

Blue Ridge Juvenile Detention:

Promoting Public Safety Through Structured Rehabilitation
& Community Reintegration

1

Mission Statement:

It is the mission of Blue Ridge Juvenile Detention to provide residents with a safe, clean, secure environment through a structured program. This includes assessment of residents needs through the integration of Academic, Mental Health, Medical, Programs and Security practices. In meeting its mission objectives, Blue Ridge Juvenile Detention will encourage and foster interagency collaboration in support of transitioning residents to the community.



2

Facility overview:

- ▶ Opened in July of 2002
- ▶ 40-Bed Capacity
- ▶ Commission-governed by:
 - ▶ Albemarle
 - ▶ Charlottesville
 - ▶ Culpeper
 - ▶ Fluvanna
 - ▶ Greene

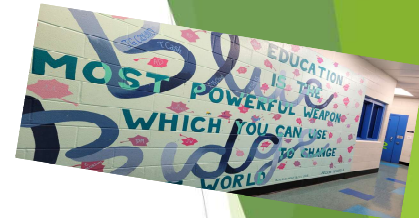


3

EDUCATION

▶ Key Highlights of Our Education Program

- ▶ **Extended Instruction Time:**
Students receive **6 hours of instruction daily** - exceeding the 5.5-hour legal requirement.
- ▶ **Year-Round Education:**
Students attend school for **11 months instead of 10**, helping to close educational gaps more quickly.
- ▶ **High Graduation Rate:**
Particularly strong outcomes for **CPP residents**; students can earn any diploma approved by the state of Virginia.
- ▶ **Comparable Education:**
Curriculum aligns with the **Code of Virginia** and offers a **comparable experience** to students' home schools.
- ▶ **Career and Technical Certifications:**
In addition to diplomas, students earn **industry-recognized certifications**.



4



EDUCATION

- ▶ **Supportive Learning Environment:**
Many students thrive here due to **small class sizes** and **individualized attention**, especially those who struggled in traditional settings.
- ▶ **Post-Graduate Programming:**
Post-grads are still required to attend school and may **take college classes**, **earn certifications**, or engage in **vocational training**.
- ▶ **Literacy Challenges Addressed:**
Over **90% of students** read **two to three grade levels below** their current grade level; instruction is tailored to meet their needs.
- ▶ **Minimal Use of Online Learning:**
We prioritize **in-person instruction** due to students' learning needs and **security concerns** related to internet access.
- ▶ **Comprehensive Testing Services:**
We provide **SOL, GED, WorkKeys, and Special Education testing**, along with all assessments required by the **Virginia Department of Education**.
- ▶ **New Transition Specialist (2025):**
This year, we've added a **Transition Specialist** to support students as they prepare to **re-enter** school, work, or community life.

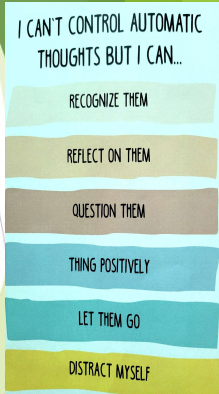
5



Mental Health Services

BRJD provides comprehensive mental health services through a dedicated team of professionals:

- ▶ **Full-Time BRJD Clinician:**
 - ▶ Serves as the primary therapist for the Community Placement Program (CPP).
 - ▶ Conducts assessments for residents experiencing crises.
 - ▶ Leads the BRJD Garden Program
- ▶ **Region Ten Mental Health Case Manager/Clinician:**
 - ▶ Permanently stationed at BRJD to provide consistent mental health support.
 - ▶ Acts as the primary therapist for the Post-Dispositional (Post-D) Program.
 - ▶ Offers case management and mental health services to Pre-Disposition residents as needed.
 - ▶ Conducts initial mental health screenings for new intakes.
 - ▶ Facilitates the intake process with Region Ten for residents requiring post-release mental health services.
- ▶ **Additional Support:**
 - ▶ A psychiatrist visits the facility weekly to provide medication management services



6

Medical Services

► On-site Nursing Support

- The facility employs a **full-time licensed practical nurse (LPN)**.
- All new residents receive a **medical intake and physical examination** upon arrival.
- The LPN addresses **minor medical needs on-site** as required.

► Specialty Medical Care

- Cases that require **specialist attention**—such as dental work, physical therapy, or other medically necessary services—are managed via **transport to external specialist facilities**.

► Advanced Clinical Oversight

- A **part-time family nurse practitioner (FNP)** is contracted to:
- Conduct **comprehensive physical assessments**,
- Address **medical issues beyond the scope of the LPN's practice**.

► Staff Training & Certification

- All direct care staff are **certified in CPR and First Aid**.
- A **majority** are also **certified to administer medications**.



