

Indiana Department of Correction
2014-Juvenile Detention Standards- Compliance Report

Youth Care Center
727 Chestnut Street
Evansville, IN 47713
December 10th – 11th, 2014

JUVENILE DETENTION STANDARDS AUDIT TEAM MEMBERS

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I. Introduction

The annual inspection of the Youth Care Center, for compliance with the Indiana Juvenile Detention Standards, pursuant to 210 IAC 6, was conducted on December 10th – 11th 2014, by the following team: representing the IDOC, Division of Youth Services was Chance Sweat, DYS, Director of Juvenile Detention Inspections; Kellie Whitcomb, DYS, Director of Re- Entry and External Relations; Amy Karozos, Staff Attorney, Youth Law T.E.A.M. of Indiana; Kristin Herrmann, Staff Attorney, Youth Law T.E.A.M. of Indiana; Ashley Barnett, JDAI Juvenile and Yul Lee, JDAI Juvenile Justice Strategist.

The 2014 inspection constitutes the 17th annual inspection of the Youth Care Center. The inspection consisted of facility tours, staff and youth interviews, and a review of policy, procedure, and demonstrated practices as related to the Indiana Juvenile Detention Standards. Compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards and at least 90% of the recommended standards is required to attain “Full Compliance” in accordance with the aforementioned code.

II. Facility Demographics

Rated Capacity: 40
Actual Population: 28
Average Daily Population for the last 12 months: 16.8 (boys) / 3.9 (girls)
Average Length of Stay: 25.83 days (boys) / 13.42 days (girls)
Full Time Staff: 23
Part- Time Staff: 12
Contracted Staff: N/A
Counties served: Vanderburgh
Data system: Excel

III. Facility Description

The Youth Care Center is located in the city of Evansville, Indiana. The Center opened in 1989 with add- on renovations in 2007. The Youth Care Center contains 40- beds, and is located on the same grounds as the Evansville Rescue Mission.

The Youth Care Center Facility Director- Marcus Head oversees the detention operations with the assistance of Facility Administrative Assistant- Angela Smith. Judge Brett Niemeier and Evansville Rescue Mission is the facility governing authority.

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The 2- story Center has a capacity of 40, with 32 beds available for male youth and 8 beds available for female youth. The center consists of a Main control station, administrative offices, classroom, kitchen, dining hall, library, and medical room. The center indoor gym area is located between the new building and the old building, secured by brick walls. The male and female youth share a separate day room areas with game tables, showers, and storage closets; under supervision of detention staff and with numerous surveillance cameras.

The center has 2 recreation areas. One is located outside the perimeter and the other location is an enclosed area located between the new and old sections of the building.

IV. Facility Tour

Team members toured the entire facility. Director Head and Mr. Ralph Payne; Day Shift Leader were more than willing to answer questions concerning facility operations. Sanitation levels in the facility were found to be above standard. The center staff interviewed were friendly and knowledgeable about policy and procedures.

V. Conditions of Confinement

A. Security

Youth Detention staff at the detention center are trained to use non- violent physical crisis intervention de-escalation techniques. The center does not use OC spray, and does not have a restraint chair or any other immobilization devices. The center does use the in room restriction for behavior violations, programming disruption, and / or out of control behavior. All isolation incidents are approved by Facility Director or designee and juveniles are monitored visually by unit staff.

The facility Direct Care Staff who are full time employees work 8 hours Monday through Friday. Part-time staff work Saturday and Sundays two 12 hour shifts.

B. Environmental Conditions

The detention center, opened in 1989 and offers a safe, secure, and Christian based environment. All areas of the detention center, including the youth dorm, were clean and organized. Sanitation in the facility was found to be above standard. The resident's furniture is functional and in good condition.

All staff uniforms consist of line staff wearing khaki style pants with polo shirts.

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The youth boy's uniforms consist of tan scrub style pants and shirts or green scrub style pants and shirts with shower shoes. The youth girls consist of navy blue pants and shirts with shower shoes. All youth at the detention center have access to black canvas shoes.

