

Pima County Juvenile Court Detention Self-Inspection

Dallas, TX

September 2007

Jesus J. Diaz

- Who was involved?

System representatives

Internal and external

Community representatives

Court users

Non-court users

What's Involved

- Combines legal aspects, best practices, established standards
- Transparency
- Open to critical review and discussion
- Increases communities trust and confidence in the integrity of the juvenile court

What's the outcome

- Most current policies, practices, legal cases-Strip Search Policy
- Increase public trust and confidence
- Increase commitment internal and external
- Formal audits:
 - AZ Supreme Court AOC (A.O): Findings
 - AZ Joint Legislative Committee-Auditor General (Statutory): Findings
 - National Commission on Correctional Health

JDAI FACILITY SITE ASSESSMENT: WASHOE COUNTY

Assessment Highlights: Areas in Need of Improvement:

- The outside recreation area is in great need. There is a drainage problem in the field; in addition, because of the high volume and nature of usage, authorities should consider installation of artificial turf.
- The established national standards require 40 hours of training aside from OJT (On the job or “shadowing” types of training.) Although orientation training is provided, it falls short considerably of the 40 hours standard.
- In addition, the standards call for 120 hours of training in year one, and 40 hours per annum in subsequent years. These are not being met at this time, particularly the 120 hours entry-level training. Please refer to #2

JDAI FACILITY SITE ASSESSMENT: WASHOE COUNTY

Assessment Highlights: Areas in Need of Improvement (continued):

- The Nurse Practitioner is excellent, but is being “run ragged” as noted by one team member. She needs additional support immediately.
- The library and the overall low number of books is a concern at the time of the assessment.
- Some clothing items, particularly for girls, need more frequent replacement.

JDAI Facility Site Assessment

Sharing the
Santa Cruz Experience

Restraints

1. Site Assessment section on restraint referred to in White Paper on Use of Force prepared for CA. Chiefs
2. New restraint curriculum adopted: **Safe Crisis Management**
 - Trained 6 staff as certified trainers
 - Hosted a T 4 T attended by DJJ and Alameda County
 - Presented the training in house to detention, probation and mental health staff
 - SCM to be present at State CAPIA conference October 1st

Gender Specific Concerns

Looking at the assessment from a girls' perspective:

- Continues our deeper work with girls
- Carried out by 2 member of the Girls' Task Force
- Gives specific direction to our work through Title II grant

Examining Girls' Services

- Evaluators also read and considered: “How to Implement Oregon’s Guidelines for Effective Gender-Responsive Programming for Girls”.
- Concentrated on three sections of JDAI instrument
 - Intake/Admissions
 - Health Care
 - Programming
- Example of action taken as a result

JDAI Detention Facility Standards: What to Do After Finishing the Assessment

- Immediately or soon after completing the assessment, de-brief on the major findings of the assessment with the facility superintendent and key administrators of the agency that operates the facility.
- Maintain confidentiality of identifiable information obtained during the assessment process.
- Clarify distribution of the assessment report - to key stakeholders, the JDAI governing body, the public, etc.
- Monitor the progress of the agency as it develops a corrective action plan.

What to Do After Finishing the Assessment (2)

- Assist the agency upon request with more detailed information than was included in the assessment report.
- Assist the agency in prioritizing components of the corrective action plan: deficiencies that affect health, restraints and isolation, and safety should have the highest priority.
- Insure that the corrective action plan includes a timeline for completion of key components.
- Monitor the progress of the agency as it implements the corrective action plan.

What to Do After Finishing the Assessment (3)

- Support reforms by the agency to address policies and practices that do not meet JDAI standards.
- Conduct a follow-up assessment of the facility within an appropriate period of time to determine the agency's progress in meeting all JDAI standards.
- Consider reforms beyond the JDAI standards - e.g., state regulations, standards, or accepted professional practice in your jurisdiction.