

Juvenile Detention Monitoring in Mississippi

Report on Facility Compliance with Section 5 of
the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2005 (Senate Bill 2894)

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Introduction

The National Juvenile Detention Association defines *juvenile detention* as the “temporary and safe custody of juveniles who are accused of conduct subject to the jurisdiction of the court who require a restricted environment for their own or the community’s protection while pending legal action” (1990). The National Juvenile Detention Association also suggests that juvenile detention should provide a range of support services to promote juvenile physical, social and emotional development. These services, at minimum, would include: reading and education; recreation; counseling; health care services; nutrition; visitation; communication; and continuous supervision (National Juvenile Detention Association 1990).

Like many states, Mississippi’s system of juvenile detention is operated at the local level. Currently, Mississippi has 17 juvenile detention facilities operating across the state (see Figure 1 and Table 1). Mississippi’s juvenile detention facilities vary in many aspects including size, operation, administration, and services. Prior to this year, Mississippi’s juvenile detention facilities operated without any uniform minimum standards.

(Table 1 and Figure 1 here)

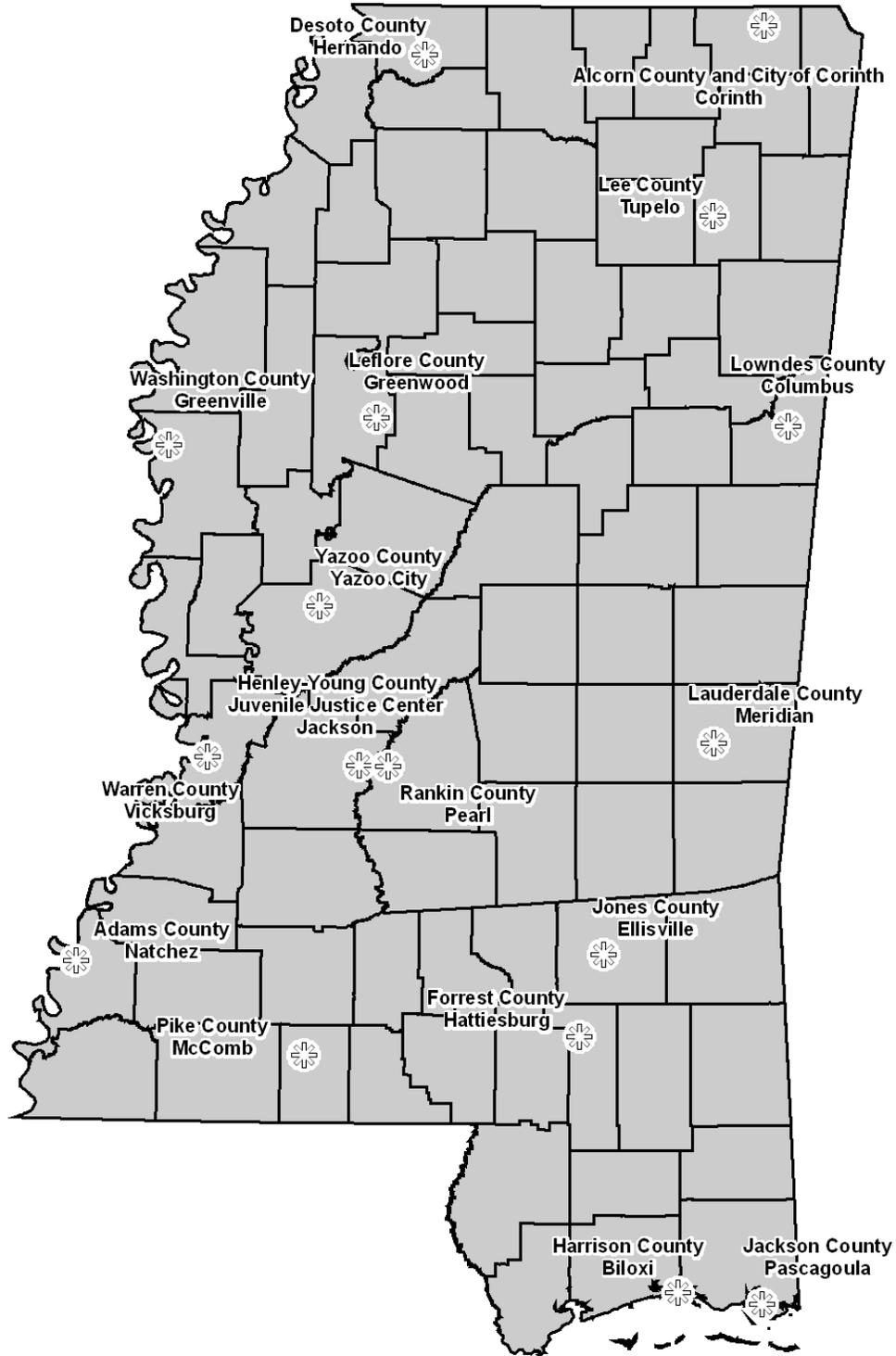
In 2002, Mississippi established a Juvenile Detention Facilities Task Force. The task force was comprised of leading experts and stakeholders in the areas of juvenile justice and youth services. The task force sought to examine the current state of Mississippi’s juvenile detention facilities and to make recommendations with regard to basic minimum requirements regarding the operation of a juvenile detention facility. In 2004, the task force presented their recommendations to the Mississippi Legislature (see Task Force Report by Dunaway, Baird, Lynch, McCarson, &

Stevenson, 2003). Many of these recommendations were adopted as part of Senate Bill No. 2894 – *The Juvenile Justice Reform Act* (2005).

Table 1: Juvenile Detention Facilities in Mississippi

County	Location	Operated By	Beds
Adams	Natchez	Youth Court	26
Alcorn	Corinth	Sheriff's Office	16
Desoto	Hernando	Sheriff's Office	22
Forrest	Hattiesburg	Sheriff's Office	46
Harrison	Biloxi	Private Company: Mississippi Security Police	48
Hinds	Jackson	Board of Supervisors	84
Jackson	Pascagoula	Private Company: Mississippi Security Police	28
Jones	Ellisville	Sheriff's Office	24
Lauderdale	Meridian	Board of Supervisors	30
Lee	Tupelo	Sheriff's Office	24
Leflore	Greenwood	Youth Court	30
Lowndes	Columbus	Youth Court	30
Pike	McComb	Board of Supervisors	22
Rankin	Pearl	Sheriff's Office	30
Warren	Vicksburg	Youth Court	30
Washington	Greenville	Youth Court	28
Yazoo	Yazoo City	Youth Court	25

Figure 1: Mississippi's Juvenile Detention Facilities



Produced by Dallas Breen, Social Science Research Center, Mississippi State University, 2006

This law stipulates specific guidelines for the operation of juvenile detention facilities. Additionally, the law mandates that a juvenile detention monitoring unit will be established with the Mississippi Department of Public Safety and Planning. The director of this unit will regularly monitor each of the juvenile detention facilities with regard to their compliance with the basic guidelines set forth in S.B. 2894. The director will also assist the individual facilities with their efforts to reach and maintain compliance. The sections of S.B. 2894 relevant to detention center monitoring are in Appendix A.

In the fall of 2005, researchers at Mississippi State University's Social Science Research Center were contacted by representatives of the Mississippi Department of Public Safety to assist with the initial assessment of the juvenile detention facilities. -Given that the Department of Public Safety and Planning had yet to form its own monitoring unit, it was necessary to work with an outside contractor. The Social Science Research Center was a natural choice to conduct the initial assessment, as one of its researchers – Dr. Angela Robertson – already monitors juvenile detention facilities with regard to compliance with mental health screening, and another SSRC researcher – Dr. Gregory Dunaway – provided technical assistance to the original Juvenile Detention Facilities Task Force.

Over the past few months, Robertson, Dunaway, and their staff developed compliance instruments and made on-site visits to each of Mississippi's juvenile detention facilities. During these site visits, the facility directors/administrators, as well as other key personnel, were interviewed using the compliance survey. Additionally, our research team toured each facility and made firsthand observations regarding the operation and condition of the facilities. We also examined the facilities' policies and procedures manuals to determine the level of compliance with S.B. 2894. Finally, we collected information on staffing/personnel, personnel training, and all

pertinent operation forms. We have prepared a detailed written assessment of each of the juvenile detention centers and have circulated drafts of our assessment back to the individual directors for feedback. This final report consists of our findings and recommendations.

Health Screening

S.B. 2894 mandates that all juveniles are to undergo a health screening shortly after admission. We assessed compliance using information collected during the interview with key detention center informant(s), who were asked what percent of juveniles are screened each month. We also assessed the rate of screening by using admissions and mental health screening data provided to Mississippi State University. Each month for the past three years, 15 of the 17 detention centers voluntarily provided the number of admissions and the number of juveniles screened for mental health, suicide ideation, and alcohol and other drug use/abuse. This information was used to calculate an average mental health screening rate over a 10-month period (January - October, 2005).

The information to be collected during the health screening process is listed in the law. The list creates problems for monitoring compliance because some of the required information is general in nature, consisting of broad categories or topics that are open to interpretation. For example, mental health screening could involve a few questions about current mental health problems and psychiatric treatment history or the administration of a scientifically sound mental health screening instrument that contains many questions. A mental health screening instrument that is commonly used in juvenile justice systems is the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument, Version 2 (MAYSI-2). The MAYSI-2 is 52 questions in length. It takes time to administer and to score, but is more reliable and valid (scientifically sound) than simply asking the

juvenile if he/she has any mental health problems. Without additional guidance on the screening process, detention personnel can rely on informal and unsystematic screening procedures, yet be compliant with the law. As Hoge (1999) points out, use of reliable and comprehensive mental health instruments greatly enhances case findings and decision-making regarding services and programming, thereby increasing equity. This information is also important for diverting youth inappropriately placed in justice programs, and for monitoring of juvenile health/mental health while incarcerated.

As part of the interview with key detention center informant(s), we asked about the screening process, the kinds of information collected, and who is responsible for conducting the health screening. In addition, we obtained copies of screening instruments and booking/intake forms. While every detention center collected information on current health problems and medication, the number and types of health information obtained varied considerably across detention centers (from 5 to 45 items). We, therefore, turned to the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) for the recommended elements for health and mental health intake screening.

NCCHC requires inquiry into current illnesses and health problems, including mental health; dental problems; communicable diseases; prior mental health problems, including attempted suicide or suicidal behavior; medications taken and special health requirements; use of alcohol or other drugs, including types, methods, amounts, frequency, date and time of last usage and problems after ceasing use (e.g., convulsions, etc.); immunizations status; other health problems; and for females, gynecological history and pregnancies. NCCHC also prescribes observation of behavior (including state of consciousness); mental status (including suicidal ideation); appearance; conduct; tremors and sweating; physical deformities and ease of movement;

condition of skin, including trauma markings, bruises, lesions, jaundice, rashes, infestations, and needle marks or other signs of drug use.

We found that in almost every case the booking detention officer is solely responsible for the health screening. In a few cases (Hinds, Jackson, Jones, and Lowndes), the detention officer conducts the initial health screening, and medical personnel collects additional health information. For example, at the Henley-Young Juvenile Justice Center (Hinds County), the detention officer completes a brief medical screening that consists of six questions for the juvenile to answer and five health and mental status items based on the officer's visual assessment. The nurse at Henley-Young completes a detailed medical history form and conducts a physical examination at some point after admission.

Every detention center collects current physical health and medical history information on every admission. Using NCHCC guidelines for health screening, the types of health information collected are reported in Table 2. A checkmark indicates that health information was obtained either by questioning the juvenile or by a detention officer's observations of the youth's appearance and behavior and inspection of the body during the intake process. Most detention centers have procedures in place to collect all health and mental health elements recommended by NCHCC. Items most likely to be neglected in the health screening process are the inclusion of dental problems and the condition of the skin.

Table 2: Elements of Health and Mental Health Intake Screening as specified by NCCHC, Information collected from Juvenile, and Observations of Detention Officers

Detention Center	Health Problems & Communicable Diseases ¹	Dental Problems	Female Specific Questions ²	Medications & Special Requirements ³	Mental Health Problems & Treatment History ⁴	Mental Status ⁵	Alcohol and Other Drug Use/Abuse ⁶	Condition of Skin ⁷
Adams	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Alcorn	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Desoto	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Forrest	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Harrison	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hinds	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jackson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jones	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Lauderdale	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Lee	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Leflore	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lowndes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pike	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rankin	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	
Warren	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Washington	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Yazoo	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Notes: 1. Health problems, such as diabetes, and communicable diseases including sexually transmitted diseases; 2. Pregnancy and pregnancy history, birth control; 3. Current medication(s), medication allergies, other allergies, special dietary needs, glasses, or hearing aid; 4. Mental health problems, history of mental health problems including suicidal behavior, psychiatric and alcohol or other drugs (AOD) treatment; 5. Observation of detainee behavior for evidence of depression, anxiety, unusual or bizarre behavior or speech, and behavior suggestive of risk of assault to staff or other detainees; 6. Visual evidence that detainee is intoxicated or under the influence of drugs, signs of withdrawal; 7. Inspection of body for injury suggesting need for emergency services, trauma markings, bruises and evidence of abuse or neglect, jaundice, rashes, lice/vermin infestations, needle marks, scars on wrist(s)

Every detention center screens juvenile detainees for mental health and substance use/abuse problems. However, the percentage of juveniles who are screened for mental health and substance use/abuse problems varies by detention center (see Table 3). All detention centers, except Rankin County, use the MAYSI-2, which is designed to assist the juvenile justice facilities staff in identifying youths 12 to 17 years old who may have special mental health needs. The MAYSI-2 consists of seven multi-item scales: Alcohol/Drug Use, Angry-Irritable, Depressed-Anxious, Somatic Complaints, Suicide Ideation, Thought Disturbance (boys only), and Traumatic Experiences. Thus, use of the MAYSI-2 assures detention center compliance with five of the 10 types of information mandated by law for health screening. Rankin County developed their own health screening instrument, which includes three mental health questions, two suicide risk questions, three alcohol and other drug use/abuse questions, and two aggressive behavior questions.