7

Post-Dispositional Programs (Post-D)

► Program Purpose

- A local, structured alternative to juvenile commitment, designed for youth referred from participating localities.
- Two options based on commitment eligibility:
 - **90-Day Program** for youth **not eligible for commitment**, who require interim behavioral stabilization while other supports are arranged.
 - **180-Day Program** for **14-17-year-olds** who are **commitment eligible**
 - **Program Components** are tailored based on need and may include the following:



► Conflict Resolution	► Anger Control
► Criminal and Addictive Thinking	► Victim Empathy
► Problem Solving	► Character Education
► Life Skills	► Gang Prevention



► Therapeutic Support:

- Individual and/or family counseling services.
- Group psycho-educational sessions led by facility staff and external community providers.

8

Community Placement Program (CPP)

Program Purpose

- A structured, residential alternative for youth committed (DJJ).

Designed for:

- Males aged 16-20
- May be from BRJD locality or any other locality in Virginia.

Focus Areas:

• Social Learning and Change	• Employment Readiness
• Self-Control	• Decision Making
• Substance Abuse Education	• Anger Control
• Decision Making	• Life Skills

Fosters positive peer culture through a **cognitive and social learning community model**, emphasizing peer support as the primary agent of behavioral change and includes:

- *Individual Counseling * Group Counseling *Dialectical Behavior Therapy



9

Central Admissions and Placement (CAP)

► Purpose & Process

- Conducts the **diagnostic intake and placement coordination** for youth in DJJ custody.
- Oversees a **3-week comprehensive evaluation** covering:
 - Medical
 - Behavioral
 - Educational/vocational
 - Psychological
 - Sociological needs

► Interdisciplinary Team Review

- Post-evaluation, an interdisciplinary committee convenes to determine:
 - Appropriate **placement recommendation** (e.g., referral to Community Placement Program)
 - **Length of stay** (determined by DJJ Matrix)
 - **Treatment requirements**
 - **Release and parole planning**
- BRJD provides case management services to CAP youth while they remain at BRJD

10

Community Partners Supporting Youth at BRJD

- BRJD maintains an active volunteer roster community members offer educational, therapeutic, and career-focused programs.

2025 Summer Programming

- Healthy Relationships & Reproductive Health - *Planned Parenthood*
- Job Skills & Work Readiness - *UVA Pipelines & Pathways Program*
- Entrepreneurship Series - *Home to Hope & Central Virginia Small Business Development Center*
- Transformative Futures (A collaborative Program designed to promote community involvement and self-advocacy) - *Legal Aid Justice Center's Youth Justice Program, The Uhuru Foundation, Nolef Turns, Not Me - I Believe*
- Guest Speaker Series (Features Local Leaders mentoring and inspiring youth - *The Second Chancer Foundation*

11



BRJD Family & Community Day

- BRJD and The Second Chancer Foundation hosted a Family & Community Day on July 30th
- The event brought together Residents, their families, BRJD staff, and community partners.
- Attendees enjoyed a day filled with food, games, music, and positive engagement.
- The event fostered community connections and encouraged support for youth development.
- It also provided opportunities for networking and reinforcing pro-social relationships.



12

Guiding the Future: Community Engagement

Below is a sample of community members who empower youth at BRJD

- ▶ Katrina Callsen, *Delegate for the 54th District*
- ▶ Zyahna Bryant, *Activist*
- ▶ Jetson Leder-Luis, *Professor at Boston University's Questrom School of Business*
- ▶ Fallon Speaker, *Legal Director, Legal Aid Justice*
- ▶ Syleethia Carr, *Not Me - I Believe*
- ▶ Robert Gray, *The UHURU Foundation*
- ▶ Sheba Williams, *Nolef Turns*
- ▶ Natalie Burgwin and Larry Scott, *Habitat for Humanity*
- ▶ Martize Tolbert, *The Fountain Fund*
- ▶ Sincere Allah, *The Reform Alliance*
- ▶ Quinton Harrell, *Minority Business Alliance*
- ▶ Jesse Crosson, *Second Chancer Foundation*
- ▶ Antwon Brinson, *Culinary Concepts AB*
- ▶ Whitmore Merrick, *Home for Hope and local Entrepreneur*
- ▶ Ariel Vaughan, *Central Virginia Small Business Development Center*

13

Demographics & Numbers

Opened: July 15, 2002

Demographics:

- **Service Area** – City of Charlottesville and the Counties of Albemarle, Culpeper, Fluvanna, and Greene. Additional localities by request.
- **Capacity** – 40
- **Gender** – Male and Female
- **Age Range** – 10 through 17 for pre and post dispositional residents; up to age 20 for Department of Juvenile Justice residents.
- **Average Length of Stay**

FY19 – 18 days	• Admissions
FY20 – 26 days	FY19 = 118* (25)
FY21 – 42 days	FY20 = 116* (31)
FY22 – 39 days	FY21 = 91* (25)
FY23 – 42 days	FY22 = 94* (33)
FY24 – 32 days	FY23 = 117* (37)
	FY24 = 112* (31)
	FY25 = 89* (18)

*(does not incl. DJJ admissions)

14

14

