

An Evaluation of the Jacksonville Developmental Center Closure: Preliminary Results

Research Brief
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The Institute on Disability and Human Development (IDHD), through a contract with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is conducting an evaluation of the Jacksonville Developmental Center (JDC) closure. This brief contains information obtained from: 1) family/guardian surveys; 2) stakeholder interviews; and 3) individual interviews.

Figure 1. Where did people move?* (n= 178)

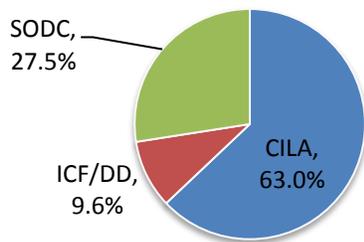
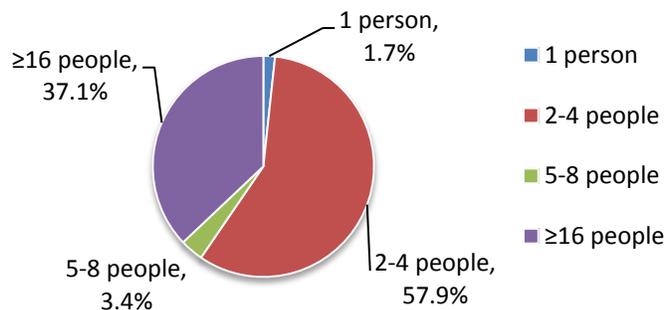


Figure 2. How large were settings people moved into?* (n = 178)

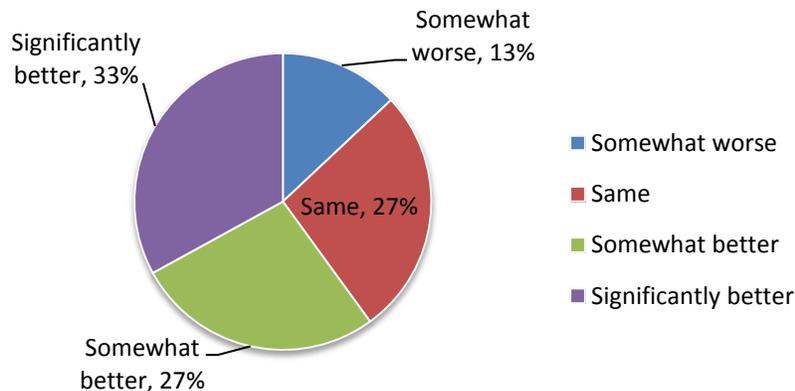


*As of 12/31/2012

Family/Guardian Survey – Key Findings

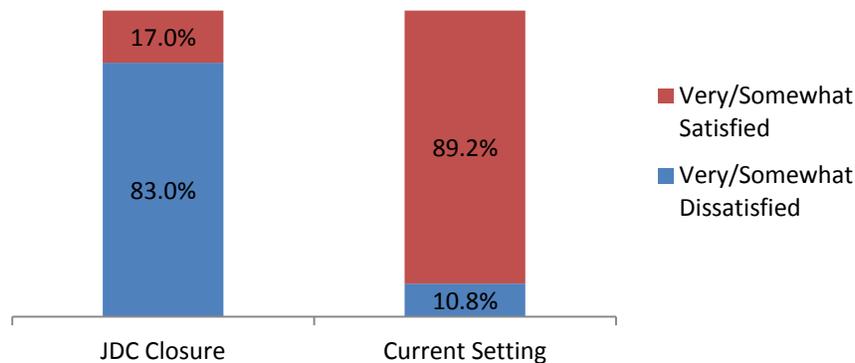
- 65 guardians completed the survey.
- The majority of survey respondents (**87%**) indicated that they believe that their relative is **better off or the same** as they were when they lived at JDC. No one reported their relative was significantly worse off.

Figure 3: Is the individual better or worse off as compared to when they lived at JDC? (n = 65)



- Initially, the majority of guardians (83%) were very/somewhat dissatisfied with JDC's closure; however, **the majority (89.2%) reported being somewhat/very satisfied with their ward's current living situation.**

Figure 4. Guardian Satisfaction with JDC Closure and Current Setting (n = 65)



- The majority of survey respondents felt that the closure process moved too quickly.
 - **52% said it was too fast;**
 - 43% said it moved at a good pace; and
 - 5% said it moved too slowly.

Stakeholder Interviews – Key Insights

- 53 stakeholders involved in the closure were interviewed.
- Overall, stakeholders expressed satisfaction with:
 - Active Community Care Transition (ACCT) Process:
 - ✓ Person-centered approach;
 - ✓ Use of 3rd party to assist with evaluation and transition planning;
 - ✓ 4-person CILA homes;
 - ✓ Individualized budgets; and
 - ✓ Weekly phone calls among system partners.
 - Provider involvement; providers “stepped up to the plate”
- Stakeholders expressed dissatisfaction with the following:
 - Timeline: it was **too rushed**;
 - Too many cooks in the kitchen: there was **confusion about who was in charge**;
 - Role confusion: at times **parallel transition processes** were occurring at JDC;
 - **Lack of resources**: JDC staff did not have needed personnel as staff vacated positions; and
 - Provider meetings: could have been **more organized** to make better use of time.

Individual Interviews – Key Insights

- 14 individuals who moved out of JDC were interviewed and indicated:
 - They felt sad when they heard JDC was closing but **are very happy in their new homes**;
 - They have **more freedom** and are taking on **new responsibilities** such as budgeting, banking and laundry;
 - They are making **new friends**;
 - They are **taking classes**; and
 - Some would like to explore new job opportunities.