

Indiana Department of Correction, Division of Youth Services
2015 Juvenile Detention Inspection - Compliance Report



Muskegon River Youth Center, Inc.
8506 South Academy Way
Ladoga, IN 47954

Auditors

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Indiana Department of Correction
Division of Youth Services
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Facility: Muskegon River Youth Center, Inc.
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Inspection Date: April 29, 2015

Subsequent Visit Date: August 10, 2015, September 2, 2015, and November 13, 2015

Technical Assistance Date: September 16, 2015

Auditors: Chance Sweat
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INTRODUCTION

Due to new Indiana Juvenile Detention Standards being promulgated with the intent to implement in 2016, the Facility Inspection will consist of a review of only the 26 mandatory compliance standards. Compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards is required to attain “Full Compliance” in accordance with the aforementioned code. The Indiana Department of Correction, Division of Youth Services provided five (5) Training Sessions and technical assistance to assist facilities coming into compliance with the new standards.

Therefore, the 2nd annual evaluation of the Muskegon River Youth Center, Inc. had three components: inspection for compliance with the 26 mandatory standards located in 210 IAC 6; participation in trainings on the new detention center standards to take effect in 2016; and participation in technical assistance offerings for compliance with the new detention center standards.

FACILITY INFORMATION

Facility county	Montgomery
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Governing authority	Youth Opportunity Investments, LLC
Name of facility administrator	Ashley Taflinger
Detention facility's mission	To provide intervention services to at-risk youth by using a behavior modification approach and evidence based practices with an emphasis on education.
Rated capacity	86
Population on date of audit	21
Average daily population for the last 12 months	18
Average length of stay for the last 12 months	16 days
Year the building was built	1986
Minor upgrades since last audit (i.e. painting, flooring, bedding, furnishings)	Male shower floor stripped; security gate added to intake glass doors; paintings, motivational quotes and words painted by youth throughout the facility
Major upgrades since last audit (i.e. plumbing, electrical, security system)	None
De-escalation techniques training	Safe Crisis Management (SCM); Motivational Interviewing (MI)
Physical force techniques training	Safe Crisis Management (SCM)
Chemical agents permitted	No
Name of food service provider	Sysco
Name of food service supervisor	Julie Anderson
Name of health care authority individual or agency and license/certification	Dr. Kneiser, PhD
Name of mental health care authority individual or agency and license/certification	Kristi Fierce, LMHC

INSPECTION FOR COMPLIANCE WITH 26 MANDATORY STANDARDS

Auditors	Chance Sweat and Laurie Elliott
File Review of the 26 mandatory standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero (0) standards were identified as non-applicable, and zero (0) mandatory standards were found to be non-compliant. • Muskegon River Youth Center, Inc. was in compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards.
Facility Tour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Center offers a safe and secure environment for juvenile detainees. • All areas of the detention center, including the youth dorm areas, were clean and orderly. Sanitation in the facility was found to be satisfactory in all living areas.
Youth Interviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four youth, two female and two male, all with three or more previous detention stays, were interviewed about their experiences at the Center. • All youth reported, without hesitation, feeling safe at the facility. • Youth stated living areas were extremely cold and uncomfortable. • One youth stated the Center needed better programs and more

	<p>opportunities for youth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auditors shared the youth comments with administrators.
Recommendations	None

SUBSEQUENT ANNOUNCED AND/OR UNANNOUNCED VISIT(S)

On 8/10/2015, a subsequent visit was conducted of the Muskegon River Youth Center, Inc. was conducted by Chance Sweat. The facility tour was conducted by Director Taflinger and Program Director Lieh Miels-Cooper. Youth were observed in the dayroom and recreation areas for leisure time. The facility’s population count was 20. The education department was not in session due to summer break. All areas of the facility appeared to be well-maintained, and sanitation was found to be satisfactory. The isolation area was not fully operational due to on-going renovations and painting by maintenance staff.

On 9/02/2015, a second subsequent visit was conducted of the Muskegon River Youth Center, Inc. by Chance Sweat. Director Taflinger advised she has started working on the new detention standards requirements. The facility tour was conducted by Ms. Taflinger. Youth were observed participating in education classes under direct supervision of staff. The facility’s population count was 14. All youth appeared to be in good health. All areas of the facility appeared to be well-maintained, and sanitation was found to be satisfactory. The food service inventory records were accurate, up-to-date, and very organized. The food preparation area was uncomfortably hot with a temperature of 87 degrees; the Montgomery County Health Department still had not returned to the facility for a follow-up visit to address its inspection report note under corrective action for the air conditioning to be fixed by 7/24/2015. (The Health Department note’s severity level is non-critical.) I advised Ms. Taflinger to contact the Montgomery County Health Department and request an inspection follow up.

On 11/13/2015, a third subsequent visit was conducted of the Muskegon River Youth Center, Inc. by Chance Sweat. The facility tour was conducted by Ms. Taflinger, and the youth were observed participating in education classes under the direct supervision of staff. All youth appeared to be in good health. All areas appeared to be well maintained, and sanitation levels in the facility were found to be satisfactory. The food service inventory records were accurate, up-to-date, and very organized. The food preparation area was comfortable with a temperature of 72 degrees.

PARTICIPATION IN NEW DETENTION CENTER STANDARDS TRAINING

<p><u>Introduction to the new standards</u> <u>Preparing for an Inspection</u> <u>Administration and Management Standards</u> January 13th and 14th, 2015</p>	<p>Ashley Taflinger, Facility Director Leah Miels, Program Director</p>
<p><u>Safety Standards</u> <u>Security Standards</u> March 10, 2015</p>	<p>Ashley Taflinger, Facility Director Leah Miels, Program Director</p>
<p><u>Programs and Services Standards</u> <u>Education Standards</u></p>	<p>Leah Miels, Program Director</p>

June 2, 2015	
<u>Medical Standards</u> <u>Mental Health Care Standards</u>	Ashley Taflinger, Facility Director Leah Miels, Program Director
July 21, 2015	
<u>Food Service and Hygiene Standards</u> <u>Justice and Order Standards</u>	No staff participation
September 29, 2015	

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Muskegon River Youth Center, Inc.'s technical assistance visit occurred on September 16, 2015 and was conducted by Chance Sweat and Michelle Mosier. The facility was asked to prepare 10 standard files for review. The technical assistance provided included reviewing the 13 files presented and addressing the facility's plan to meet the education, medical, and mental health standards. Future technical assistance will be offered in 2016, or as requested by the facility.

CONCLUSION

Muskegon River Youth Center, Inc. is in full compliance with the 2015 Indiana Detention Center Standards Audit performed by the Indiana Department of Correction, Division of Youth Services.

A certificate of compliance will accompany this report, which becomes public information ten (10) days from the date of mailing.

Please contact me at (317) 607-6507 should you have any questions concerning this report.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Sweat

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cc: Christine Blessinger, DYS Chief of Operations Director
 Kellie Whitcomb, Director of Reentry & External Relations
 Ron Hunter, CEO, Youth Opportunity Investments, LLC
 Ashley Taflinger, Facility Director, Muskegon River Youth Center, Inc.
 Honorable Harry Siamas, Montgomery Circuit Court, pursuant to 210 IAC 8-1-5
 File