This preferred option would involve DCYF leasing property from DOC for a JR facility.

Given that the information shared could cause unnecessary stress you and your families, I wanted to reassure you not only is this preferred option in its early stages, but it does not involve the transfer of anyone into DOC custody.

I apologize for any confusion this misinformation may have caused.