In addition to screening for health, mental health, and substance use problems, the law lists family relations, peer relations, social skills, educational status, and vocational status as areas for screening. The extent to which other screening information is collected varies by center (see Table 3). Rankin County is the only detention center that collects all the information listed in the law under the section on health screening.

All detention centers, except Desoto and Hinds, collect information concerning educational status at booking. Hinds County has an on-site school, and educational status information is collected after booking by school personnel. Educational status information usually consists of the name of the school and grade level and is recorded on intake/booking forms. Two detention centers, Lee and Pike, have separate educational status forms that collect additional information, such as Special Education or GED placements.

Table 3: Percentage of Juveniles Screened for Mental Health Problems and Collection of Other Screening Information²

Detention Center	Average Mental Health Screening Rate ¹	Family Relations	Peer Relations	Social Skills	Educational Status	Vocational Status
Adams	96.0	√			√	√
Alcorn	100	√			√	√
Desoto	99.3					
Forrest	81.4				√	
Harrison	100	√			√	√
Hinds	96.3	√				
Jackson	99.8				√	
Jones	90.2				√	
Lauderdale	99.4				√	
Lee	95.0				√	
Leflore	94.3				√	
Lowndes	75*				√	√
Pike	94.7				√	
Rankin	100*	√	√	√	√	√
Warren	98.9				√	
Washington	94.3				√	√
Yazoo	99.4				√	√

1. For all facilities, except those designated by asterisk, the percent screened was calculated using the number of admissions and number of juveniles screened using MAYSI-2 per month over a ten-month period (January - October, 2005). For the two centers with an asterisk, the percent screened is based on self-report.
2. Check mark indicates that information is collected at booking.

Five centers (Adams, Alcorn, Harrison, Hinds, and Rankin) collect information on family relations, but their interpretations of what constitutes the screening of family relations varies. Rankin asks two questions: 1) With whom do you live and what is/are their relations to you?; and 2) Do you generally get along with your relations with whom you live? The other centers ask about family as part of the suicide risk screening. For example, “Detainee lacks close family or friends in community; Detainee is very worried about family problems; and Detainee’s family or significant other has attempted or committed suicide.” Vocational status is assessed by one question on employment and is collected by Alcorn, Harrison, Lowndes, Rankin, Washington, and Yazoo. Only Rankin collects information on peer relations and social skills.

Recommendations

The purpose of health screening is to ensure that the juvenile does not have any illnesses or injuries requiring immediate medical attention (Parent et al., 1994). Educational status and other mandated screening information (family relations, peer relations, social skills, and vocational status) are not health-related and thus not necessary for determination of need for immediate medical care or mental health intervention. S. B. 2894 states that all screening information is to be collected within one hour of admission or as soon thereafter as reasonably possible. The requirement to collect non-health information may create an undue burden on booking personnel who should be focusing upon the collection of information needed for decision-making related to the health and security of detainees and staff (e.g., suicide risk and potential for assaultive behavior). The collection of educational status and other mandated screening information is not necessary for juveniles who are held for less than 24 hours. In addition, this information could be collected by personnel other than the booking officer. For example, it may be more appropriate for Youth Services Counselors to collect information about the family. We therefore recommend that

health screening be separated from other types of information gathering with regards to the timing of data collection. The health and mental health status of juveniles should be evaluated immediately upon arrival, and other, non-health screening could take place after the admission process has been completed. We recommend that the Juvenile Detention Facilities Monitoring Unit work with the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee to develop guidelines for the collection of educational status and other mandated screening information.

According to the American Correctional Association, health/medical screening is “a system of structured inquiry and observation.” We recommend that health screening cover medical, dental, mental health, substance abuse and suicide risk as specified by NCCHC. We urge detention center administrators to follow best practices for mental health screening and assessment of youth in the juvenile justice system and use an evidence-based, scientifically sound mental health screening instrument as part of the health screen (Wasserman et al., 2003). Facility policy should require that all youth have a health and mental health intake screening within one hour of admission and before assignment to a cell/housing unit. We also recommend that all staff assigned to do intakes be trained by qualified health, mental health, and substance abuse care providers on the health and mental health intake screening and that the training curriculum for staff assigned to do intakes includes training on the items in the health and mental health intake screening. Moreover, we recommend all staff assigned to complete intakes undergo training to recognize the behavioral signs and symptoms indicative of mental health problems.

Admission Procedures

S. B. 2894 stipulates that the directors of all juvenile detention centers have in place written admission procedures that specify the types of admissions activities to be performed. We interviewed detention center directors/administrators about the process for admission and orientation to the center and had them walk us through the process. In addition, we checked the admission procedures in each center's policies and procedures manual. We found that, in practice, booking officers perform all admissions procedures, but that only six facilities have written procedures for all steps involved in the admission process, as specified in S. B. 2894 (see Table 4). All facility manuals include procedures on determining that a juvenile is legally committed, searching juveniles and their property, issuing clothing, and recording data. The two required admission procedures most often missing from detention center policy and procedures manuals are "issue personal hygiene articles" (seven detention centers) and "assign a registered number to the juvenile" (five detention centers). Two detention centers did not have a written procedure for notifying families of their child's admission.

Detention policies and procedures manuals must also have written admission procedures for providing written orientation materials to the juvenile and for performing medical, dental, and mental health screening. In Table 4, we indicate the detention facilities with these written procedures. All but the Lauderdale County facility actually provides written orientation materials to the juvenile. Lauderdale provides written materials on visitation and detention rules to parents. Adams and Alcorn have inmate handbooks that are several pages long. All orientation materials included rules and responsibilities. Some detention facilities also give juveniles written materials on their rights, procedures for filing a grievance, and policies regarding visitation, phone calls, and sick call.

Facility manuals must also include procedures for performing medical, dental, and mental health screening as part of the admission process. Note that dental screening was not included in the list of information that must be collected as part of the health screening. However, 11 of the 17 detention centers screen for dental problems (see Table 2). Most facilities have written procedures requiring the booking officer to complete a medical screening form. If the medical form included dental and mental health screening questions or if there were explicit written procedures to perform health, dental, and mental health screening, we counted the center as compliant with the law (see Table 4).

In summary, almost all of the juvenile detention centers meet the American Correctional Association's standards for admission procedures, in practice. However, only five centers have written admission procedures as specified by S. B. 2894. In many cases, it appears that the Director/Administrator has not kept the policy and procedures manual current or has failed to provide sufficient written instructions regarding admission procedures.

Recommendations

Given the low literacy of many juveniles placed in secure confinement, the orientation process should include a verbal explanation of each step of the admission process before beginning. The juvenile should also receive a copy of a "handbook" that includes facilities rules; juvenile rights, such as right to council; and policies/procedures regarding visitation, phone calls, access to medical care, and grievances.

Minimum Programs and Services

S. B. 2894 requires all juvenile detention centers to provide the following minimum services and programs: an education program and reading materials; visitation with parents and guardians and private communications with visitors and staff; medical service; counseling; recreation and exercise program; and food service. Written procedures for programs and services are also required. The centers that currently have such procedures in their operations manuals are noted in Table 5.

In Appendix B, we provide detailed descriptions of each juvenile detention center, including the programs and services provided. In the following sections, we compare detention centers on the availability and quality of programs and services.

Table 4: Detention Centers with Written Admission Procedures

Detention Center	Admission ¹	Orientation ²	Screening ³	Written Procedures that need to be amended or developed
Adams	✓	✓	✓	
Alcorn		✓	✓	Issue personal hygiene articles; assign registration number to juvenile
Desoto	✓	✓	✓	
Forrest				Require shower and hair care; issue personal hygiene articles; perform dental and mental health screening; provide written orientation materials (given one page on rules but no policy)
Harrison		✓		Issue personal hygiene articles; assign a registered number to juvenile; perform dental screening
Hinds	✓	✓		Include dental screening
Jackson		✓		Perform medical, dental, and mental health screening; provide written orientation materials (given materials but no policy)
Jones	✓	✓	✓	
Lauderdale				Assign a registered number to juvenile; provide written orientation materials; perform medical, dental, and mental health screening
Lee		✓	✓	Assist juvenile in notifying families at their admission
Leflore	✓	✓	✓	
Lowndes			✓	Issue personal hygiene articles; assign housing unit; assign a registered number to juvenile; provide written orientation materials (given materials but no policy)
Pike	✓	✓	✓	
Rankin		✓	✓	Issue personal hygiene articles; assign a housing unit
Warren		✓	✓	Issue personal hygiene articles; assist juvenile in notifying families at their admission; assign a registered number to juvenile
Washington		✓	✓	Dispose of personal property; issue personal hygiene articles; assign a registered number to juvenile; provide written orientation materials (given a one page form to sign but no policy)
Yazoo				Require shower and hair care; issue personal hygiene articles; provide written orientation materials; perform mental health and dental screening

¹A check mark indicates that the policy and procedures manual contains procedures for all required admission activities: search of the juvenile and his possessions, disposition of personal property, shower and hair care (lice control), issue clothing, issue personal hygiene articles, assignment of housing unit/pod/cell, recording basic personal data and information, notification of families of admission and procedures for visiting, and assignment of registered number to juvenile;

²Written admission procedures must include statements on providing written orientation materials to the juvenile. A check mark indicates that the policy and procedures manual contains such statements.

³A check mark indicates that written procedures for admission to the facility includes procedures for performing medical, dental, and mental health screening.

Table 5: Detention Centers with Written Procedures for Programs and Services

Detention Center	Visitation	Recreation/ Exercise	Medical	Counseling	Food Service	Education	Reading Materials
Adams	✓		✓				
Alcorn	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Desoto	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Forrest	✓	✓	✓		✓		
Harrison	✓	✓	✓		✓		
Hinds	✓	✓	✓		✓		
Jackson	✓		✓				
Jones	✓	✓	✓		✓		
Lauderdale	✓	✓	✓		✓		
Lee		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Leflore	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lowndes	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Pike	✓		✓	✓	✓		
Rankin	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Warren	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Washington	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Yazoo	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	

Education

Detention education is considered a core program component in juvenile detention facilities according to the *Desktop Guide to Good Juvenile Detention Practice* (Roush, 1996). An adequate educational program is important for several reasons. First and foremost, many youth need remedial instruction and special education services. Most youth admitted to detention have a history of poor academic performance (Parent et al., 1994). Estimates suggest that 34% are functionally illiterate (Gerry & Certo, 1992), and between 28% and 42% require special education services (Krisberg, 1992). An educational program provides youth who are enrolled in school the opportunity to keep current with their studies and facilitates their return to school when discharged. For youth not enrolled in school, it provides the opportunity to work toward a general equivalency diploma (GED). In addition, effective education adds structure to the confinement experience, reducing boredom and idleness, serves a rehabilitative function when the curriculum includes substance abuse prevention and when problem-solving and social skills training are provided, and contributes to safety and security by improving interactions between staff and youth (Carbone, 1990; Parent et al., 1994; White, 2002). Finally, and perhaps the most compelling reason for providing an adequate educational program, is that Federal law requires that education be provided for all institutionalized children and court cases have ruled that incarcerated youths' right to an adequate education program were violated when they did not receive a full day of education or adequate special education services (Puritz & Scali, 1998; Soler, 1990).

S.B. 2894 requires that an educational program and reading materials be provided by all detention centers, but is mute on what that entails. We therefore turned to the Mississippi Juvenile Detention Task Force recommendations, studies of educational programs in juvenile detention facilities (Brooks & Histed, 2002; Parent et al., 1994), American Correction Association Standards

(1992), and the chapter on detention education in the *Desktop Guide to Good Juvenile Detention Practice* (Roush, 1996) to assess educational programming in Mississippi detention centers. The selected assessment criteria are (a) the provision of educational programming to all detained youth, (b) the use of certified teachers, (c) classroom space with educational supplies and equipment, (d) the number of hours of education per day, (e) the provision of educational programming 12 months a year, and (f) the availability of and juvenile access to appropriate reading materials.

A comparison of detention education programs is presented in Table 6. All detention centers, with the exception of Jones and Lauderdale, provide educational opportunities to incarcerated youth. However, three detention centers limit who may participate in the education program. At Adams and Forrest, only juveniles with a special education designation receive educational instruction, and the amount of time with the Special Education teacher is limited to a few hours per week. At the Alcorn County/City of Corinth Detention Center, youth who are enrolled in either the county or city school district get their assignments from their respective classes, and volunteer tutors assist youth in completing their work.

The adequacy of educational program varies. Almost all detention centers with an educational program use certified teachers. As mentioned above, Alcorn relies upon volunteers, and Lowndes has an experienced tutor on staff eight hours per day.

Ten detention education programs have classroom(s) with desks and educational equipment. Lauderdale has a classroom, but does not provide educational services due to lack of financial resources. Hinds County (Henley-Young Juvenile Justice Center) has four classrooms and a library. Lowndes County has two classrooms, one for juvenile detainees and the other for GED preparation for non-incarcerated youth. Warren and Rankin Counties do not have a separate space specifically for education, but have set up classrooms with materials to support the

curriculum; furniture to accommodate individual or group learning; and equipment, such as a TV and VCR, in the gym and day room respectively. Many of the detention centers with educational programs also have personal computers with educational software available for the students to use.

Best practices promote the operation of the detention education program on a 52-week basis (Roush, 1996). Only five Mississippi detention educational programs operate 12 months a year. The Mississippi Department of Education requires 5.5 hours of education per day. The amount of time devoted to education ranges from one hour to eight hours per day.

