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Lt. Governor

Larry Hogan
Governor

Sam Abed
Secretary

DATE: February 18, 2020

BILL NUMBER: SB 564 - Education - High School Graduation Requirements - Students in Foster Care or Homeless Youth

DJS POSTITION: Letter of Information

The Department of Juvenile Services (DJS or department) is providing information for SB 564.

The Department serves dually-involved youth who receive services from both DJS and Department of Human Services (DHS). To better serve this population, the Department continues to roll-out the Crossover Youth Practice Model (CYPM) in jurisdictions throughout the state. CYPM is a partnership with DJS, DHS, Georgetown University, and the Maryland Judiciary. This effort aims to better serve this unique population by removing barriers to cross-systems collaboration, reducing unnecessary system involvement, and avoiding duplication in service provision.

After piloting in Montgomery County and Prince George’s County, the CYPM is now in place in Western Maryland, Central Maryland, and most recently launched in the greater Baltimore area. Further, a CYPM toolkit was created which lays the groundwork for further statewide rollout.

Foster and homeless youth benefit from creating pathways to school success which take into account their experiences. By removing local graduation requirements for a specific subset of homeless or foster youth, SB 564 would remove one barrier to high school graduation for this population.