

Minnesota Department of Human Service's Legislative Report "Options for Managing the Growth and Cost of the Minnesota Sex Offender Program," 2011

Summary of Recommendations:

Treatment of Sexual Offenders:

Strengthen Community-Based Treatment Resources

- Create additional community-based residential and day treatment resources.
- Create statewide standards for all community-based treatment.
- Develop mechanisms and systems to improve coordination and continuity between treatment providers.

Review the Relationship between Treatment Processes and Civil Commitment

- Conduct a study of civil commitment decisions related to individuals who have successfully participated in prison- or community-based treatment.
- Conduct a study of treatment related disclosures.

Civil Commitment Process:

- Reexamine and revise current DOC policies that relate to the civil commitment referral process.
- Establish a panel of judges to hear all civil commitment petitions for sexual offenders.
- Explore the possibility of creating an alternative commitment status (stay of commitment).
- Establish stronger community network of treatment, resources and accountability for sexual offenders.
- Establish an alternative track for lower functioning MSOP clientele.

Perpetration Prevention of Sexual Abuse:

- Allocate funding specifically to sexual violence prevention efforts and research as future cost-savings for the State of Minnesota.
- Support children to never grow into people who would sexually abuse.
- Identify, assess and provide resources for children who have experienced trauma including victims of sex crimes and those who demonstrate sexual behavior problems.
- Increase and strengthen community resources available for juveniles and adults who have committed acts of sexual abuse, exploitation or violence.

Bed Space Options:

- *Short-Term:* Work with MSH to move clients out of the Shantz building on the St. Peter Campus. This will increase the capacity of MSOP by 55 additional beds, which will accommodate MSOP's bed space for one more year.
- *Long-Term:* Add a 400 bed living unit within the original design of the MSOP Moose Lake facility. The MSOP Moose Lake facility expansion also allows for building of only 200 beds, or 100 beds.