

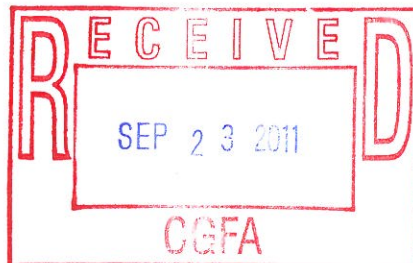


Pat Quinn, Governor

Michelle R.B. Saddler, Secretary

Office of the Secretary  
401 South Clinton Street • Chicago, Illinois 60607  
100 South Grand Avenue East • Springfield, Illinois 62762

September 23, 2011



**VIA HAND DELIVERY AND ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Senator Jeffrey M. Schoenberg, Co-Chair  
Representative Patti Bellock, Co-Chair  
Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability  
703 Stratton Office Building  
Springfield, Illinois 62706

**Re: Closure of Jack Mabley Developmental Center**

Dear Senator Schoenberg and Representative Bellock:

On behalf of the Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS), and in connection with the proposed closure of the Jack Mabley Developmental Center (Mabley), the following are DHS' recommendation and its responses to the ten questions which are required to be answered pursuant to Section 5-10 of the State Facilities Closure Act, 30 ILCS 608/5-10.

**Recommendation:**

On May 30, 2011, the General Assembly passed an appropriations bill (HB 3717) for the operations of the eight (8) State-Operated Developmental Centers (SODCs or Centers) operated by DHS' Division of Developmental Disabilities. The legislation provided \$252.9 million against the Governor's requested budget of \$321.1 million for the SODCs.

DHS and the Division of Developmental Disabilities have spent considerable time and energy in an effort to determine a way that we can continue to provide the level of services which we have historically provided within the parameters of the appropriations received in FY12. Regrettably, and after much reflection, we have determined that the closure of the Jack Mabley Developmental Center is the only course of action we can take in order to be able to meet the restrictions imposed by the FY12 appropriations.

The closure of Mabley, as described further herein, will affect ninety-one (91) individuals with developmental disabilities who currently reside at this Center, as well as 164 staff members.

**Responses:**

**1. The locations and identities of the State facility proposed to be closed:**

Jack Mabley Developmental Center  
1120 Washington Avenue, Dixon, Illinois 61021

**2. The number of employees for which the State facility is the primary stationary work location and the effect of the closure of the facility on those employees:**

There are 164 employees at Mabley Developmental Center. The exact nature and location of other State jobs that may be available to employees at Mabley will be determined by the collective bargaining agreement and the closure agreement that is negotiated between the State and the American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees Union in the upcoming days. Other unions that will be impacted are the Illinois Nurses Association, Teamsters and Trade Unions.

Until the closure agreement is negotiated, we will not know the impact on the employees at Mabley.

While the remaining six (6) SODCs<sup>1</sup> will accommodate the needs of roughly twelve (12) individuals who will transition from Mabley, the vast majority of individuals residing at Mabley (approximately eighty (80)) will transition to community-based settings.

**3. The location or locations to which the functions and employees of the State facility would be moved:**

Mabley Developmental Center provides twenty-four (24) -hour residential services and day activities to the ninety-one (91) individuals with developmental disabilities who reside there. All of the individuals residing at Mabley will be offered alternative 24-hour residential services and day activities within Illinois' developmental disabilities system.

Until we can meet with each individual and his or her guardian, if applicable, to discuss transition plans, we cannot provide specific locations of the new services. We estimate that approximately eighty (80) of the ninety-one (91) individuals who reside at Mabley will move to licensed or certified community-based services and the remainder will transition to other SODCs.

See Response to No. 2 above for information regarding the employees at Mabley.

**4. The availability and condition of land and facilities at both the existing location and any potential locations:**

Mabley Developmental Center consists of fifteen (15) buildings. Keller, Thurber, Edison, Springbrook, Stonebridge, Browning and Johnson are all living units for individuals with developmental disabilities. The remaining buildings consist of:

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<sup>1</sup> Simultaneously herewith, DHS is notifying CGFA of its intention to close a second Developmental Center: Jacksonville Developmental Center in Jacksonville, Illinois.