C. Food Service

The facility has a kitchen in which all meals are prepared by Evansville Rescue Mission -Youth Care Center staff. The kitchen staff was friendly and very informative about food service production. They were more than willing to provide documentation for review. The kitchen production area, freezers, refrigerators, and dry storage area was very clean and organized. The youth eat in the dayroom area while being supervised by detention staff. The day of the tour the youth received salad, diced ham or turkey, cookies, chips, and chocolate milk for lunch. The serving trays appearance was very clean and the food appearance looked good.

D. Medical Services

The Youth Care Center contracts medical services through a private physician, Dr. Richard Probert with the assistance of Registered Nurse, Penny Tanquary. Through the contract: the medical physician visits the center on a bi- weekly basis and is on-call 24 hours per day; nursing services are available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. All staff is trained in CPR/First Aid, AED and medication distribution.

The center contracts mental health care services through Psychologist Dr. Wilson who visits the center 3 days per week for a total of 10 hours.

E. Educational Program

The education program is overseen by Marcus Head, Facility Director. The education department is made up of one licensed educator provided for by Evansville School Corporation. The Youth resident's attend school daily 12 months a year, Monday thru Friday with 6 hours of instructional focus per day and participate in 2 hours of physical education per day monitored by detention staff. The education staff utilize wireless net books provided by Evansville School Corporation for on- line education programs

F. Visitation

The Center provides visitation area for youth and their parents or guardians at least once per week.

VI. Interviews

Three youth (2- males and 1- female) were interviewed by Kellie Whitcomb and Chance Sweat using combined questions from the DOC detention youth inspections document and the Youth Law T.E.A.M. suggested questions. Interview questions covered: Intake and Admissions; Social Services; Academic, Vocational, and Work; Library; Recreation; Living and Sleeping Areas; and Discipline and Rule Violations; Access to Counsel; Medical Care; and Food Service.

Staff gave us privacy and allowed access to all juveniles. The youth were open, not hesitant, and seemed to very comfortable about talking about the facility. Youth interviewed reported that they know the rules, felt safe and all were very positive about the staff. All youth were able to call a parent or guardian when they arrived at the center. All juveniles knew how to access medical, mental health care and attorney. The youth reported being served three meals a day (including two hot meals).

Note:

- All youth reported how supportive and positive the direct care staff to ensure the youth success.
- Youth were unsure of the doctor work hours.

VII. Special Affiliations

Youth Care Center does not participate with any state juvenile justice affiliations.

VIII. Inspection Findings

A. Review of Folders

- Facility has electronic files and easy to read.

B. Non- applicable and Non- compliant Standards

Of the 275 recommended compliance standards, four (4) were identified as non-applicable and zero (0) standards were found to be non-compliant. A list of these standards is attached to this Compliance Report.

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C. Conclusion

The Youth Care Center was founded to be in compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards and 100.00% of the recommended standards. The facility was well maintained and organized. The staff was very respectful, helpful and informative. The certificate of compliance will accompany this report, which becomes public information ten 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- Acting Executive Director of Juvenile Services
Kellie Whitcomb- Director of Reentry & External Relations
Honorable; Brett Niemeier Judge, Superior Court, Juvenile Division
Marcus Head – Facility Director, Youth Care Center
File

**Standards determined to be non- applicable and non- compliant from Total 301 Standards- 26
Mandatory and 275 Recommended:
Standard # and Remarks;**

4 -Non-Applicable:

- 1.5- Written policy, procedure, and practice provide that if services for adult and juvenile offenders are provided for by the same agency, statements of philosophy, policy, program, and procedure distinguish between criminal codes and the statutes that establish and give direction to programs for juveniles. (ACA-1A-07)
- 1.34- If there is a commissary or canteen, strict controls are maintained over its operation and regular accounting procedures are followed: (ACA-1B-18)
- 2.102- Handicapped juveniles are housed in a manner that provides for their safety and security. Rooms or housing units used by the handicapped are designed for their use and provide for integration with the general population. Appropriate facility programs and activities are accessible to handicapped juveniles confined in the facility. (ACA-2C-09)
- 2.103- When there is a security room separate from the living unit, it is equipped with plumbing and security furniture. (ACA-2C-10)