Juvenile detention centers are also required by S.B. 2894 to make reading materials available to juveniles. All facilities, except Forrest County, have reading materials for juvenile detainees. The Forest County facility restricts reading materials to the Bible or school textbooks if parents provide them. We found it interesting that the two facilities (Jones and Lauderdale) that do not have educational programs have collections of books available for juveniles to read. Most detention facilities place restrictions on when (designated reading times) and where juveniles may read. For example, in all but six facilities, juveniles are not allowed to read in their cells due to concerns about destruction of the reading material and damage to plumbing (from flushing paper down the toilet).

Table 6: Educational Programming in Mississippi Juvenile Detention Centers

Detention Center	All youth participate	Certified teacher(s) on-site	Classroom, furniture & equipment	12 month program	Number of hours per day & days per week
Adams	only special education	√			depends upon the # of special ed students
Alcorn	only if enroll in local district	two volunteers			4 hours, 4 days
Desoto	√	√	√	√	3 hours, 5 days
Forrest	only special education	√			1 hour per child, 2-3 days
Harrison	√	√	√		6 hours, 5 days
Hinds	√	√	√		5 hours, 5 days
Jackson	√	√	√		4 hours, 2 days
Jones					0
Lauderdale			√		0
Lee	√	√	√	√	5 hours, 5 days
Leflore	√	√	√		4 hours, 5 days
Lowndes	√	a tutor	√		4-8 hours depending on census, 5 days
Pike	√	√		√	4 hours, 5 days
Rankin	√	√	√		3.5 hours, 5 days
Warren	√	√	√		5.5 hours, 5 days
Washington	√	√	√	√	5.5 hours, 5 days
Yazoo	√	√	√	√	4 hours, 5 days

√indicated that the facility meets the criteria

Recommendations

The Juvenile Detention Task Force noted that providing appropriate and beneficial educational services is a major issue confronting Mississippi juvenile detention facilities (Dunaway et al., 2003). We found that the presence of an educational program and the adequacy of the education program depended upon the willingness of the local school district(s) to provide certified teachers, text books, grade-appropriate reading materials, and other educational supplies. Some school districts are shirking their responsibility to educate juveniles in detention facilities. The Mississippi Department of Education is ultimately responsible for public education in alternative settings and is mandated to

“provide to local school districts financial, training, and other assistance to implement and maintain a state program of educational accountability and assessment of performance.....provide to local school districts technical assistance in the development, implementation and administration of programs designed to keep children in school voluntarily and to prevent dropouts (Mississippi Code Annotated §37-3-46, 1972, as amended).”

We hope that the Mississippi Department of Education will work cooperatively with school districts and the respective County Boards of Supervisors to establish educational programs in Jones and Lauderdale County facilities, to expand the educational programming to all juveniles detainees in Adams and Forrest County facilities, to provide salary support for certified teachers for all detention centers, and to assure that special education programs are provided for identified handicapped students.

We recommend that detention education programs operate at least three hours per day, five days per week, and 12 months per year. We also recommend detention education programs follow

best practices for curriculum by providing instruction in reading, writing, and mathematics; tutorial and remedial help, particularly in the areas of reading and math; and GED preparation as appropriate (Roush, 1996).

Medical Service

Incarcerated youths typically have poor physical and mental health (Ad Hoc Committee, Juvenile Justice Special Interest Group, 2001; Teplin et al., 2002). A study of the medical status of adolescents at the time of admission to a juvenile detention center in Birmingham, Alabama found that 10.6% had a significant medical problem, excluding substance abuse and sexually transmitted diseases (Feinstein et al., 1998). The most common condition was asthma. Other common conditions included orthopedic problems, mental illness, hearing-related problems, and pregnancy. A review of the literature on health problems of incarcerated youths reports high rates of substance abuse, sexually transmitted diseases, unplanned pregnancies, dental problems, and psychiatric disorders (American Medical Association, Council on Scientific Affairs, 1990). A high prevalence of substance use disorders, mental health problems, and two sexually transmitted diseases, Chlamydia and gonorrhea, have been documented among adolescents held in juvenile detention centers in Mississippi (Robertson, Baird-Thomas, St. Lawrence, & Pack, 2005; Robertson, Dill, Undesser, & Husain, 2004).

S. B. 2894 requires juvenile detention centers to provide or make available medical services for all juveniles once they complete the admission process. The American Correctional Association, the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC), and the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators provide guidance on health care services in juvenile detention facilities. This literature calls for health screening and continued access to health care

throughout a juvenile's stay. We reviewed the compliance of juvenile detention centers with standards for health screening. In this section, we use four criteria to assess medical services: a designated health care provider and arrangements for emergency medical care; a nurse on-site on a daily basis; private space where minors can be interviewed, examined and treated; and written policies and procedures related to sick call, dispensing of medication to juveniles, the determination of need for emergency medical care, and transportation to medical care.

Juveniles have access to medical care in all detention centers. Some detention facilities have contractual arrangements with a local physician or medical clinic and others utilize the local hospital to provide medical treatment as needed. Good practice dictates that detained youth have daily access to medical care providers in case a health problem develops. Not all detention centers have nurses on-site to dispense medications, to handle "sick call" (non-emergency medical services), and to determine need for immediate medical care. Detention centers in Jackson, Lauderdale, Leflore, Pike, Washington, and Yazoo counties do not have a nurse on staff. Adams County is in the process of hiring a nurse, who will come to the facility two days a week for a couple of hours per day and who will also be on call. Alcorn County Juvenile Detention centers share a nurse with the adult jail, but the nurse does not routinely (on a weekly basis) come to the juvenile facility. Facilities in Forrest and Rankin counties have a nurse on-site one or two days per week. The rest of the juvenile detention centers (Desoto, Harrison, Hinds, Jones, Lee, Lowndes, and Warren) have a nurse who works at the facility on a daily basis. In addition to having trained medical personnel on-site, an adequate medical service within a juvenile detention center must have a private area within the facility where youth can be interviewed, examined, and treated. Ten detention centers, or 59%, have such space.

Finally, accrediting bodies, such as the American Correctional Association, have standards for policies and procedures regarding medical and health care services. S. B. 2894 requires all directors of all juvenile detention centers to have written procedures for medical services. We found that there are some medical service procedures in every center operations manual. However, the content primarily focuses on dispensing medications and transporting juveniles for emergency medical services. Medical service procedures should also include procedures on sick call, that is, the process by which a juvenile registers a health care complaint and makes a request for medical care; how often sick call is scheduled; and documentation of juveniles attending sick call, their complaints, and disposition of their cases. Given the high prevalence of sexually transmitted diseases among juvenile offenders, there should also be written procedures for management of infectious diseases, including specific actions to be taken by employees concerning juveniles who have been diagnosed HIV positive.

Recommendations

We recommend that every detention center have a written agreement with a physician to provide 24-hour, 7-day-a-week, on-call medical services. We also recommend that medical personnel, such as a nurse, be on-site during the week and on call on weekends to respond to a juvenile's sick call request within 24 hours. For small facilities (25 beds or less), a nurse should be on-site three days per week, and for larger facilities, a nurse should be on-site five days per week. Finally we advise that the Juvenile Detention Center Monitoring Unit within the Department of Public Safety provide technical assistance to juvenile detention center directors on the development of written medical services procedures. We advise that written medical services procedures specifically address the referral process for emergency medical care or mental health intervention; transportation to medical care (when provided off-site); dispensation of medications;

sick call or non-emergency medical services; management of infectious diseases; and staff training related to the medical program, e.g., first aid and CPR, dispensing medications, universal precautions to prevent spread of infectious diseases.

Counseling and Other Therapeutic Programs

Clearly many juveniles who are placed in detention centers are in need of a range of health and social services. Many of these juveniles have personal, family, and social problems which are linked to the behaviors that are responsible for the juveniles being detained. Though most detainees are held for a relatively short period of time, it is still very important that these juveniles are screened and, to the extent possible, provided necessary services that can minimize behavioral problems. We have discussed various medical and mental health screening and services that currently exist in Mississippi's juvenile detention centers above. However, we examine other services and programs which are provided for juvenile detainees in this section.

Our juvenile detention survey inquired about an array of programs which might be found in juvenile detention centers including substance abuse cessation and prevention; anger management; conflict resolution; self-esteem; social skills; family and parenting skills; and delinquency/violence prevention. The results of our interviews suggested that Mississippi's juvenile detention centers vary greatly with regard to the amount and diversity of these programs. We found that all of the programs listed above were being offered in at least some of the facilities. Additionally, we found that some detention centers were offering programs in art and music therapy, as well as mentoring programs.

Not surprisingly, there is a strong relationship between the size of the facility, the number of staff counselors, and the number of programs offered. As can be seen by Table 7, most (65%)

of the facilities have four or fewer counselors assigned to them. The notable exception is the Hinds County facility. Henley-Young Juvenile Justice Center has 16 counselors and correspondingly has the greatest number of programs to offer their detainees among all of the detention centers. Table 7 also presents the availability of three of the more common programs offered to juvenile detainees. Given that many of juvenile detention administrators indicated that significant percentages of their detainees had substance abuse problems it is not surprising that drug treatment/prevention programs are fairly prominent in Mississippi's juvenile detention facilities. Nine of 17 (53%) detention centers offered drug treatment/prevention programs. Notably some facilities coordinate these programs with newly formed juvenile drug court programs. Rankin County is currently in the process of developing one such program.

Table 7: The Availability of Counseling and Other Therapeutic Programs

Detention Center	Number of Youth Court Counselors	Drug Treatment/Prevention	Anger Management/Conflict Resolution	Adolescent Offender Program
Adams	5			√
Alcorn	1			
Desoto	4			
Forrest	4	√	√	
Harrison	6	√	√	
Hinds	16	√	√	
Jackson	5		√	
Jones	4	√	√	
Lauderdale	3	√	√	√
Lee	3		√	
Leflore	2	√		√
Lowndes	5*	√	√	√
Pike	2	√		
Rankin	5			
Warren	2*	√	√	
Washington	3			
Yazoo	2		√	

* Lowndes County has two full-time counselors and three part-time counselors.

* Warren County has one full-time and one part-time counselor.

Many juvenile detainees are benefiting from anger management and/or conflict resolution programs. Currently 10 detention centers (59%) offer programs in these areas. Finally, several facilities are making use of community-based adolescent offender programs. These programs assist with a number of life skill and self-esteem deficits with the aim of reducing the likelihood of further juvenile offending.

It should be noted that while many facilities do not offer formal programs, they do rely on teachers, detention officers, and community volunteers to provide information (e.g., reading materials, videos, etc.) and have informal discussion about many of these topics. Nearly all detention center administrators conveyed to us that they would like to expand programs on site. The major problems with offering more programs were space, personnel, and money.

Recommendations

There are a myriad of therapeutic services and programs which deal with problems associated with juvenile offenders. These programs target different aspects of emotional problems, delinquency and health risk behaviors, and social skills deficits. Thus, we are reluctant to recommend a single or even a specific set of therapeutic services for every juvenile detention center. Rather, we suggest that detention centers actively assess the needs of its detainees on an annual basis and provide therapeutic programming as needed. Given limited resources noted above, we encourage juvenile detention center directors to actively solicit therapeutic services from public mental health centers and other youth-serving organizations in the community.

Visitation

The Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJCA) recommends that detainees have access to regular visitation to their parents or guardians. Visitation is important for the well-being for both parties. We found a very high degree of consistency regarding visitation practices in Mississippi's juvenile detention facilities. Each detention center has provisions to notify juvenile detainees' parents/guardians within in a very short period of time of intake. During intake, juveniles are generally notified as to the visitation schedule. Parents/guardians are also given the visitation schedule when they are initially notified that their child is being detained.

All detention centers allow for regular visitation (see Table 8). The number of days and times allowed for visitation does vary from center to center. The fewest number of days for visitation is two (Jones County). On the other hand, one center has visitation seven days a week (Desoto County). The modal number of days for visitation is, however, three (65% of the facilities). Typically, hours for visitation are scheduled in the afternoons. The amount of time a detainee can visit with their parent/guardian generally ranges between 15 and 30 minutes.

All but two facilities have non-contact visitation in specifically designated visiting space. Non-contact visitation is preferred because it reduces the possibility of exchange of contraband and lowers security risks. It should be noted that all facilities allow for visitation for legal counsel. All facilities make accommodations for legal counsel outside of the normal visitation schedule. Many detention centers do request that legal visitation be scheduled in advance, however. Similar visitation accommodations are typically extended to detainees' religious advisors and clergy. Finally, all facilities make provisions for telephone contact. Telephone calls are generally limited to family members and may be monitored.

Table 8: Visitation Practices in Mississippi Juvenile Detention Centers

Detention Center	Regular In-Person Contact Visitation with Family/Guardians	Private Visitation Room	Legal Counsel Visitation	Regular Contact by Telephone
Adams	√a	√	√	√
Alcorn	√a	√	√	√
Desoto*	√a	√	√	√
Forrest	√a	√	√	√
Harrison	√a	√	√	√
Hinds	√a	√	√	√
Jackson	√b		√	
Jones	√a	√	√	√
Lauderdale	√a		√	√
Lee	√a	√	√	√
Leflore	√b		√	√
Lowndes	√a	√	√	√
Pike	√a	√	√	√
Rankin	√a	√	√	√
Warren	√a	√	√	√
Washington	√a	√	√	√
Yazoo	√a	√	√	√

a - designates non-contact visitation.

b- designates contact visitation

* Desoto visitation standards will apply to their new facility.

Recommendations

We find that Mississippi juvenile detention centers currently need basic visitation standards. We recommend that all juvenile detention centers provide visitation a minimum of three days per week, with at least one day being on the weekend. We also recommend that at least two hours of visitation occur after 5pm on a weekday. Scheduling some visitation on both a weekend day and in the evening would allow working parents/guardians better access to visitation.

