

JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT

Please respond to the sections that apply to the facility you are inspecting

Facility Name: Sonoma County Juvenile Hall **Inspection Date:** 1/19/2017
Facility Capacity: 140 **Last Inspection:** 1/28/2016
Address: 7425 Rancho Los Guilicos Rd **Telephone Number:** 707-565-6210
Santa Rosa, CA 95409 **FAX Number:** 707-565-6389
Superintendent: Marty Mitchell **Staff Interviewed:** See page 4

Type of Facility: Juvenile Hall Camp Co-Ed?

Presiding Juvenile Court Judge: Hon. Judge Ken Gness

Commission Chair: Dennis Ruggiero

Telephone No. _____

Signature

Commission Inspection Team: Dennis Ruggiero
Eve Goldberg

Jody Edwards
Robert Faux

Major Concerns and Recommendations:

The previous year's recommendation for improved mental health treatment has been funded. There has been difficulty filling the position. It is recommended that the position be filled soon.
One improvement to expedite services for youth would be to switch to digital record keeping instead of the current paper file method. This would allow for better communication and access to information with labs and outside providers.
The inspection team was impressed by the resources, dedication and concern for the well-being of the residents.

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AREA REVIEWED: Please Check

QUALITY OF LIFE

- Physical Plant
- Meals/Nutrition
- Mental Health
- Physical/Dental Health
- Religious Services
- Volunter Involvement
- Visiting

- Other

PROGRAMS

- Education
- Vocation/Employability
- Community Service
- Victim/Gang Awareness
- Substance Abuse
- Other

PERSONS INTERVIEWED

- Minors
- Superintendent
- Medical/Psyche. Staff
- School Staff
- Supervisor
- Child Supervision Staff
(Counselors)
- Food Services Staff
- Other

GENERAL INFORMATION

Has the facility exceeded capacity since the last inspection?

No. During the year 2016 the population ranged from 44 to 64 residents.

Does the facility house minors under Section 601 of the Welfare & Institutions Code?

Yes No

If "yes", are 601's separated from 602's?

Date of Last Fire Drill: 12/15/2016

SINCE THE LAST INSPECTION INDICATE:

Number of Suicides: 0

Number of Attempted Suicides: 0

Number of Deaths From Other Causes: 0

Number of Escapes: 0

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LOCAL INSPECTIONS

Fire: No Yes **Date:** 9/15/2016
(Health & Safety Code Section 13146.1)

***Medical/Mental Health:** No Yes **Date:** 11/29/2016

***Environmental Health:** No Yes **Date:** 9/27/2016

***Nutritional Health:** No Yes **Date:** 10/21/2016
(Health & Safety Code Section 101045)

Facility Safety and Security:

STAFFING

Staff To Child Ratio - Awake and Sleeping:

1:10 during waking hours. 1:30 during sleeping. Often the ratio is lower.

Communication In Language Minor Can Understand?

Yes. Occasionally, there are a few residents who speak only Spanish. Spanish speaking staff is available at all times.

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STAFFING (Continued)

Diversity of Staff:

There are at least 16 bilingual staff in the budget. Major ethnic groups are well represented.

Staff/Minor Interactions:

Staff is extensively trained to monitor, observe, protect and support all residents. A progressive behavior management system creating positive expectations and results is fostered. Open communication to create positive change the lives of youth is visible.

Staff Interviews - Comments:

The interview team met for a 60 minute question and answer session prior to inspection with: Vanessa Fuchs - Deputy Chief for the Juvenile Hall, Probation Camp and Probation; Marti Mitchell - Juvenile Hall Director; Kristen Vela - Health Program Manager; Cliff Schleuter - Administrator of Alternative Education and Ron Peterson - Program Supervisor . In addition, two line staff and four residents were also interviewed during the inspection period.

CONDITIONS OF GROUNDS

Lawns, Playing Fields, Blacktop, Asphalt, Other:

The facility was built in 2005 and has more than adequate outdoor playing fields for recreation in good condition. There are two large rec yards; three covered basketball courts with non-skid ground surface. Large field for soccer, kickball, volleyball, kickball, etc. All areas maintained well. A large vegetable garden has been expanded from 4 to 15 raised beds and a drip irrigation system has been added. Youth participated in the garden expansion. The vegetables grown in this garden are used in the kitchen. Each unit also has its own small rec area/basketball court.