- Pierson Building (used for administration)
- Two (2) storage buildings
- Two (2) greenhouses
- Dietary/stores building
- Recycling building
- Outdoor pavilion

As part of the closure plan, the Division of Developmental Disabilities would vacate all of the buildings on the grounds of the Center and deem them excess.

**5. The ability to accommodate the functions and employees at the existing and at any potential locations:**

As previously stated, the vast majority of the residents at Mabley (approximately eighty (80)) will transition to community-based settings. As such, it will be necessary to develop capacity in the community to serve these individuals through licensed or certified community-based services. DHS is concerned about sufficient and appropriate community capacity in the State's system and the need to increase such capacity.

As stated above, the exact nature and location of other State jobs that may be available to employees who work at Mabley will be determined by the collective bargaining agreement and the closure agreement that is negotiated between the State and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Union in the upcoming days. Other unions that will be impacted are the Illinois Nurses Association, Teamsters and Trade Unions.

**6. The cost of operations of the State facility and at any potential locations and any other related budgetary impacts:**

Based on actual FY11 spending, the annual cost of operating Mabley is approximately \$10.7 million. Given the cost of closing this Center and the cost associated with moving individuals to the community, a deficit of \$34.4 million will remain in the FY12 budget. Therefore, DHS will have to address this deficit with corresponding cuts of \$34.4 million throughout the rest of DHS' budget.

Under the proposal to close Mabley, DHS will provide funding to serve persons in community-based settings. Rates will be established for community providers using the CILA rate methodology for individuals requiring 24-hour residential services and day activities.

**7. The economic impact on existing communities in the vicinity of the State facility and any potential facilities:**

A report commissioned from and prepared by the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana has been provided to you.

**8. The ability of the existing and any potential community's infrastructure to support the functions and employees:**

As previously stated, DHS and its Division of Developmental Disabilities will have to undertake the process of developing capacity within the community system to serve approximately eighty (80) individuals from Mabley Developmental Center in licensed or certified community-based services. Throughout Illinois' developmental disabilities service system, the Division of Developmental Disabilities currently serves approximately 19,000

individuals in Medicaid Waiver programs, of which approximately 8,000 reside in 24-hour residential settings, 6,400 in privately-operated Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (ICFs/DD) and 2,040 in the eight (8) SODCs.

It must be noted that the Consent Decree recently entered in *Ligas v. Hamos* requires the State to identify community placements for the plaintiff class, thus placing further strain on the community capacity for those transitioning from Mabley.

**9. The impact on State services delivered at the existing locations, in direct relation to the State services expected to be delivered at any potential locations:**

All of the individuals residing at Mabley will be offered alternative 24-hour residential services and day activities within Illinois' developmental disabilities system. Individuals will not lose needed services. Transition plans will ensure needed services are continued in accordance with the wishes of the individuals and their guardians.

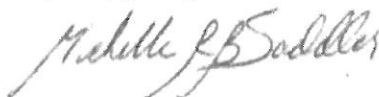
During the closure process, we will do everything possible to effectively meet the needs of the individuals served. Characteristics of populations served at Mabley are being considered in planning for alternative services including, but not limited to, the following: (1) the average age of persons served; (2) the peer group of persons served; (3) the functioning level of persons served; and (4) the medical, program, behavioral and psychiatric support needs of persons served.

**10. The environmental impact, including the impact related to potential environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance activities:**

Environmental issues for this location are limited because the Center does not have a power plant, water filtration system or underground storage tanks. The only questionable environmental issue is the possibility of asbestos-containing material in floor tiles located in the homes. In order to determine the specific location(s) of asbestos-containing material, the Center's asbestos management plans must be referenced.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Very truly yours,



Michelle R.B. Saddler  
Secretary

Very truly yours,



Kevin Casey  
Director, Division of Developmental Disabilities