Recreation

Providing some level of recreation and leisure activities to detainees is important for both their physical and mental health. Our findings suggest that the vast majority of juvenile detention facilities are providing access to a combination of outdoor and indoor recreational activities (see Table 9). Almost all detention centers have outdoor space designated for recreation (Adams County does not have outdoor space, but does have an indoor gym). Generally this space is fairly small, is secured by a chain linked fence, and tends to have a basketball goal. Currently, four facilities are not providing access to outdoor recreation because the security of the space has been compromised. Outdoor recreation is typically limited to one hour per day (weather permitting). Outdoor recreation is voluntary.

Most facilities allow for indoor recreation/leisure activities. Generally, these activities are limited to playing board games or cards. Some administrators did note that games which involved the use of dice were banned due to detainees using them to gamble. Indoor activities are primarily restricted to detainee day room areas. Most detention centers allow detainees to watch a limited amount of television and/or videos. It should be noted that the content of television programming is controlled by detention officers and staff.

Our major finding with regard to recreation is that all but two facilities do not provide any organized recreation programs. Administrators concede that they do not have the staff necessary to plan exercise programs or other recreational activities. Further, any participation in an organized program would have to be voluntary on the part of the detainees.

Recommendations

Recreational and leisure activities have many positive effects for detainees. Organized and structured activities can develop good health habits, develop new interests and skills, teach fair play and team work, provide an acceptable outlet for frustration and hostility, and provide a constructive outlet for physical energy. We suggest that juvenile detention centers adhere to the American Correctional Association's recommendations regarding recreation and leisure activities. Thus, we recommend that there should be opportunities for exercise and constructive leisure time activity for at least two hours on school days and three hours on non-school days, not including time spent watching television. We also recommend that a minimum of one hour per day be devoted to large muscle development, i.e., playing basketball, calisthenics, and one hour per day have structured leisure time activities, such as arts and crafts. Recreational and leisure time activities should be consistent with the needs and preferences of the juveniles. Noncompetitive recreational activities should be made available. Detention staff need to have appropriate training to supervise recreational activities. Finally, we recommend that detention staff actively encourage juveniles to participate in recreational and leisure activities, but juveniles that fail to participate should not be punished.

Table 9: Recreation and Leisure Programs in Juvenile Detention

Detention Center	Access to Outdoor Recreation	Indoor Recreation/Leisure Activities	Organized Recreational Program	Access to Television/Video
Adams		√*		
Alcorn	√	√		√
Desoto*	√	√		√
Forrest	√	√		
Harrison	√	√		√
Hinds	√	√	√	√
Jackson*		√	√	√
Jones	√	√		
Lauderdale		√		
Lee	√	√		√
Leflore	√	√		√
Lowndes*				
Pike				
Rankin	√	√		√
Warren	√	√*		√
Washington	√	√		
Yazoo	√	√		√

* Adams County has no outside recreation area but, does have an indoor gym.

* Desoto County recreation standards are based on new facility.

* Jackson County has an outside recreation but, it is currently unavailable due to hurricane damage.

* Lowndes County's new facility will have an outdoor recreation area but, currently juveniles have no access to recreational/leisure activities.

* Warren County has an indoor gym

Conclusion

This report represents the first systematic study of Mississippi's juvenile detention system. As a result of the passage of S.B. 2894, state juvenile detention centers are now being required to meet basic uniform guidelines for operation. Further, ongoing monitoring of the detention centers is required to report progress towards meeting and maintaining the legislated guidelines. Our report provides baseline information as to the current conditions of operation of each of the 17 detention centers. Not surprisingly, our study has revealed that there is a range of variation in the conditions and the operations of the detention centers. Clearly, much of the diversity is a result of the age and size of the facilities, as well as the community resources which either enhance or limit the operation of and services provided by individual detention centers. Thus, our findings should not be interpreted as being critical of any single facility. Rather, we are simply providing a description that we hope will be useful in understanding the capabilities, possible opportunities, and limitations of Mississippi's juvenile detention centers. This effort begins a process that will lead to a stronger and more professional system of juvenile corrections. It would be everyone's desire not to need juvenile detention centers at all. However, the realities of contemporary society, unfortunately, produce too many troubled youth and ultimately too many juvenile offenders. We have a responsibility to have a juvenile detention center system that provides a just and constructive sanction, but also delivers that sanction in a manner which is consistent with the ideal of rehabilitation and successful community reintegration.

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Appendix A

Sections of S. B. 2894, the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2005, Relevant to Monitoring of Juvenile Detention Centers

SECTION 1. (1) There is established the Juvenile Detention Facilities Monitoring Unit within the Department of Public Safety to work in cooperation with the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee described in Section 45-1-33. The unit shall inspect all juvenile detention facilities including, but not limited to, the state training schools on a quarterly basis. The inspection shall encompass the following:

- (a) Ensuring and certifying that the juvenile detention facilities are in compliance with the minimum standards of operation, as established in Section 43-21-321;
 - (b) Providing technical assistance and advice to juvenile detention facilities, which will assist the facilities in complying with the minimum standards.
- (2) Additional duties of the monitoring unit are as follows:
- (a) To conduct an assessment of all juvenile detention facilities and to determine how far each is from coming into compliance with the minimum standards, as established in Section 43-21-301 (6) and Section 43-21-321; and
 - (b) To develop a strategic plan and a timeline for each juvenile detention facility to come into compliance with the minimum standards as described in this subsection.

SECTION 5. Section 43-21-321, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:
43-21-321. (1) All juveniles shall undergo a health screening within one (1) hour of admission to any juvenile detention center, or as soon thereafter as reasonably possible. Information obtained during the screening shall include, but shall not be limited to, the juvenile's:

- (a) Mental health;
- (b) Suicide risk;
- (c) Alcohol and other drug use and abuse;
- (d) Physical health;
- (e) Aggressive behavior;
- (f) Family relations;
- (g) Peer relations;
- (h) Social skills;
- (i) Educational status; and
- (j) Vocational status.

(2) If the screening instrument indicates that a juvenile is in need of emergency medical care or mental health intervention services, the detention staff shall refer those juveniles to the proper health care facility or community mental health service provider for further evaluation, as soon as reasonably possible. If the screening instrument, such as the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument version 2 (MAYSI-2) or other comparable mental health screening instrument indicates that the juvenile is in need of emergency medical care or mental health intervention services, the detention staff shall refer the juvenile to the proper health care facility or community mental health service provider for further evaluation, recommendation and referral for treatment, if necessary, within forty-eight (48) hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and statutory state holidays.

- (3) All juveniles shall receive a thorough orientation to the center's procedures, rules, programs, and services. The intake process shall operate twenty-four (24) hours per day.
- (4) The directors of all the juvenile detention centers shall amend or develop written procedures for admission of juveniles who are new to the system. These shall include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - (a) Determine that the juvenile is legally committed to the facility;
 - (b) Make a complete search of the juvenile and his possessions;
 - (c) Dispose of personal property;
 - (d) Require shower and hair care, if necessary;
 - (e) Issue clean, laundered clothing, as needed;
 - (f) Issue personal hygiene articles;
 - (g) Perform medical, dental, and mental health screening;
 - (h) Assign a housing unit for the juvenile;
 - (i) Record basic personal data and information to be used for mail and visiting lists
 - (j) Assist juveniles in notifying their families of their admission and procedures for mail and visiting;
 - (k) Assign a registered number to the juvenile; and
 - (l) Provide written orientation materials to the juvenile.
- (5) All juvenile detention centers shall provide or make available the following minimum services and programs:
 - (a) An educational program;
 - (b) A visitation program with parents and guardians;
 - (c) Private communications with visitors and staff;
 - (d) Counseling;
 - (e) Continuous supervision of living units;
 - (f) Medical service;
 - (g) Food service;
 - (h) Recreation and exercise program; and
 - (i) Reading materials.
- (6) Programs and services shall be initiated for all juveniles once they have completed the admissions process.
- (7) Programs and professional services may be provided by the detention staff, youth court staff or the staff of the local or state agencies, or those programs and professional services may be provided through contractual arrangements with community agencies.
- (8) Persons providing the services required in this section must be qualified or trained in their respective fields.
- (9) All directors of juvenile detention centers shall amend or develop written procedures to fit the programs and services described in this section.

Appendix B

Site Visit and Compliance Reports for each Juvenile Detention Center

Adams County Juvenile Detention Center	41
Alcorn County/City of Corinth Juvenile Detention Center	47
Desoto County Juvenile Detention Center	52
Forrest County Juvenile Detention Center	57
Harrison County Juvenile Justice Center	62
Henley Young Juvenile Justice Center (Hinds County)	68
Jackson County Juvenile Detention Center	74
Jones County Juvenile Justice Center	79
Lauderdale County Juvenile Center	84
Lee County Juvenile Justice Center	89
Leflore County Juvenile Justice Center	94
Lowndes County Juvenile Detention Center	99
Pike County Juvenile Detention Center	104
Rankin County Juvenile Justice Center	109
Warren County Juvenile Detention Center	114
Washington County Juvenile Justice Center	119
Yazoo County Juvenile Justice Center	124

Adams County Juvenile Detention Center

320 State Street
Natchez, MS 39121
601-304-7890

Opened March 2002

Date of Site Visit: October 19, 2005

Monitored by: Dr. Angela Robertson, Dr. Gregory Dunaway, Ms. Mary Lukens

Informants: Glenn Arnold, Administrator; Jenine Wickham, Judge's Assistant; Nefela Woods, Community Service and Family First Facilitator

Operated by: Adams County Youth Court

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day

Number of Beds in Facility: 26

Census: 16

Average Daily Census: 14 (in summer months, much lower)

Glenn Arnold is responsible for day-to-day administrative decisions regarding the juvenile justice facility.

Process for obtaining a detention order

Detention orders are obtained through verbal or written requests. Written orders are issued on (1) a police referral or arrest report; (2) Youth Services Counselor request. Verbal requests for Detention Orders are accepted but must be followed up with a written detention order within 48 hours (excluding holidays and weekends). The majority of verbal orders are related to out of county juveniles. Officials empowered to issue Detention Orders include the County Court Judge, Judge Hudson, Jack Lazarus, County Court Judge designee, Chuck Mayfield, and Edrena Smith, Youth Court Counselor.

Admission Procedures

Juveniles are searched upon booking. Personal possessions are placed in a property bag assigned to the juvenile. Each property bag displays the offender's name and booking number. Once divested of personal possessions, juveniles are showered, de-loused, and issued a uniform. Personal hygiene articles, dispensed by the facility, are distributed and returned to the property bag as needed. Each offender is photographed and fingerprinted. The detention officer is responsible for parental notification of juvenile detainment. The officer provides parents with visiting procedures. Martha Freeman, Administrative Assistant, notifies the appropriate judge and attorney. Records are entered and maintained through the Eagle Computer System.

Juvenile offenders are provided with a copy of the Detention Center's rules and regulations as well as procedures, programs, and services. Rules and Regulations are verbally read to offenders as well as posted on the wall of the facility. Juveniles are required to sign a written acknowledgment of the rules and regulations.

Written Policy and Procedure Manual Review:

The Standard Operation Procedures Manual outlines policies relating to the admission process, search protocols, care and disposition of personal property, hygiene, issuance of clothing property, housing assignments, record keeping, family notification procedures, visitation protocols, and assignment of offender registration numbers. The manual also details the orientation procedure for new entries into the facility.

Each employee is provided a copy of the Standard Operating Procedure manual. Employees sign a receipt upon issuance of the manual stating they understand the policies and procedures outlined within the manual. Employees receive updated policies as appropriate. Additional copies of the manual are stored in the facility storeroom.

Health Screening

Booking officers observe and interview juveniles to screen for medical and mental health problems. The Eagle Inmate Management Computer System incorporates a series of questions used to screen offenders. The MAYSI questionnaire is designed to assess mental health status. Juveniles are screened for suicide risk, aggressive behavior, and alcohol and drug use. The administrator expressed concern over the use of the MAYSI for repeat offenders. He questions the validity of the instrument. In addition, the Eagle Computer System, is also used as a screening tool. Officers currently do not interview offenders concerning family and peer relations, social skill aptitude, or vocational status since this information is currently collected by the Youth Court Intake Officer or Youth Services counselor.

MAYSI scores, officer observation of the juvenile, and the Eagle System are tools the staff use to determine whether the juvenile detainee is in need of emergency medical care or mental health intervention. The detention center does not accept juveniles with obvious (upon visual inspection) problems requiring immediate medical attention. American Medical Response (emergency medical service) assesses the medical needs of juveniles and transports the offender to the county hospital when necessary. Juveniles who require mental health intervention to the community mental health center or a private provider such as referred to Brentwood or Oak Circle Hospital within twenty-four hours of booking.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Standard Operating Procedures Manual addresses medical and mental health screening procedures. Drug testing is not part of the routine intake procedure but is conducted when there is suspicion of drug use.

Services and Programs: Educational and Reading Materials

Adams County does not provide on-site educational services for all juveniles. Juveniles with special education needs (as determined by the appropriate school district) are provided with access to a teacher and a computer. Juveniles who are currently enrolled in school, but do not have special education needs, may be transported to school by parents or allowed to ride the bus to school. Juveniles who have been suspended or expelled from school must remain at the detention center. Academic instruction, offered during the regular school year, is not provided during the summer months.

The detention center facility provides juveniles with access to a resource room stocked with a collection of books. The status offenders room houses this collection. Offenders are allowed “free-reading time” upon request but are required to read in the designated area. Juveniles are prohibited from taking reading material to their cells/rooms. The detention officers are responsible for making the reading material available to the juveniles since offenders are restricted from access to the local public library.

The facility offers a GED program taught by Pat Caldwell, an instructor with Colin Junior College.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Standard Operating Procedures Manual does not outline policies concerning educational services, academic instruction, offender access to reading materials, or the GED program.

