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## FISCAL TOPICS

Fiscal Services Division

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# Glenwood Resource Center Overview

## Summary

The Glenwood Resource Center (GRC) is currently one of two State Resource Centers that provide a full range of active treatment and habilitation services to individuals with severe intellectual disabilities. The GRC serves to support individuals to live safe and successful lives in the home and community of their choice. In addition, the GRC provides outreach services to support individuals with intellectual disabilities in the community. On April 7, 2022, the Governor [announced](#) that the State intends to close the GRC in 2024. Current residents will be transitioned to community placements or the Woodward Resource Center (WRC).

## Background

In 1876, the GRC began as the Iowa Asylum for Feeble-minded Children before becoming the Glenwood State Hospital and, finally, the GRC in 2000. The GRC maintains 97 buildings and 231.48 acres of property. As of September 2021, the GRC provides active treatment and support services for 165 Iowans with severe intellectual disabilities, with approximately 39.0% of GRC individuals earning wages through employment. The GRC actively supports individuals to move into appropriate community-based living and to be contributing members of their communities. The GRC also provides daily home- and community-based supported community living services to individuals at five locations in Glenwood. The Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is responsible for administering the GRC.

The majority of the GRC budget is funded through the Medicaid program. The annual budget is approximately \$78.4 million as of FY 2022, with approximately 50.0% of annual funding for the GRC coming from the federal government. [House File 2578](#) (FY 2023 Health and Human Services Appropriations Act) appropriated \$16.3 million to the DHHS exclusively for the GRC and authorized 657.5 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions for use at the GRC. The DHHS also receives flexible State appropriations for its facilities and is able to flexibly use up to \$4.2 million in FY 2023 for the GRC and other State facilities. Also, in FY 2023, \$11.0 million may be transferred from the Adoption Subsidy appropriation in HF 2578 to use for facility operations, including at the GRC. The DHHS is using, through appropriations, State funding to keep the GRC staffed at a high level during the transition to the WRC.

The GRC must comply with the Conner Consent Decree that is the result of a court challenge of Iowa's institutionally based model of services for persons with developmental disabilities. The decree requires the State to provide individualized treatment plans to class members, provide training and employment opportunities, notify individuals if they are eligible to receive community-based services, and develop a five-year plan for creating community support and services.

Beginning in 2019, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) began an investigation into the GRC, with results [announced](#) on December 22, 2020, that included a lack of supervision during experimentation, inadequate physical and behavioral health care, and inadequate protection from harm. With a deficient workforce in southwest Iowa and with the State unable to adequately address federal requirements, the State made the decision in 2022 to close the GRC and transition existing patients to the WRC and home-

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## More Information

Iowa Department of Health and Human Services: [dhs.iowa.gov](https://dhs.iowa.gov)

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and community-based living situations by the end of 2024.

**Related Statutes and Administrative Rules**

Iowa Code chapters [135C](#) and [222](#)

Iowa Administrative Code [441—28](#), [441—30](#), [481—50](#), [481—52](#), and [481—64](#)

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