EXTERIOR OF BUILDING

General Condition, Paint, Roof, Drains/Gutters, Other:

The facility is in good condition. It is clean and well maintained by a contract agency. Areas around the outside of the building could use painting. There is some weather damage.

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INTERIOR OF BUILDING

Walls, Paint, Floors, Drains, Plumbing Fixtures Working, Air Vents, Windows:

The Facility is 11 years old and is in good condition. Rooms have some damage to cement beds by carvings from kids tagging cement structure. The seven housing units have a great deal of natural light through windows and skylights. The floors are clean. Paint on walls is in good condition. There is one minor scuffing of paint on a few walls and doors.

Are cleaning fluids and chemicals labeled and safely stored?

Yes. All cleaning fluids and chemicals are locked up and properly labeled.

Weapons Locker Location:

There is a weapons locker in the vehicle sally port as well as outside the main facility. There is also a locked room/armory for restraints and chemical agents.

Recreation/Sports Equipment:

Equipment is available and in good condition. Adjacent to each unit is a small covered outdoor recreation yard. There are three large covered outdoor gymnasium-sized courts available in all weather conditions and a large outdoor recreation field. All appear well maintained.

Are the hallways clear and doors propped open?

Hallways are clear and doors are locked at all times. They are electronically monitored and controlled. Cameras provide visual access to all areas.

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INTERIOR OF BUILDING (Continued)

Court Holding Area - (If present) Access to drinking water and toilet?

Yes. There is a court waiting and visiting area. This is where the youth wait to attend court and it is the same area the youth have visitors. There are water fountains and a television. There are board games to check out during visiting hours. There are four or five small holding cells used for only a couple minutes when the youth are about to go to court or have just come from court. The bailiff picks them up on the other side and takes them to court or vice versa. There are small rooms with doors where a youth may speak privately with his or her attorney or probation officer and there are two way mirrors.

Sleeping Rooms/Dormitories:

Areas are clean. Floors are clear of debris. Each cell/room includes a concrete bed (two in the double rooms), and a metal sink/toilet combo unit.

BEDS - Type? 12" off the floor:

Cement platform beds are about two feet off the floor with mattress and pillow. There are "cubby holes" built into the concrete base of bed used for storage of personal items. There have been complaints about the mattresses. The administration has budgeted and investigating purchasing replacements.

Art, books, personal possessions allowed in sleeping rooms?

Yes. There are cubicles in the platform beds for personal items. Three posters or pieces of art allowed in each room.

Graffiti Present?

Yes. Some and staff deal with it appropriately when noticed.

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INTERIOR OF BUILDING (Continued)

Ample Blankets?

Yes. Extra blankets are available upon request.

Study Area:

Clean classrooms with individual desks in each unit. Youth may study in their unit classroom.

Adequate Lighting:

Yes. There are large windows and skylights.

Temperature:

Temperature is comfortable in all rooms.

ORIENTATION OF MINORS

Are minors oriented to rules and procedures?

Yes. There is an orientation during the first week that includes a handout about the rules, policies, grievance procedures, and the point system that translates into levels with corresponding increased privileges. Unit staff meet with each minor for the first five days to go over and explain the handouts. Minors sign that they have received and understand this information. Information about their rights, a weekly activities schedule, and other information about Juvenile Hall is posted in the units. Each minor has a complete physical with the first 72 hours.

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ORIENTATION OF MINORS (Continued)

Are rules and grievance procedures posted?

Yes. They are posted in each unit.

Are rules and grievance procedures understood by minors?

Yes. JJC liaison reviews greivances monthly.

Minors Interviewed - Comments:

Orientation is different in different units. The food is good compared to others. It is appetizing, some days are better than others. I get enough food. Yes and what issues I have about safety are not related to staff. I just feel cautious, aware and ready as there are rival gangs here. Yes, I have enough blankets. The mattresses are thin but that is how it is. (Appropriate use of force) Yes, it depends on the fight, I was handcuffed and pepper sprayed. It is fair what the staff did, it wasn't too much. I learn things at times, about anger, drugs. I've done those groups so many times, there is rarely anything new. At The boys and girls club if you ask they will help you the best but you have to do them. I am who I am. I have a lifestyle and I will go back to it when I leave.

MEALS/NUTRITION

Kitchen - Clean; Are Knives and Chemicals Locked?

The large institutional kitchen is clean. All knives are kept in this locked kitchen. No knives are allowed in unit. Chemicals are all locked up in a utility room. Knives and chemicals can only be accessed by staff through two sally port doors.