Services and Programs: Visitation with Parents and Guardians & Private Communication with Visitors and Staff

Juveniles are allowed non-contact visits with family members. Regular visiting hours are held on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 7:00 - 9:00 pm and Sundays from 9:00 A. M. To 12:00 noon. Family visits are conducted in a designated area of the facility. Non-family visitation (counselors and attorneys) are allowed on a request basis. Counselor and attorneys may visit juveniles at anytime.

Using a separate room, this facility provides non-contact visitation for family. The regular visiting hours are on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m and Sundays from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm Counselors and attorneys are allowed contact visits upon request and may visit at anytime.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Standard Operating Procedures Manual contains specific written policies regarding visitation procedures.

Services and Programs: Food Service

The detention center does not have a kitchen facility. The county jail prepares the meals served in the facility and the food is picked up from the county jail by the detention staff. Detention officers are responsible for handling and serving the food once it reaches the detention center. Juveniles receive sandwiches for snacks once per day.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Standard Operating Procedures Manual does not outline written policies regarding food services.

Services and Programs: Counseling

There are five Division of Youth Services or County Youth Court Counselors assigned to work at this facility including two CASA workers, two DHS youth court workers, and one county YC worker. Counselors are assigned to offenders within the first twenty-hours of incarceration. Mary Kate Jackson from Families First Organization supervises the Youth Services Counselors.

The Adolescent Offender Program is provided by Bell Varner, a youth court employee.

It is worthy of note that detention center staff treat each juvenile as a potential security risk to other detainees, detention officers and staff, and to themselves. Informants estimate that 80% of the detainees require mental health services and 90% have substance abuse problems.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Standard Operating Procedures Manual does not contain written policies regarding counseling and therapeutic services.

Services and Programs: Medical

There are currently no medical staff employed the detention center. The County Board of Supervisors has approved hiring a medical staff person. The detention center plans to contract with a legal physician or nurse practitioner for basic health services. At present, EMT's provide health care services to offenders.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Standard Operating Procedures Manual contains written policies regarding the provision of medical services.

Services and Programs: Recreation and Exercise

The detention center schedules regular physical recreational activities for detainees. Juveniles are provided with one hour of exercise daily. Detention officers escort juveniles to an indoor gym located upstairs in the detention center facility. Activities include basketball and board games.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Standard Operating Procedures Manual does not contain written policies governing recreation and exercise activities for offenders.

Services and Programs: Religious

The facility provides religious services three days a week. Individuals from the community conduct services after successfully completing a background and fingerprint check. Providers of religious services undergo a verification process similar to employees. Religious visitation and services occur on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday each week.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Standard Operating Procedures Manual provides written policies that cover religious services as well as offenders' rights to practice freedom of religion.

Services of Programs: Other

Family First Resource Center provides the following services to youth and their families: parenting classes, teen pregnancy prevention, life skills training, shoplifting prevention, conflict resolution/anger management, career choice/ vocational education, GED programs, mentor/tutoring, substance abuse prevention, nutrition, STD education, peer pressure, grief/suicide, and community service.

Some programs that the facility does not offer but would like to include are educational services, outside exercise/recreation, art therapy, and counseling for family problems. The informants emphasized that budget restraints and space limitations are two obstacles to providing these services.

Safety and Security

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Standard Operating Procedures Manual contains written policies relating to safety and security of offenders and the detention facility. The manual includes written policies that govern controlling violent youth, use of force, discipline philosophy, inmate movement control, firearm/weapon control, searches, keys, building section, contraband, security devices, emergency procedures, fire protection, evacuation plan, and severe weather procedures.

A copy of the Evacuation Plan was obtained outlining a detailed floor plan of all emergency exits.

Staffing

Adams County currently employs 12 full-time and no part-time individuals. There is one administrator, one assistant administrator, and ten detention officers. Currently, one position for a detention officer remains open. Officers work in two twelve hours shifts from 6:00 am. to 6:00 pm and 6:00 pm to 6:00 am Night shifts are manned by two staff members and day shifts by three staff members.

At present, the facility is under-staffed. Employee turnover is not reported to be a problem. The current salaries are less than adequate to recruit and retain quality personnel. Therefore, it is typically difficult to hire qualified applicants to fill open positions.

Staff Training

A newly hired detention officer requires 80 hours of jailer training and 80 annual hours of juvenile detention training. The informants believe the current training requirements are sufficient for new detention officers. They also believe that all juvenile detention officers should be required to complete a juvenile detention curriculum in addition to the required jailer training, Peace Officers Standards and Training.

The youngest officer at Adams County Juvenile Detention Center is 30 years old. The minimum age at which someone should be hired as a juvenile detention officer is 25.

In-service training consist of twenty hours of crisis/intervention training and 8 hours of “verbal judo” training. The director believes the current in-service training requirements are less than sufficient for detention officers. He also believes that basic detention officer training should be expanded to include training for handling assaultive juveniles and intoxicated juveniles. He also notes less than adequate resources are available for personnel training.

Ninety-eight percent of the training requirements are conducted on-site at the facility. Meeting the current training requirements creates significant scheduling and staffing problems.

The director of the facility states he would like to see the provision of additional on-site training as well as training on the community level. He states he believes the level of in-service training and the resources available are adequate for someone in his position. Moreover, the director states that he has the time available to take advantage of the resources available to him. He believes that he could be a more effective administrator with additional training in changes to the law, new laws, and new methods of dealing with problem juveniles.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Standard Operating Procedures Manual contains written policies relating to in-service staff training.

Technology

Adams County has three computers, two of which are linked to the Internet. One of the computers has a DVD Drive and all the computers have CD Drives. The administrator has a work email account but staff members are not provided with individual accounts. There is currently audio/visual equipment in an upstairs area of the facility. The detainees used to have access to computers in the status room when there was a teacher, but that amenity is no longer provided.

Alcorn County/City of Corinth Juvenile Detention Center

2861 South Harper Road
Corinth, MS 38834
662-287-5384

Date of Site Visit: November 10, 2005

Monitored by: Dr. Angela Robertson

Informant: Shelly Hubbard Hopkins, Administrator (Started August 2005)

Operated by: Alcorn County Board of Supervisors and Youth Court

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day

Number of Beds in Facility: 16

Census: 10

Average Daily Census: 8 (also housing Desoto juveniles as this time while they build another detention center)

Shelly Hubbard Hopkins is responsible for day-to-day administrative decisions regarding the juvenile facility.

Process for obtaining a detention order

Jimmy Fisher, Youth Court Judge, has authority to give a detention order. The youth court designee, Scottie Spencer, can give a detention order, but he is used only if the judge is unavailable. If a police officer arrests a juvenile (must be at least twelve years old), he or she calls the detention center or sometimes the police station to find out what to do before transporting the juvenile. The arresting officer must take the juvenile to the police department or sheriff's department first and get all the juvenile's information for the report. Once the officer does that, he or she calls the Youth Court Judge and tells him the name and age of the juvenile and the charge. The judge decides if he thinks the juvenile should be detained or released to his or her parents. If the juvenile has been before the Youth Court and is on probation, there is a standing order and the judge does not have to be contacted. Verbal orders can be taken from the judge if he is at home, but if he is at his office he sends a written detention order. For verbal orders, a written order must follow within 24 hours (unless weekend or holiday).

Admission Procedures

Immediately the juveniles are informed orally and in writing of their rights. They must sign a form stating they understand. Parents are also notified immediately upon admission. At booking the juvenile and his/her possessions are searched. Personal belongings are inventoried and locked away. Next, juveniles are finger printed and photographed and escorted to shower by same sex staff. They are strip searched and showered using lice shampoo. The juvenile receives a jumpsuit, footwear, pillow, and bed linens.

Juveniles are given written materials that explain the center's procedures, rules, programs and services.

Written Policy and Procedure Manual Review:

There are written procedures for admission to include search of the juvenile and his possessions, disposition of personal property, shower and hair care, issuance of clothing, assignment of housing unit/pod/cell, recording basic personal data, and notification of families and admission and procedures for visiting and the orientation to rights and responsibilities.

The assignment of a registered number to juvenile (although it explains numbering is consecutive) and issuing personal hygiene articles is not explicitly listed among admissions procedures.

The manual is located in the administrator's office and the detention center office. The manual is in the process of being updated and will then be issued to each individual employee. The detention officer must read and sign a form and attend a monthly policy review.

Health Screening

The detention officers are responsible for the medical and mental health screening of the youth upon admission. There are two types of screening. Medical screening includes any medications, chronic health problems such as diabetes, and medical consent signed by a legal guardian. General behavioral screening (by observation) includes state of consciousness, mental status, appearance, tremors or sweating, ease of movement, and condition of skin. If the juvenile has an acute illness, injury, or is severely intoxicated he/she is not admitted.

The facility screens all juveniles. Using the MAYSI and questions on the intake form (see attached) juveniles are screened for suicide risk, aggressive behavior, and alcohol/drug use. Information on the physical health/medical history of the youth is obtained using a form provided by the facility. The detention officer asks questions about the juveniles educational status such as the current grade or if they are home schooled. They also gather information about marital status and legal history. The juveniles are not screened for family relations, peer relations, social skills, or vocational status.

The MAYSI scores, observation, and a medical report can help the staff determine whether the juvenile detainee is in need of emergency medical care or mental intervention. If the juvenile is in need of mental care, the detention officer will call Timberhills, the regional public mental health center and will contact the Youth Court Counselor. If in need of medical care they are transported to the hospital emergency room. The medical referral process takes place within 48 hours.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies related to health/medical history and mental health screening at booking/intake. The manual does not include policies/procedures for any other type of screening.

Services and Programs: Educational and Reading Materials

Alcorn County school district and the city of Corinth provide assignments for juveniles who are enrolled in school. The detention officers see that the juvenile completes the school work and turns assignments in. There are two volunteer tutors who provide educational services. Barbara Barrett is a retired school teacher who comes on Monday and Tuesday and Leo Prussia, who works at the public library, helps juveniles with literacy problems on Wednesdays and Thursdays. The

academic instruction is four hours per day, four days a week. There is a separate room which is used as a classroom and a day room for watching television.

The detention center has a collection of books, and any staff member can bring reading material to the youth. The facility does not have a library but the youth are allowed free-reading time during recreation time in the afternoons. They are allowed to take their books back to their cells/rooms. If a juvenile knows of a specific book he would like to read, a detention officer can get it from the public library.

The facility does **not** offer a GED program but if the detainee is already enrolled then they are allowed to continue to work on it.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual specifies that there will be educational instruction and that there is to be one teacher for every eight students. The education policy/procedure does not reflect current practice. The manual does not include policies on availability of reading materials or participation in a GED program.

Services and Programs: Visitation with Parents and Guardians & Private Communication with Visitors and Staff

Using a separate room, this facility provides non-contact visitation for family. The regular visiting hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 4:30-7:30 pm and 1:30-3:30 pm on Saturday. Legal professionals visitation may occur anytime.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies regarding visitation and telephone access.

Services and Programs: Food Service

The sheriff's department prepares the food for the facility. The detention officer serves the food. There is limited kitchen facility availability. A snack is provided for juveniles twice a day and they are served Kool-aid or tea.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual **does not** contain written policies regarding food services.

Services and Programs: Counseling

There is one Division of Youth Services or County Youth Court Counselor assigned to work at this facility. A youth is assigned a counselor within 24 hours of detainment. The counselor is responsible for providing counseling, evaluation, referral, and support services to juveniles. He/she is also provides consultation in behavior management to the Youth Court and the detention facility.

Timberhills Mental Health Center and Department of Human Service social workers occasionally provide therapeutic services to juveniles on site.

The informant estimates that 10% of the detainees are security threats with regard to other detainees, detention officers and staff or themselves, 50% of the detainees require mental health services, and 70% have substance abuse problems.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies for counseling and therapeutic services.

Services and Programs: Medical

A nurse is provided by the sheriff's department. Ms Hopkins was not sure if she is a LPN or RN. She is rarely on-site. The general health care provider is Dr. William Jackson . The after-hours health care services are provided by Magnolia Regional Health Center. The detention officers hand out any prescribed medication.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies regarding medical services.

Services and Programs: Recreation and Exercise

There is regularly scheduled physical recreation activities for detainees. There are a total of two hours of recreation/exercise a day (Monday-Friday). Under the detention officers' supervision, the detainees can go outside and play basketball or other outdoor activities. They may also remain inside their day room and play board games, card games, or watch videos.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There is a written policy for recreation/exercise.

Services and Programs: Religious

The facility does not provide religious services. Ministers/Clergy come to visit about once every two weeks. Juveniles are not required to attend these services.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies related to religious worship.

Services of Programs: Other

Alcorn county does not provide any other programs for the youth. They would like to offer an anger management program as wells as social skills training. Money is an important factor preventing the detention center from implementing additional programs/services.

Safety and Security

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies relating to safety and security.

Staffing

Alcorn County currently employs seven full-time employees (including administrator) and one part-time detention officer.

The facility describes their staffing situation as fully staffed with employee turnover somewhat of a problem. The current salaries are adequate to recruit and retain quality personnel. They typically do not have difficulty finding qualified applicants to fill open positions.

There are three twelve-hour shifts: 7:00 am to 7:00 pm, 10:00 am to 10:00 pm and 7:00 pm to 7:00 am. They overlap to have more people to help with meals and transportation of juveniles to Youth Court hearings.

Staff Training

A newly hired detention officer requires 160-240 hours of new employee training (checklist attached) and 80 hours of jailer training. The informant believes the current training requirements are more than sufficient for new detention officers.

Informant states that the minimum age at which someone should be hired as a juvenile detention officer is 20. The youngest officer at Alcorn County Juvenile Detention Center is 22 years of age.

In-service training consist of a total of eight hours for CPR/First Aid, eight hours of OC Spray, and four hours of Mental Health training. The director believes the current in-service training requirements are sufficient for detention officers. They also note they have **less than** adequate resources for training their personnel.

