Indiana Department of Correction, Division of Youth Services

2017 Juvenile Detention Inspection - Compliance Report



Vanderburgh County Youth Care Center

727 Chestnut St.

Evansville, IN 47713

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Indiana Department of Correction

Division of Youth Services

302 W. Washington St. Rm. E334, Indianapolis, IN 46204

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2017 Juvenile Detention Inspection - Compliance Report

Facility: Vanderburgh County Youth Care Center

727 Chestnut St.

Evansville, IN 47713

Inspection Date(s): May 31, 2017

August 31, 2017

December 7, 2017

Auditors: Kellie Whitcomb

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**INTRODUCTION**

The 2017 annual juvenile detention facility evaluations conducted by the IDOC, Division of Youth Services consisted of on-site facility inspections; staff and youth interviews; and an audit of seventy-four (74) specifically selected, current Juvenile Detention Facility Standards.  The new Indiana Juvenile Detention Facility Standards are in the process of being adopted.  Detention Facilities had the option to be audited utilizing the selected seventy-four (74) current detention standards or utilizing the corresponding fifty-one (51) new juvenile detention facility standards.

Vanderburgh County Youth Care Center chose to be audited on the fifty-one (51) new juvenile detention facility standards in 2017, for their 20th annual detention inspection.  Of the fifty-one (51) standards audited, seventeen (17) standards are mandatory compliance and the remaining thirty-four (34) are recommended standards.  Compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards and 90% of the recommended standards is required to attain “Full Compliance”.

**STANDARDS REVIEWED**

The 2017 IDOC audit consisted of the review of fifty-one of the new standards within the following nine categories.

Safety 15 Mandatory & 3 Recommended

Topics: fire safety codes; preventing fire and toxic smoke; facility capacity; facility lighting; heating and cooling systems; flammable, toxic, and caustic materials; alternative power source; fire and emergency evacuations; safety, sanitation and health codes

Security 0 Mandatory & 8 Recommended

Topics: detention staff log; security inspections; daily count; transportation procedures; mechanical restraints; facility vehicles

Justice and Order 0 Mandatory & 9 Recommended

Topics: facility handbook; confidential contact; discrimination; grievance process; correspondence for juveniles; juvenile visits

Medical 7 Mandatory & 7 Recommended

Topics: health care authority; services provided pursuant to written orders; emergency services, daily health care requests; intake health screening; informed consent; health-related situation response time; first aid kits; management of pharmaceuticals; medical experiments prohibited

Mental Health 1 Mandatory & 0 Recommended

Topic: written suicide prevention program

Administration and Management 0 Mandatory & 7 Recommended

Topics: employee background check; development and training program; orientation training; new employee training; direct care staff; part-time staff, volunteers, and contract personnel

Food Service and Hygiene 4 Mandatory & 4 Recommended

Topics: dietitian review of menu; therapeutic diets; sanitation inspection; employee sanitation; issuance of bedding and linens; clothing issuance

Programming and Services 0 Mandatory & 6 Recommended

Topics: recreation schedule; indoor and outdoor recreation; minimum recreation and leisure schedule

Education 0 Mandatory & 3 Recommended

Topics: comprehensive education program; remedial reading services; compliance with child labor laws

**METHODOLOGY**

The 2017 IDOC audit consisted of three on-site visits for each detention center throughout the year.

First Site Visit (May 31, 2017)

Standard Categories Reviewed: Safety and Security

Description of visit: The first on-site visit consisted of a review of additional documentation and observations of the facility to verify the facility’s practice is ongoing and not limited to the information presented in the standard files. An evacuation drill was performed. The following interviews were conducted: facility administrator, control room officer, line staff, and juveniles.

Second Site Visit (August 31, 2017)

Standard Categories Reviewed: Justice and Order, Medical, and Mental Health

Description of the visit: The second on-site visit consisted of a review of additional documentation and observations of the facility to verify the facility’s practice is ongoing and not limited to the information presented in the standard files. The following interviews were conducted: facility administrator, line staff, mail room staff, intake officer, health care authority or representative, and juveniles.

Third Site Visit (December 7, 2017)

Standard Categories Reviewed: Administration and Management, Food Services and Hygiene, Programs and Services, and Education

Description of the visit: The third on-site visit consisted of a review of additional documentation and observations of the facility to verify the facility’s practice is ongoing and not limited to the information presented in the standard files. The following interviews were conducted: intake officer, education director or representative, recreation leader, food service manager, line staff, and juveniles.

**FACILITY INFORMATION**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Facility county** | Vanderburgh |
| **Governing authority** | Superior Court |
| **Name of facility administrator** | Marcus A. Head |
| **Rated capacity** | 40 |
| **Average daily population for the last 12 months** | 27 |
| **Average length of stay for the last 12 months** | 21.76 (boys) & 18.15 (girls) |
| **Notable building changes since the 2016 audit** | N/A |
| **Notable administrative or staffing changes since the 2016 audit** | N/A |
| **Other notable changes since the 2016 audit** | N/A |

**INSPECTION RESULTS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Mandatory** | **Recommended** |
| **Total Number of Standards** | 17 | 34 |
| **Number of Standards Not Applicable** | **0** | **0** |
| **Number of Standards in Non-Compliance** | **0** | **0** |
| **Number of Standards in Compliance** | **17** | **34** |
| **Total Percentage of Compliance** | **100%** | **100%** |

Was the facility required to implement a corrective action plan as a result of the audit? **No**

Recommendations: **See attachment**

**CONCLUSION**

Vanderburgh Youth Care Center County Juvenile Center is in full compliance with the 2017 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)914-7347 should you have any questions concerning this report.

Respectfully submitted,

**A Sutton**

Angela D. Sutton, MA

Director of Juvenile Detention Inspections

cc: Christine Blessinger, DYS, Executive Director of Youth Services

Kellie Whitcomb, Director of Reentry & External Relations

Honorable Brett Niemeier, Vanderburgh Superior Court, Family Relations Division

Marcus A. Head, Executive Director, Vanderburgh County Youth Care Center

File

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

**SAFETY:**

8-4-3 There needs to be better proof in the file of trash receptacles being at accessible

locations throughout the facility and that they are emptied daily

8-4-16 Replace lights on the girls unit to produce more foot candles of lighting at desk

Level

**JUSTICE & ORDER:**

8-6-6 Provide proof of practice whether staff assisted with any literacy issues or communication issues

8-6-23 Amend procedure to include equal access to programming and housing since that

is the proof of practice provided

8-6-27 Include a completed grievance form in the future

8-6-28 Amend procedure to address how juveniles and staff have access to the

correspondence guidelines. There is more detail in the resident handbook for

juveniles then there is the procedure for staff.

8-6-36 May want to address in procedure when visits are denied or terminated.

**MEDICAL:**

8-8-12 Include incident of staff providing on-site emergency first aid or a director's

statement that none was provided this audit period.

8-8-28 Provide a drill or incident report for 4 minute; staff training needs to specifically

state emergency response as topic

8-8-31 Amend procedures to address the HCA approves the training for staff