Have the youths working in the kitchen been trained?

No minors work in the kitchen.

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MEALS/NUTRITION (Continued)

Are meals served or cafeteria style?

They are served cafeteria style in each unit.

Are minors permitted to converse during meals?

Yes.

Are staff present and supervising?

Yes.

Is a weekly menu prepared? Is it posted?

Yes. A nutritionists creates a weekly menu rotates every 4 weeks. The children do not have any direct input into the menus.

Are servings ample, nutritious and appetizing?

Yes. Lunch on the day of inspection included: bean soup with vegetables, tuna salad, fresh fruit, brownie. Second servings are permitted. Night snack was recently changed from fruit juice to fresh fruit -- less sugar, more nutritious. Donna Pigoni is the on-site director of food services (chef). There is a licensed nutritionist, Chris Beakins, from County Public Health who oversees the overall menus and compliance with Title 15 regulations regarding food provided., which are very specific. Any particular dietary needs are handled by the nursing staff.

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MEALS/NUTRITION (Continued)

Are weaker youths protected from having food taken from them?

Yes. The set up is always monitored by staff. No sharing of food or betting for food allowed.

Length of time allowed to eat:

Twenty or more minutes is allowed for each meal.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE OF MINORS

Appearance?

Residents are clean and well clothed. Grooming is offered monthly. A barber that comes in and visits each unit approximately once a month. Haircuts are free.

SHOWERS - Frequency, Privacy Maintained, Supervised by Staff? Any assault by other youths?

Showers are taken daily and private. Showers are in central area of each unit with a supervisor nearby. All showers are individual. There have been no assaults. Facilities are cleaned on a daily basis. Residents felt safe and protected during showers.

CONDITION OF CLOTHING - Does clothing fit? Clothing appropriate to the weather?

Clothing is appropriate for the season. Juveniles change personal items daily and outwear every other day.

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PROGRAMS

RECREATION - Types and amount each day:

There is a minimum of 3 hours a day on weekdays and five hours on weekends. They receive at least one hour a day for large muscle exercise.

EXERCISE - Daily schedule and amount of time each day:

Physical Education is offered 45 minutes during school and at least one hour in the afternoon. If residents choose, they can have more on the small recreation yards.

Access to religious services:

Several spiritual volunteers are available onsite. Literature is provided.

Medical/Mental Health Services:

There is a doctor one day a week and a psychiatrist one day a week. The facility has two fulltime mental health staff, one RN on weekdays and one on the weekend. Protocols are developed for future consultations. Dental care is provided in house by Dr. Jack Sherman, who also provides care at Valley of the Moon. Annual checkups are only provided for the long term detainees, while short term residents get seen upon request. The on-site mental health staff provides Crisis Intervention and Stabilization counseling services. They are in the process of hiring an MFT to do continuing therapy for residents, and expect this to be in place in a few months. They will bring in a clinical psychologist to do any necessary psychological testing.

Volunteer Program:

Volunteer coordinators facilitate spiritual advising, library services, tutoring, arts and crafts, and friendly visitors.

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PROGRAMS (Continued)

Counseling and Casework:

Counseling occurs daily as needed. Caseworkers develop case plans for residents. Work on transition planning is part of the process. Youth are encouraged you to let staff know when residents are having problems. Mental health counselors are available to meet with residents to deal with their issues. A resident may request a counselor by asking a line supervisor. Residents are encouraged to speak with unit counselors.

Family Reunification Planning:

Juvenile Hall works in coordination with Probation and families of the youth participating in the Quest and Odyssey programs.

Substance Abuse Counseling:

NA has classes once a week. Alcohol and other drug suppression evaluation services are offered through County Mental Health.

Victim Awareness Classes:

Yes. Verity offers victim awareness classes.

Gang Awareness Classes:

Yes. There is gang awareness intervention using pro-social evidence-based programs to offer options other than gang membership. The Boys and Girls Club of Central Sonoma County does not have specific targeted gang programming, but they do give youth alternatives to the gang lifestyle and create a space where gang involved youth program together.

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PROGRAMS (Continued)

Sexual Harassment Classes:

Sexual Harassment classes are offered by Verity through their Healthy Relationships and Teen Assault Prevention classes. In addition, SCOE also includes Sexual Harassment training in their Sex Education classes.

Parenting Classes:

Parenting classes are not offered at Juvenile Hall, but referrals to the California Parenting Institute are made by case counselors in the Quest and Odyssey programs.