They would like to expand the following in-service training for detention officers: defensive tactics, juvenile law, and dealing with the public.

Ten percent of the training requirements take place on-site at the facility, 20% in the local community, and 70% outside the local community. Meeting the current training requirements does not create a minor scheduling and staffing problem. The administrator would like to see more training offered on site and in the local community.

Ms Hopkins believes that with regard to her own position as the administrator, the level of in-service training and resources available are **less than** adequate for carrying out her work. She currently has time to take advantage of current training resources available and believes an annual update class would be more important to better carry out her work.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual **does not** contain written policies relating to staff training. However personnel discipline, detention officer job description, and HIV/AIDS procedures are listed.

Technology

Alcorn County has three computers. Two of the computers have DVD Drives and all of the computers have CD Drives. None of the computers are linked to the Internet. Neither the administrator nor the staff have a work email account. There is audio/visual equipment available for use in the facility.

Desoto County Juvenile Detention Center

311 West South Street
Hernando, MS 38632
662-429-5578

Date of Site Visit: November 21, 2005

Monitored by: Dr. Gregory Dunaway and Ms. Angela Maggard

Informant: Chief Steve Atkinson, Facilities Administrator
Captain Paula Alberson
Commander James Dunn

Operated by: Sheriffs Office

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day

Number of Beds in Facility: There were 22 beds in the facility prior to November 7, 2005.

Census: 0

Average Daily Census: 8-10

There have not been any juveniles for two weeks at this location. The facility was closed for construction of a new facility. At the time of the site visit, juveniles were housed at the Alcorn county facility. However, juveniles are now (January, 2006) housed in two trailers, one for females and one for males. A new facility is being built at the site of the old facility. It is estimated that it will take fourteen months to build the new facility. It will be 11,000 square feet and will have 36 beds.

Chief Steve Atkinson and Captain Paula Alberson are responsible for making day to day administrative decisions.

Process for obtaining a detention order

The police department makes the arrest and notifies the judge. The judge makes the determination whether to keep or release the juvenile. The judge can give a verbal order but the order must be written within twenty-four hours. Mills Barbee, the youth court judge, has the authority to issue a detention order. Jimmy Ratford and Mary Lee Brown are the designees and may also issue a detention order.

Admission Procedures

All paperwork is checked for correct information (parents name, charge, etc.) upon arrival. At booking the juvenile and his/her possessions are searched. Juveniles are given written materials that explain the center's procedures, rules, programs and services. The rules and rights are posted on the wall in each cell. The juvenile signs a form indicating that they have read the rules. Every juvenile is screened for medical problems and mental health status. Personal belongings are logged into the computer and locked away. Next, juveniles shower with shampoo in their individual cell. A photograph is taken, detention uniforms and personal hygiene products (toothbrush, toothpaste, combs, etc.) are given to the juvenile. The booking number is assigned by the computer. They are assigned a housing cell based on charges and ages. The family is notified of the charges and that their juvenile is in custody. The youth may talk to their parents at the time.

Written Policy and Procedure Manual Review:

The manual has the following written policies regarding admission: search of the juvenile and his possessions, disposition of personal property, issuance of clothing, assignment of housing unit/pod/cell, recording basic personal data, notification of families and admission and procedures for visiting, the assignment of a registered number to juvenile, shower and hair care, and issuing personal hygiene articles.

The orientation to rights and responsibilities are also in the manual.

The manual is located at the desk in the detention center (booking area) and each employee also receives one. At hiring, all employees are required to read and sign the manual. The manual was updated two months ago. There is an orientation for new employees.

Health Screening

The detention officers are responsible for the medical and mental health screening of the youth upon admission. The facility screens one hundred percent of their juveniles. Juveniles are screened for mental health status using the MAYSI. This screening provides information about suicide risk, alcohol/drug use, and physical health/medical history. Educational and vocational status information is obtained using the Eagle System during booking. Officers also ask questions to verify the family members.

The juveniles are not screened for aggressive behavior, peer relations, or social skills.

The MAYSI scores, observation, and a medical report can help the staff determine whether the juvenile detainee is in need of emergency medical care or mental intervention. The nurse on duty makes the decision for emergency medical care. The Youth Services counselors take care of the mental health referrals. The detainee can be referred to Parkwood Hospital, a private psychiatric hospital or to Community Care, the local public mental health provider for mental health treatment, if necessary.

The medical referral process is immediate and the mental health referral is usually within eight hours.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual has written policies related to health/medical history and mental health screening at booking. There are no policies/procedures regarding other types of screening.

Services and Programs: Educational and Reading Materials

There are three certified teachers housed in the facility. They are employed by Desoto County Schools (Alpha and Omega). There is one special education teacher, a teacher, and an assistant. Academic instruction is conducted in a separate room. Instruction is provided year round, three hours a day from noon to 3:00 pm.

The facility does not have a library but a collection of books is provided by the Literacy Council from the public library. Juveniles are allowed free reading time and can take the reading materials back to their cells.

The facility does **NOT** offer a GED program.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies on the education services but **NOT** the GED program.

Services and Programs: Visitation with Parents and Guardians & Private Communication with Visitors and Staff

Using a separate room, this facility provides contact visitation for family (non-contact once moved into new facility). The regular visiting hours are Monday- Friday from 7:00-9:00 P. M. and Saturday and Sunday from 1:00-3:00 P. M. Legal professionals are allowed visitation anytime with the judges approval.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding visitation procedures.

Services and Programs: Food Service

Staff at the Adult Jail prepares and delivers the food for the facility. The detention officer serves the food once it reaches the detention center. There is limited kitchen facility availability (break room for staff). A daily snack is **NOT** provided for juveniles.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding the food services.

Services and Programs: Counseling

There are four Division of Youth Services or County Youth Court Counselors assigned to work at this facility. A youth is assigned to a counselor less than twenty-four hours after detainment. Mr. Terry Wallace supervises the Youth Services Counselors. He is the Youth Court Counselor Coordinator.

The informant estimates that less than two percent of the detainees are considered to be security threats with regard to other detainees, detention officers and staff or themselves, ten percent of the detainees require mental health services, and eighty percent have substance abuse problems.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding counseling and therapeutic services.

Services and Programs: Medical

There are four licensed practical nurses available twelve hours a day. There is also a Medical Physician available twelve hours a week and on call.

The general health care provider is Baptist Desoto Hospital. It also provides after-hours health care services.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding the medical services.

Services and Programs: Recreation and Exercise

There is regularly scheduled physical recreation activities for detainees. There is a total of one hour of recreation/exercise a day. Under the detention officers' supervision, the detainees can go outside and play basketball or other outdoor activities. They may also stay in doors (in cell) and watch T.V., play cards, or board games. The males and females are separate. They will have common area for eating and other activities once new facility is built.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding the recreation/exercise program.

Services and Programs: Religious

The facility does **NOT** provide religious services. Religious visitation may occur during regular visiting hours if approved by the judge.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does **not** contain written policies related to religious worship.

Services of Programs: Other

Other programs are provided per the judge's orders.

The informants stated that most of the programs are being done elsewhere and therefore are not necessary at the facility.

Safety and Security

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies relating to safety and security. In this manual security procedures such as a fire evacuation plan, weapon control, and center security are listed.

Staffing

Desoto County currently employs twelve full-time and no part-time individuals. There are two shifts from 6:00 A. M.- 6:00 P. M. There are at least two staff, and sometimes three, per shift (male and female).

Staff Training

The facility administrator did not complete the Staffing and Training Survey.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does not contain written policies relating to staff training.

Technology

Desoto County has two computers which are used for booking. The two computers available for juveniles' use are currently in storage. All of the computers have DVD Drives and CD Drives. None of the computers are linked to the Internet. Neither the administrator nor the staff have a work email account. There is not audio/visual equipment available for use in the facility. They will have cameras, but they are not sure how many yet.

Forrest County Juvenile Detention Center

110 Alcorn Avenue
Hattiesburg, MS 39401
601-545-6183

Date of Site Visit: November 3, 2005

Monitored by: Dr. Angela Robertson

Informant: Patsy Keith, Assistant Administrator
Donnell Brannon, Director

Operated by: Sheriff's Office-Billy McGee

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day

Number of Beds in Facility: 47

Census: 20

Average Daily Census: 10-14

Sargent Donnell Brannon is responsible for day-to-day administrative decisions regarding the juvenile facility.

Process for obtaining a detention order

Judge Michael McPhail and his designees: Jackie Williams, Cynthia Jones, Chris Thomas and Linda Webb, have authority to give a detention order. The judge/designee determines whether secure detention is necessary based on the arresting officers' report or if the charge is a violation of probation. Verbal orders are followed by a written order within a few hours. A copy of the court order is necessary for the detention of juveniles who reside out of Forrest County.

Admission Procedures

At booking the juvenile and his/her possessions are searched. Personal belonging are logged into the computer and locked away. Next, juveniles shower with lice shampoo in their individual cell. Detention uniforms and personal hygiene products are given to the juvenile. Every juvenile is screened for medical problems and mental health status. The booking number is assigned by computer (social security numbers are also used) and then they are assigned a housing cell. Two temporary holding cells with video monitoring are used for juveniles in detox and or under suicide watch. The family is usually notified before the child gets to the facility by the arresting officer.

The first time the juvenile is booked they take a photo, collect contact information, and record reason for detainment.

Juveniles are given written materials that explain the center's procedures, rules, programs and services. The rules and rights are posted on the wall in each cell block/housing unit.

Written Policy and Procedure Manual Review:

The Standard Operating Procedures manual is dated February 1996, but it was reportedly revised about two years ago. One copy of the manual is kept in the control room and another copy is kept in the front office. In addition each officer is given a copy of the manual.

There are written policies regarding admission on search of the juvenile and his possessions, disposition of personal property, issuance of clothing, assignment of housing unit/pod/cell, recording basic personal data, notification of families and admission, as well as procedures for visiting, and the assignment of a registered number to the juvenile.

The orientation to rights and responsibilities are not in the manual. Shower and hair care and issuing personal hygiene articles is not explicitly listed among admissions procedures.

Health Screening

The detention officers are responsible for the medical and mental health screening of the youth upon admission. The facility screens all juveniles. Juveniles are screened for mental health status using the MAYSI. This screening obtains information about suicide risk, aggressive behavior, and alcohol/drug use. Information on the physical health/medical history of the youth is obtained by the security officer (see attached form). The educational status is obtained by the school resource officer who informs the school of the juveniles' placement in the detention center.

The juveniles are not screened for family relations, peer relations, social skills, or vocational status.

The MAYSI scores, observation, and a medical report are used to determine whether the juvenile is in need of emergency medical care or mental intervention. Ms. Keith reviews the MAYSI and contacts the youth service counselor or Pinebelt Mental Healthcare. Juveniles needing immediate medical care are transported to the local hospital by AAA Ambulance Service. The nurse stationed at the adult jail is also available for medical care needs.

The medical referral process is immediate and the mental health referral is usually within eight hours.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual has written policies related to health/medical history screening and mental health screening at booking/intake. The manual does not include procedures for other forms of screening.

Services and Programs: Educational and Reading Materials

Not all incarcerated youth receive education services. Hattiesburg Public Schools provides a certified special education teacher who provides educational services only to those juveniles with a special education designation. The academic instruction is one hour per child. She is available a couple of days a week. There is no classroom. The teacher meets with juveniles in a small room.

Voluntary enrichment activities are offered five days a week for one hour. This activity is provided by the family network partnership through University of Southern Mississippi Social Work department.

The facility does not have a library. Youth are allowed only to read the Bible and school text books during recreation time in the afternoons. Parents must bring the school books to the facility. They are allowed to take their Bible back to their cells/rooms but not any school work.

The facility does **not** offer a GED program.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are **no** written policies on the education services or availability of reading materials.

Services and Programs: Visitation with Parents and Guardians & Private Communication with Visitors and Staff

Using a separate room, this facility provides non-contact visitation for family. The regular visiting hours are Monday- Friday from 9:00-12:00 A. M. and 1:00-4:00 P. M. No holiday or weekend visitation is allowed. Legal professionals may visit at anytime.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written procedures for visitation.

Services and Programs: Food Service

Staff at the Adult Jail prepares and delivers the food for the facility. The detention officer serves the food once it reaches the detention center. There is limited kitchen facility availability. A daily snack is provided for juveniles if they are diabetic.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding food services.

Services and Programs: Counseling

There are four Division of Youth Services or County Youth Court Counselors assigned to work at this facility. The youths are assigned a counselor within forty-eight hours of detainment. Ms. Jackie Dedeaux supervises the Youth Services Counselors. She is the Regional DYS Director.

Nicholas Young from Pinebelt Mental Health Center comes on Wednesday to provide anger management programs. Pine Grove will conducts Alcohol and other drug assessments.

The informant estimates that less than 10% of the detainees are security threats with regard to other detainees, detention officers and staff or themselves, less than 10% require mental health services, and 75% have substance abuse problems.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are **no** written policies regarding counseling and therapeutic services.

Services and Programs: Medical

One licensed practical nurse is on-site on Wednesdays. The general health care and after hours care are provided by Nan Family Health Care and Forrest General Hospital.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies regarding medical services.

Services and Programs: Recreation and Exercise

Physical recreation activities are scheduled for one hour a day. Under the detention officers' supervision, the detainees can go outside and play basketball or other outdoor activities. Sargent Brannon is responsible for planning and overseeing the recreation and exercise programs.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Standard Operating Procedures Manual contains written policies regarding the recreation/exercise program.

Services and Programs: Religious

The facility does provide religious services. Reverend Payton is responsible for coordinating religious services once it is approved by the sheriff. These services are provided one or two times a week on Wednesdays and Friday's from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Religious visitation may occur during regular visiting hours if approved by the youth service counselor.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does **not** contain written policies related to religious services.

