



TEXAS
JUVENILE JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT

TJJD to Postpone Volunteer-led Activities as Part of Coronavirus Preparation

March 13, 2020

AUSTIN—The Texas Juvenile Justice Department announced today that it was postponing most volunteer-led activities at its facilities as the agency continues to take steps to mitigate the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

The volunteer events that will be affected include dorm parties, Epiphany retreats, and educational enrichment programs. Pastors and chaplains will still be allowed to perform religious services, but we ask that supporting individuals such as band members or prayer groups not attend.

Our goal is to protect our youth, staff, volunteers, and communities. We truly value the contributions our volunteers make and the importance of the connection and work that they do. To compensate for this change, we are working to add additional digital resources to allow our mentors to connect with youth through Skype and Facetime.

TJJD continues to work closely with the Texas Department of State Health Services, the Office of the Governor, and the Texas Department of Emergency Management to monitor the situation, and we look forward to the time when we can invite volunteers back to our campuses to continue their work with our youth.

For additional information, contact Brian Sweany at brian.sweany@tjjd.texas.gov or 512-490-7028.