Vocational Classes:

Formal vocational classes are not offered at Juvenile Hall, but students who have graduated High School or have obtained their GED are allowed to research a variety of vocational programs and classes via the internet. In addition, such students are allowed to take online classes at the JC, including classes that fulfill requirements for a vocational program. The Boys and Girls Club at Juvenile Hall provides vocational workshops on a rotating schedule.

Community Service:

Community Service possibilities available at Juvenile Hall are limited. There are two ways the residents are exposed to community services: via the Girls Scouts and via volunteer work within the Juvenile Hall by Odyssey and Quest students that are fulfilling a school expulsion requirement. Through the Girl Scouts, the female residents work on community service projects throughout the year, but especially during the Christmas season. This year they made scarves to be donated to the homeless and made care packages to be given to the victims of drugs and alcohol.

Work Program:

Residents are responsible for the daily cleaning of their rooms and their common areas. Staff teaches them basic housekeeping skills and try to give opportunities to all residents on a rotating basis. Some residents also have the opportunity to participate in work projects related to removing graffiti and deep cleaning of the recreational court yards. During Spring and Summer, residents from the Quest and Odyssey programs also work on garden projects. Juvenile Hall has 5 garden boxes that the residents tend to. Juvenile Hall is in the process of developing a work program to be piloted in the near future.

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PROGRAMS (Continued)

Other:

Juvenile Hall offers numerous programs. These include Aggression Replacement Training, Boys Council, Girls Circle, Girl Scouts, Adolescent Treatment Program, Narcotic Anonymous, Tutoring, Skills Program, Spiritual Advising, Individual Counseling by Verity and California Parenting Institute, My Strength, Healthy Relationships, Teen Assault Prevention, Sex Education, Family Functional Therapy, and numerous programs offered within the Juvenile Hall by the Boys and Girls Club. Examples of those programs include Money Matters, Adulthood 101, and workshops related to employment.

DISCIPLINE OF MINORS

Frequency and Type:

The discipline of minors at Juvenile Hall takes place when a minor commits an infraction that requires some type of corrective action. The progressive discipline model is used. Staff implements the least restrictive measure to obtain the desired results. Disciplinary actions range from a verbal correction all the way to the filing of new charges. Juvenile Hall operates on a point system. Residents have the opportunity to earn points for complying with rules and expectations. If they do not comply, they do not earn certain points. Points earn residents daily privileges. The more points they earn, the more privileges they will receive.

GRIEVANCES

Number and Type:

The grievance procedure explanation is an element of the five day intake orientation. Forms are available upon request. Grievances are reviewed monthly by a JJC representative range from 0 to 3 per month. Most filed grievances identify conflict with behavior, consequences and respectful communication. Most have been settled at the entry level through conversation with those involved. A third party is often used to mediate. The administration is involved in review and intervention as necessary.

TELEPHONE

Access:

Juvenile Hall provides residents with the opportunity to have access to telephones to maintain contact with family, the community and legal services. Residents have the opportunity to make 3 initial phone calls and they can earn unlimited phone calls through our behavioral management/point system.

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CORRESPONDENCE

Postage Free:

Juvenile Hall provides 3 postage stamps per week to each resident to send mail to family and friends. Residents are allowed to send unlimited official mail through our internal system without requiring postage stamps. Parents/guardians are allowed to supply as many stamps as they wish and Juvenile Hall staff will make those stamps available to the resident as requested by such resident.

INCOMING/OUTGOING - Is mail read?

Mail is opened, inspected for contraband and scanned for content that may jeopardize the safety and security of the resident or others. If, during the scanning process, contraband or content that compromises safety and security is found the mail will be read.

Confidential Correspondence:

Confidential mail may be opened by authorized staff and inspected in the presence of the resident. This occurs only when it is obvious that it contains minor contraband such as staples or paper clips. Under no other circumstances is mail to or from public officials, judges, or attorneys opened or read.

VISITING

Adequate space, convenient times or accommodations to parent work schedule, etc. special visits:

Juvenile Hall allows each resident the opportunity to visit with authorized visitors to foster a healthy emotional climate, develop and strengthen family relationships, and improve individual morale. Each resident is afforded two one-hour visiting sessions per week. One session is scheduled during the week and one on weekends. Juvenile Hall makes every effort to afford visits outside of this schedule when it is clear that the authorized visitor is not able to visit during scheduled days/times.

