

Angela Hubbard

From: Isabelle Spohn <isabelle.spohn@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2016 12:25 PM
To: Perry Huston
Subject: Juvenile Detention/Martin Hall

To: Mr. Huston and Okanogan Board of County Commissioners:

Re: Possible transfer of Juvenile Offenders out of Okanogan County

I agree with all of the points made in letters posted on your website to date (2/22/16, 12:00 PM), which state the very convincing reasons it is best for our juvenile offenders to remain in Okanogan due to proximity of families, rehabilitation services we have here, and compelling legal responsibilities of the County.

I am writing from the standpoint of a public teacher with 31+ years of experience. In any issue for this age group, the support of families is the key to success - whether in academic, mental, emotional, or behavioral issues. It will simply not be possible to engage families effectively with their children for counseling and other rehabilitation if they are located in Medical Lake, Wenatchee, or even Chelan.

In Okanogan County, we have serious issues regarding poverty. Poverty is one key issue connected with criminal activities of young people. Parents in poverty, including the working poor, cannot afford to travel such distances in support of their children.

Your responsibility is to these children, the families, and the taxpayers who will bear the burden of incarceration of these children in years to come if effective rehabilitation does not occur early and effectively.

Do whatever you need to do financially to do to be sure these responsibilities are met - here in Okanogan County.

Sincerely yours,
Isabelle Spohn
Twisp