Services of Programs: Other

Some additional programs regularly provided for youth at this facility include behavior management, social skills training, mentors (in the past but not currently), substance abuse treatment (referrals of youth are to Pine Grove), art therapy (Family Network), and creative writing.

Some programs that the facility does not offer but would like to include drug prevention, family therapy, and decision-making skills. The informants emphasized the primary problems are drugs and anger. The informants stated that the number one factor that keeps them from implementing more problems is space, followed closely by staffing requirements.

Safety and Security

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Standard Operating Procedures Manual contains written policies relating to safety and security. The manual includes security procedures regarding a fire plan, escape plan, natural disasters, power outages, chemical releases, taking headcounts, contraband control, look-down procedure, inspecting cellblocks, and inmate control.

A copy of the Evacuation Plan was obtained which shows a detailed floor plan with all emergency exits marked.

Staffing

Forrest County currently employs eleven full-time and no part-time individuals. The facility describes their staffing situation as fully staffed with no employee turnover problem. The current salaries are more than adequate to recruit quality personnel but are less than adequate to retain quality personnel. They typically do not have difficulty finding qualified applicants to fill open positions.

There are two twelve-hour shifts: 6:00 A. M. to 6:00 P. M. and 6:00 P. M. to 6:00 A. M. The day shift has four staff members, and the night shift has two staff members.

Staff Training

A newly hired detention officer requires thirty-six hours of basic detention officer training. The informant believes the current training requirements are sufficient for new detention officers.

The youngest officer at Forrest County Juvenile Detention Center is twenty-five and the minimum age at which someone should be hired as a juvenile detention officer is twenty-three.

In-service training consists of a total of thirty-six hours for correctional officers at hire, eight hours of CPR yearly, eight hours suicide prevention yearly, and fire safety training yearly. The director believes the current in-service training requirements are sufficient for detention officers. They also note they have adequate resources for training their personnel.

Ninety percent of the training requirements take place on-site at the facility. Meeting the current training requirements does not create a scheduling and staffing problem.

The director of the facility would like to have more training offered on-site or in the local community. She believes that with regard to her own position as the administrator, the level of in-service training and resources available are more than adequate for carrying out her work. She currently has time to take advantage of current training resources available.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are no written policies relating to staff training.

Technology

Forrest County has four computers. None of the computers have DVD Drives but all of the computers have CD Drives. All of the computers are linked to the Internet. The administrator does not have a work email account, but individual work email accounts are provided for the staff members as a free service. There is not audio/visual equipment available for use in the facility, but they do have access to the youth court's equipment.

Harrison County Juvenile Justice Center

765 McElroy Street

Biloxi, MS 39530

601-436-8631

Date of Site Visit: November 4, 2005

Monitored by: Dr. Angela Robertson, Ms. Mary Lukens

Informants: Butch Cummings, Director (responsible for day-to-day administrative decisions)
Becki Borries, Assistant Director

Operated by: Mississippi Security Police, a private company

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day

Number of Beds in Facility: 48

Census: 18

Average Daily Census: 35

The Harrison County Juvenile Justice Center was evacuated on August 26, 2005 due to Hurricane Katrina. The facility was damaged and did not resume operation until the end of September. However, Judge Ward restricted the number of placements until October 31st.

Process for obtaining a detention order

When a juvenile is arrested for a crime, the arresting officer usually (but not always) contacts the facility prior to arrival. If a qualifying crime, a custody order and crime report follow. The order must be written. The County Court Judge, Michael Ward, has the authority to give a detention order. Gaston Hewes is also a judge and can give a detention order. The designees are Velma Harrington and Gerald Watson. They are both intake counselors.

Admission Procedures

The officer brings in the juvenile and searches the juvenile and his/her possessions. Once the juveniles have disposed of their personal property, they are showered, issued a uniform and personal hygiene articles. There is a unique booking number assigned to the juvenile upon booking. They are assigned a different number every time they come in. They are allowed to call their parents to notify them of admission and to inform them of procedures for visiting if they have not been contacted by the police. All mental and medical health screening takes place during booking. A digital picture is taken but no finger prints.

The juveniles are given written materials that explain the center's procedures, rules, programs and services. The rules and rights are posted on the wall and they are also read a copy. They must sign a form stating they understand the rules posted.

The security staff performs medical and mental health screening and records basic personal data and information to be used for mail and visiting lists.

Written Policy and Procedure Manual Review:

There are written policies regarding the following items related to the admission process: search of the juvenile and his possessions, disposition of personal property, shower and hair care, issuance of clothing, recording basic personal data and information, notification of families of admission and procedures for visiting, and the assignment of housing unit/pod/cell. The orientation to rights and responsibilities are also in the current manual.

The admission procedures **not** in the manual include: the assignment of a registered number to the juvenile or issuance of personal hygiene articles.

At hiring, all officers receive a copy of the Standard Operating Procedures Manual. Bi-monthly meetings are conducted in which the officer in charge reviews any updates to the policy and procedure manual. The manual is located in the staffing office, control room, and the male day area. It was last updated in 2002 but is currently being revised.

Health Screening

The detention officers are responsible for the medical and mental health screening of the youth upon admission. Using the MAYSI, they screen for suicide risk, alcohol and drug use, and aggressive behavior. The facility staff also screen juveniles for physical health/medical history and educational status. Screening is conducted by staff and results are compiled on forms. Juveniles get substance abuse assessments from the Resident Substance Abuse Program (RSAP), a program of the Gulf Coast Community Mental Health Center. RSAP also screens for problems associated with peer relations. The facility does not ask questions regarding social skills or vocational status.

To determine if the detainee is in need of emergency medical care or mental health intervention they use the MAYSI score, medical forms, and the arresting officer report. If the detainee is seriously hurt or intoxicated, they are not accepted.

The MAYSI summary forms go to the nurse who is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Summary forms may be forwarded to the physician or psychologist. The medical and mental referral process is immediate.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual has policies on health/medical history and mental health screening at booking/intake.

Services and Programs: Educational and Reading Materials

There are two certified teachers housed in the detention facility. Kay Benton is a part-time teacher employed by the Biloxi Public School District. Ann Ryan is a full-time teacher also employed by the school district. Both teachers have special education certification as 33% of the detainees are special education students.

The academic instruction is provided only during the nine-month school year. There are three rooms used specially for classroom instruction. The facility's education services are offered six hours a day.

There are one to two hours a week of enrichment activities offered. Women's Center provides rape crisis counseling and there are Four H Club activities for the detainees. The facility does not have a library. The classroom contains a collection of books provided by the school district. Church groups have also provided materials in the past. Juveniles are allowed free reading time and are allowed to take reading materials to their cells or the lock-down area.

A GED program is available to the detainees.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does **not** have written policies regarding academic education, availability of reading materials, or the GED program.

Services and Programs: Visitation with Parents and Guardians & Private Communication with Visitors and Staff

Using a separate room, this facility provides contact visitation for family and counselors. The regular visiting hours are on Monday and Wednesday from 6:30-8:30 P. M. and Saturday from 1:00-3:30 P. M. Juveniles are allowed a 30 minute visit. Legal professionals visitation may occur any reasonable time the juvenile, parent or attorney requests.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies regarding visitation procedures.

Services and Programs: Food Service

The Harrison County facility prepares meals on site using their full kitchen. They have three cooks on staff. The contractors prepare the food and the detention center officers serve the food. There is a snack provided every evening and an extra snack for pregnant detainees.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding food services.

Services and Programs: Counseling

There are six counselors and one DYS Regional Director who handle cases from this facility. A youth is assigned a counselor between 24 hours and 48 hours after detainment. Jackie Dedeaux is the DYS Regional Director who supervises the Youth Services Counselors. Cindy Alexander is the Youth Court Administrator and she supervises the county Youth Court Counselors. Velma Harrington is the Youth Court Detention Center liaison and intake counselor.

Other agencies provide therapeutic services on site. Regina Barry is a licensed social worker on contract with Health Assurances. She provides social services for juveniles three days per week (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday). Gulf Coast Mental Health Center, the public community health agency, provides a substance abuse program, RSAP, five days per week. Elizabeth Rogers and Marvin White provided substance abuse assessment and counseling services to juveniles in the facility. Before the hurricane, the Women's Crisis Center sent Elaine Stevens to work with the girls on abuse issues. These services have not been available since the storm. The South MS AIDS Task Force has provided STD prevention in the past.

It is noted that 20 percent of the detainees are considered to be security threats with regard to other detainees, detention officers and staff or themselves, and informants estimate that 75 percent of the detainees require mental health services, and 65 percent have substance abuse problems.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Standard Operating and Procedures Manual does **NOT** contain any written materials on the counseling and therapeutic services.

Services and Programs: Medical

There is one registered nurse available 40 hours a week. She is also on call 24/7. Health Assurances, a Jackson based company, provides the nurse and social worker. Dr. Phillip Compton is the physician on call.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies regarding the medical services provided.

Services and Programs: Recreation and Exercise

Currently, regularly scheduled physical recreation activities are provided for detainees. Under the detention officers' supervision, the detainees can go outside and play basketball, or they may stay inside the day room to play cards or watch T.V. The outside fence was damaged during the hurricane, so outside recreation has been temporarily suspended until repairs can be made.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies on recreation/exercise activities.

Services and Programs: Religious

The facility allows religious services one or two times a week. Youth for Christ is responsible for coordinating/scheduling these services. Religious visitation usually takes place on a case by case basis.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does **not** contain policies and procedures related to religious services.

Services of Programs: Other

RSAP provides programs/services on social skills training, conflict resolution, substance abuse prevention and treatment. The Women's Crisis Center also provides violence prevention. Art Therapy was provided to juvenile detainees, but the grant ended.

Harrison county would like to resume the art therapy program. There is also a need for more exercise/recreation activities, and an anger management program. They believe money and staffing are the most important factors preventing them from implementing more programs. They also need more space.

A daily schedule with regard to program services is followed.

Safety and Security

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies relating to safety and security. In this manual, policies for natural disaster emergency plans, fire escapes, and firearms/weapons are noted.

Staffing

Harrison County currently employs 30 full-time and no part-time employees. There are four 12-hour shifts (6:00 A. M.- 6:00 pm) with five staff per shift. There is also one eight hour shift and a swing shift who works peak hours. There are 21 correctional officers, five officers in charge, one janitor, one records clerk, one assistant direction and one director.

The informant describes their staffing situation as fully staffed with somewhat of an employee turnover problem. The current salaries are adequate to recruit and retain quality personnel and they do not have difficulty finding qualified applicants to fill the open positions.

The minimum age for employment as a juvenile detention officer is 21 and the youngest officer at Harrison County Juvenile Justice Center is 21.

Staff Training

A newly hired officer is required to complete 80 hours of basic corrections training, four hours of mental health and suicide awareness, eight hours of Oleoresin Capsicum (OC) training, and 24 hours of pressure point control tactics. The informants believe that the current training requirements are sufficient for new detention officers. They would like to see Basic Law-Youth Court Statue Section 43-as an area of training to be expanded.

In-services training for detention officers is provided on a yearly basis and consists of eight hours of corrections, eight hours of policy and procedure, and eight hours of mental health awareness.

There are adequate resources for training their personnel.

Sixty percent of the training requirements take place on site at the facility and forty percent in the local community. Meeting the current training requirements creates a minor scheduling and staffing problem.

Mr. Cummings believes that with regard to his own position the level of in-service training and resources available are adequate for carrying out his work but would like to see more training offered in the community and at the facility.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does **not** contain written policies relating to staff training. It is noted that there is a probationary period in which they are watched the first 90 days on the job.

Technology

Harrison County has five computers. The county provides one computer and the company provides the rest of the computers and internet access. Two computers have a DVD drive and five have CD Drives. Email/internet access is available on four computers for use by office staff and the teachers. There is currently a \$25,000 recordable camera system which contains 16 cameras and one monitor that the school district provided.

Henley Young Juvenile Justice Center

940 East McDowell Road
Jackson, MS 39204
601-985-3015

Date of Site Visit: October 18, 2005

Monitored by: Dr. Angela Robertson, Dr. Gregory Dunaway, Ms. Mary Lukens

Informants: Betty Longino, Director (responsible for day to day administrative decisions)
Shalonda Coleman, Training Coordinator

Operated by: Hinds County Board of Supervisors

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day

Number of Beds in Facility: 84

Census: 27

Average Daily Census: 25-30

Process for obtaining a detention order

To obtain a detention order there is either a police referral/arrest report or a detention request by a Youth Services Counselor for a written detention order. They accept verbal orders but must be followed by a written order within 24 hours (excluding holidays and weekends). The County Court Judge, Houston Patton, has the authority to give a detention order. Harold Cooper, the County Court Administrator can also give a detention order.

Admission Procedures

The officer brings in the juvenile and searches the juvenile and his/her possessions. The detention center officers conduct a visual inspection during the booking process. During booking, the youth are assigned a personal locker where they can keep jewelry and other personal belongings. All valuables (cell phone, money, expensive jewelry, etc.) are placed in a brown envelope, sealed, labeled and placed in a safe until the detainee is released. Once the juveniles have disposed of their personal property they are showered with lice shampoo and body wash, issued a uniform (including shoes, socks, and underwear), and given personal hygiene article. The juvenile is issued a green uniform if it is prior to their hearing and an orange one if they are post hearing. A uniform report is filled out stating the juvenile was given a clean uniform without holes so that when the juvenile turns the uniform back in, they will know if the uniform was damaged in any way. Each juvenile is photographed, drug tested, and assigned a registered number. If they come in on a felony, they are also fingerprinted. Following the booking, the officer in central control contacts the parents to notify them of the admission and to inform them of procedures for visiting. Everything is documented and recorded in a log book.