Do staff supervise visits?

Yes. Vists are conducted in a designated area.

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VISITING

Adequate privacy during visits?

Visits with authorized visitors, other than legal, take place in the common area of the visitation room. These visits are supervised but allow plenty of room for privacy. Legal visits take place in a private locked room.

Have all minors had visits? If no, give reasons:

Yes. All minors are allowed visits by authorized family members or guardians and by friendly visitors that Juvenile Hall provides through the volunteer program.

SCHOOL

TEACHERS - Number of full-time; frequency of substitutes:

The Sonoma County Office of Education (SCOE) provides educational services to the Juvenile Hall. SCOE provides one permanent teacher for each housing unit (four at time of inspection). In addition, they provide an RSP teacher, an ESL teacher, a School Counselor/therapist and a principal that oversees the Juvenile Hall educational program. Substitutes are used to cover for permanent teachers when permanent teachers call in for a variety of reasons. Substitute teachers are also used when Juvenile Hall determines that residents must be away from the group, usually for safety and security reasons.

Number of minors attending school:

All residents are expected to attend school. The number varies almost daily, as we have new admits and releases on a regular basis. Attendance ranges from high 40s to low 100s.

Number of minors in each classroom:

The number of residents in each classroom varies according to overall population. The maximum capacity of each classroom is 21 students but it ranges from as low as 6 students to 21.

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SCHOOL (Continued)

Number of minors on independent study:

Independent study programs are not offered as part of the school curriculum.

Atmosphere of Classroom:

Students were observed to be attentive and engaged in the classroom activities. Interaction with the teacher was open and positive. In both classrooms, a teacher guided technology based multimedia approach was used to stimulate participation and hold student attention. The teachers displayed interest in students and the material. Topics were current, relevant and held student interest.

Adequate Supplies? Books, paper, computers, etc.

The Sonoma County Office of Education provides adequate supplies, including text books, other books, paper and computers. The classrooms are well staffed and furnished. The equipment is current.

Activities and Coursework:

The activities and coursework are the similar to other district high schools in the county with the exception of field trips and labs. An effort is made to replicate county school district curriculum as appropriate and deliver instruction at the level of each student preparing them for their return.

Are minors required to do homework?

No. Homework is optional for those students that have the desire to earn extra credit.

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SCHOOL (Continued)

Number of minors not attending. Reason?

All students are required to attend school. Occasionally, there are students absent due to illness or refusal to go to school. The number of students not attending is minimum and it varies daily.

Relationship between school and juvenile hall staff:

The relationship between school and Juvenile Hall is healthy and productive. This relationship allows for open conversations and a high degree of cooperation. There is at least one line staff supervising in each classroom.

Describe access to school, recreation, exercise and recreation for minors confined to their rooms:

Access to school, recreation, and exercise for all residents exceeds title XV mandates. Juvenile Hall has well-supplied classrooms, well-equipped large exercise facilities (recreational yards) and a large field with amazing views. Juvenile Hall programming allows for plenty of opportunities to use recreational yards and the field on a daily basis.

ACCESS TO MEDICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The medical staff at the Juvenile Hall provides routine medical care for all residents in custody. The Health Services Department provides medical and dental care as well as mental health services. Residents have at their disposal several nurses, a medical doctor, a psychiatrist, a dentist, several therapists, and a drug and alcohol counselor. Dental care is provided in house by Dr. Jack Sherman, who also provides care at Valley of the Moon. Annual checkups are only provided for the long term detainees, while short term residents get seen upon request. Medical/mental health records are maintained in a chart room, available only to the medical/mental health staff or to authorized Juvenile Hall Staff. Information is not shared with the general staff because of confidentiality.

**JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION
JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS INSPECTION REPORT**

Distribution of Juvenile Justice Commission Inspection Reports

Corrections Standards Authority Recommendation

The Corrections Standards Authority recommends commissions prepare and submit an inspection report for each juvenile hall and camp inspected by the commission. We suggest that copies of inspection reports be distributed to the Chief Probation Officer and other pertinent county agencies as directed by the court.

Please submit your annual report to the court and mail a copy to:

**ROBERT TAKESHTA, DEPUTY DIRECTOR (A)
FACILITIES STANDARDS AND OPERATIONS DIVISION
CORRECTIONS STANDARDS AUTHORITY
600 BERCUT DRIVE
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814**

PHONE: (916) 445-5073 FAX: (916) 327-3317