The Governor’s proposed budget for fiscal years 2020-2021 supports the Ohio Department of Youth Services in its mission of sustaining justice progress in Ohio, supporting public safety, and getting help for some of the most challenged youth in our state. The overall total requested budget is $238.4 million in FY20 and $247.5 million in FY21 to meet this need.

It is important to note the proposed budget will fund the rising costs of juvenile correctional facility operations, as well as cost of living adjustments for agency staff. In addition, DYS is prioritizing these key areas:

**Community Initiatives to Meet Youth Needs:** By maintaining funding for programs such as RECLAIM Ohio, this budget supports the ability of juvenile courts and communities to hold youth accountable and protect public safety while meeting the complex needs of justice-involved youth, who may have a history of issues such as mental health, substance abuse, trauma, and family stability.

- Youth Services Grant increase of $417,567.
- An increase of $1,100,000 in Competitive RECLAIM.

**Treatment for High-Need Youth:** This budget will maintain resources for safe and habilitative environments at the three state-operated juvenile correctional facilities and four alternative placements and sustain the ability of parole staff to supervise youth effectively in the community.

- Girls mental health treatment increase of $450,000.

**Recruitment/Retention of Qualified Staff:** In order to ensure that Community Corrections Facilities (CCFs) are maximized to divert appropriate felony youth from DYS, this budget will allow CCFs to recruit and retain qualified staff by helping salary scales keep pace with increases for equivalent state employees.

- An increase of $1,645,196 to CCFs in FY20. A total increase of $2,300,103 by FY21.

**Education/Vocational Training:** This budget will make investments in vocational training for youth in job shortage areas, which in turn will help our challenged youth population to become self-sufficient and productive upon returning to the community. This will be done by building new partnerships with schools, community colleges, and the business community, as we recognize the role they play in job linkage and supporting reentry efforts for youth.

- Vocational training increase of $141,000.