The juveniles are given written materials that explain the center's procedures, rules, programs and services. The rules and rights are posted on the wall and they are also read a copy. They must sign stating they understand the rules posted.

Written Policy and Procedure Manual Review:

There are written policies/procedures related to the admission process: search of the juvenile and his possessions, disposition of personal property, shower and hair care, issuance of clothing, assignment of housing unit/pod/ cell, recording basic personal data and information, notification of

families of admission, visitation procedures, and the assignment of a registered number to the juvenile. The orientation to rights and responsibilities are also outlined in the current manual.

All employees have a copy of the Standard Operating Procedures Manual which was revised in February 2004. They must read the manual and sign stating they understand the policies. Their understanding is also reinforced through training.

Health Screening

The detention officers are responsible for the medical and mental health screening of the youth upon admission. The nurse is responsible for any additional type of screening needed. Juveniles are screened for suicide risk, aggressive behavior, and alcohol/drug use with the MAYSI. Urine testing is also used to screen for drug use. The Medical Services Evaluation form includes a mental health evaluation. Information pertaining to family relations is collected by the Youth Court Intake Worker. Educational status is not collected at booking, but the facility has an in-house school. Reading and math ability are assessed by school staff. Screening information on peer relations, social skills and vocational status is not collected.

The MAYSI scores, observation, and a medical services report can help the staff determine whether the juvenile detainee is in need of emergency medical care or mental intervention. The nurse determines juveniles' need for medical care. Leslie Manning, the in-house mental health clinician, makes mental health referrals. The medical referral process is immediate and the mental health referral is usually within 24 hours.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies on health/medical history and mental health screening at booking/intake. There are no written policies/procedures for other required screening information as listed in the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2005.

Services and Programs: Educational and Reading Materials

The Henley-Young Juvenile Justice Center has an in-house school funded primarily by Jackson Public Schools (JPS). In addition to the funding provided by JPS, other funding sources include the Hinds County Mental Health Commission and the state Department of Education. Hinds County Mental Health Commission funds a special, six week academic program during the summers. Dr. Ginger Smith is the coordinator of the in-house school and the offsite Renaissance Academy. The in-house school has three certified teachers: Dr. Lela Bolls teaches English; Mr. Leroy Bennett teaches math; and Ms. Annie McClure teaches science. There is also a special education teacher, a behavioral specialist, two teacher's assistants, a reading tutor, and a drop out prevention coordinator. The Behavioral Specialist, Alfrenett Orr, writes behavioral plans for the special education students and works closely with the special education teacher, Mrs. Areba Bennett. One of the teacher's assistants, Renita Jones, is also responsible for managing the library.

The academic instruction is offered at the detention center from 8:00 A. M.- 11:00 A. M. and 1:00 P. M. - 3:00 pm Monday through Friday during the school year and for six weeks in the summer. The on-site school has four classrooms and a library. The Renaissance Academy is for students that are expelled from JPS or Hinds County schools and offers a day school, an after hours

educational program, a summer school, and an art program, which is funded by the Mississippi Arts Commission.

The educational program also offers voluntary enrichment activities such as life skills, yoga, and STD and abstinence education three to four hours a day.

The facility does have a library and the youth are allowed free-reading time but cannot take the reading material back to their cells/rooms. Jackson Public Schools provides reading materials during school hours. In addition, reading material is donated from volunteers for after school reading. Judge Patton requires that every detained juvenile read a book on the JPS booklist for their grade level, write a book report, and pass a test on the book before they are released.

The facility does not offer a GED program.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does not contain any written policies regarding the education services or the availability of reading materials.

Services and Programs: Visitation with Parents and Guardians & Private Communication with Visitors and Staff

Using a separate room, this facility provides non-contact visitation for family and counselors. The regular visiting hours are on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 6:00-7:30 pm in twenty minute intervals. Visits with legal professionals may occur during business hours and if necessary after hours upon request.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Standard Operation Procedures manual contains written procedures regarding visitation.

Services and Programs: Food Service

There is a full size kitchen with institutional size appliances, utensils, etc. on the premise with three employees on the food service staff. There is also a part-time employee provided through the city of Jackson. Snacks are provided daily. There is a weekly menu.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies on food services and staff duties and responsibilities.

Services and Programs: Counseling

There are 16 counselors from either the Division of Youth Services or the County Youth Court assigned to work at this facility. A youth is assigned a counselor within 24 hours of detainment. Ms. Melanie Taylor is the Regional DYS Director who supervises the state Youth Services Counselors. Mr. Harold Cooper is the Youth Court Administrator. He is also responsible for counselor supervision.

Additional counselors include Leslie Manning and Amy Johnson, who are employed by Hinds Behavioral Health, a public community mental health center. Ms. Manning is a clinician for the facility and has a Master's degree in Counseling Psychology. She is a National Certified

Counselor certified by the Mississippi Department of Mental Health. She is currently applying for her LPC. Ms. Johnson is the case manager and has her B.S. in Psychology.

The informants estimated that 3% of the detainees are security threats with regard to other detainees, detention officers and staff or themselves, 60-70% of the detainees require mental health services and 65-75% percent have substance abuse problems.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does **not** contain written policies regarding counseling and therapeutic services but does contain a section on the signs of problems that might indicate a need for services.

Services and Programs: Medical

There is one licensed practical nurse who works part-time at the facility. She is on-site six hours a day and is also on call. The nurse provides after-hours health care services and makes referrals to the University Medical Center as appropriate.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies regarding medical services.

Services and Programs: Recreation and Exercise

Physical recreation activities for detainees are regularly scheduled. Detainees are provided two hours of recreation/exercise a day. Recreation and exercise are scheduled each morning. Under the detention officers' supervision, the detainees can go outside and may play basketball or participate in calisthenics such as jumping jacks and stretching. They can also play volleyball, do yoga or landscaping work. Some of the activities are mandatory.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding the inside and outside recreation/exercise.

Services and Programs: Religious

The facility provides religious services daily at lunch time and in the evenings and on Sunday mornings and afternoon. Shalonda Coleman is responsible for coordinating/scheduling these services. Religious visitation can take place by request. Ministers conduct religious services on Sunday morning and Sunday afternoon.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies related to religious worship.

Services of Programs: Other

Some additional programs regularly provided for youth at this facility include family and parenting programs, social skills training, delinquency prevention programs, self esteem programs, conflict resolution/anger management, mentors, substance abuse prevention, and art therapy. Some of these programs are offered at the Renaissance Academy. The Department of Human Services's Project Homestead provides social skills training, self esteem enhancement, and conflict resolution. "Smarty Pants, Inc." is an agency that focuses on delinquency prevention. Art Therapy

is lead by Amy Showtard through the Jackson Public Schools. Claude McInnis is the Youth Court Resource Officer and maintains a listing of programs and services available to juveniles.

Some programs that the facility does not offer but would like to include are the GED program and long term placements for status offenders. The informants emphasized the lack of money, staff, and space needed for additional programs.

Safety and Security

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies relating to safety and security to include policies for fire and workplace safety, an evacuation plan, disciplinary action, security/control, security search, escape procedures, building security, fighting, and the use of force guidelines for controlling a violent juvenile.

A copy of the Evacuation Plan was obtained which shows a detailed floor plan with all emergency exits marked.

Staffing

Henley Young currently employs 42 full-time and 1 part-time employees. There is one detention center director, one training coordinator, one executive assistant, one part time LPN, three maintenance personnel, three kitchen staff, three shift supervisors, three senior detention officers, and twenty-eight detention officers. The staff who provide educational services are listed above in Services and Programs: Educational and Reading Materials.

The facility describes their staffing situation as fully staffed with no employee turnover problem. However, the current salaries are less than adequate to recruit and retain quality personnel. Therefore, according to informants, they typically have difficulty finding qualified applicants to fill open positions.

Staff Training

A newly hired detention officer requires 80 hours of basic detention officer training and 40 hours yearly of in-service training. The informants believe the current training requirements are more than sufficient for new detention officers.

The youngest officer at Henley Young is 23 and the minimum age at which someone should be hired as a juvenile detention officer is 21.

In-service training consists of four hours for safety and security, four hours for effective communication, four hours for dealing with emotionally disturbed offenders, sixteen hours of mandatory training, four hours of suicide prevention training, five hours of impact juvenile justice training, eight hours of CPR, four hours of juvenile care work, and four hours of use of force.

The director believes the current in-service training requirements are sufficient for detention officers but believes that basic detention officer training should be expanded. They also note they have adequate resources for training their personnel.

Ninety-five percent of the training requirements take place on-site at the facility. Three percent take place in the local community and two percent take place outside the community. Meeting the current training requirements does not create a scheduling and staffing problem.

The director of the facility would like to see more training offered on-site as well as in the local community. She also believes that with regard to her own position as director, the level of in-service training and resources available are more than adequate for carrying out her responsibilities.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Standard Operating Procedures Manual contains written policies relating to staff training.

Technology

Henley Young has eight computers, all linked to the Internet. There are four computers in the library and 2 in the central control room. None of the computers have DVD Drives but all the computers have CD Drives. There is a work email account provided for each of the staff. There is currently audio/visual equipment used in the facility.

Jackson County Juvenile Detention Center

4903 Telephone Road
Pascagoula, MS 39567
228-762-7370

Date of Site Visit: November 4, 2005

Monitored by: Dr. Angela Robertson, and Ms. Mary Lukens

Informants: Joe Sellers, Director of Detention Services

Operated by: Mississippi Security Police

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day

Number of Beds in Facility: 28

Census: 7

Average Daily Census: 15

Joe Sellers is responsible for day to day administrative decisions. He has been employed at the facility since May 2005.

Process for obtaining a detention order

The law enforcement officer brings in the juvenile. Mary Harper, an intake officer, receives the charges and determines if the youth stays. Sharon Sigalas, Youth Court Judge; Cynthia Wilson, Youth Court Administrator; and all of the intake officers (also designees) have the authority to give a detention order.

Admission Procedures

The officer brings in the juvenile and searches the juvenile and his/her possessions. Once the juveniles have disposed of their personal property they are showered with lice shampoo and issued a uniform. Personal hygiene articles are issued everyday in small portions. There are two registered numbers assigned to the juvenile. Detainees are allowed to call their parents to notify them of admission and procedures for visiting.

The juveniles are given written materials that explain the center's procedures, rules, programs and services. The rules and rights are posted on the wall and they are also read a copy. They must sign a form stating they understand the rules posted.

Written Policy and Procedure Manual Review:

The Policy and Procedure Manual has written policies regarding the following items related to the admission process: search of the juvenile and his possessions, disposition of personal property, shower and hair care, issuance of clothing, recording basic personal data and information, issue of personal hygiene articles, the assignment of housing unit/pod/cell, notification of families of admission and procedures for visiting, and the assignment of a registered number to the juvenile. Although Jackson County provides written orientation materials to juveniles, there is no policy statement or the topic or procedures for orientating juveniles to the facility at admission.

When hired, all employees must sign a statement that they have read and understand the Standard Operating Procedures manual. They also have to attend monthly staff meetings regarding

changes/updates made to the manual. The manual is located in the control area and in the directors' office. It was last updated in 2004.

Health Screening

The booking officer is required to complete the medical screening form which includes medical and psychiatric history question and officer's visual opinion of physical health, suicide risk, and alcohol or drug intoxication. The booking officer also administers the MAYSI. The MAYSI instrument obtains information about suicide risk, aggressive behavior, and alcohol/drug use. Dr. Eric Lucus is responsible for any additional health screening and medical care. The teacher receive information regarding educational status after booking.

They do **not** screen for family relations, peer relations, social skills, or vocational status.

Need for mental health intervention is based on the MAYSI. If the juvenile is in need of mental health care, an intake officer is contacted to make the referral. Emergency medical care is based on child compliance and officer observation. If the juvenile is in need of medical care the director is contacted. The referral process generally occurs within 24 hours.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Standard Operating Procedures Manual has written policies on health/medical history screening, mental health screening, and other screening such as urine analysis for drug testing at booking/intake.

Services and Programs: Educational and Reading Materials

The facility has a separate room for educational activities. There is one certified teacher, Helen Wilson, who comes to the facility on Mondays and Wednesdays from 12:00-4:00 pm Ms. Wilson is with Pascagoula School District. The academic instruction is provided only during the nine-month school year.

The facility has a room designated as a library. The classroom contains a collection of books provided by Joe Sellers. Juveniles are allowed free reading time and may take the reading material back to their cells.

A GED program is **not** available to the detainees.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are **no** written policies regarding academic education, the availability of reading materials, or a GED program.

Services and Programs: Visitation with Parents and Guardians & Private Communication with Visitors and Staff

Contact visitation with family occurs in the day room. The regular visiting hours are on Tuesday and Thursday from 7:00-8:00 pm and Sunday from 1:00-2:00 pm Legal professionals may visit at any time the juvenile, parent or attorney requests. Phone calls are allowed on Wednesdays and Saturdays for five minutes.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written procedures regarding visitation.

Services and Programs: Food Service

Jackson County has a full size kitchen with institutional-sized appliances, utensils, etc. Facility staff prepares meals for the detainees on site. Food service staff consist of a director and three cooks, who are county employees. A snack provided at 8:00 pm daily.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding food services.

Services and Programs: Counseling

There are five Youth Services counselors assigned to work at this facility. A youth is assigned a counselor within forty-eight hours of detainment. Ms. Kizzie Wells, the Regional DYS Director, supervises the Youth Services Counselors.

The Director estimates less than three percent of the detainees are security threats with regard to other detainees, detention officers and staff or themselves, fifteen percent of the detainees require mental health services, and fifty percent have substance abuse problems.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are **no** written policies regarding counseling and therapeutic services.

Services and Programs: Medical

There are no nurses on-site. Dr. Erik Lucus provides general health care and after hours services as needed. His contract is paid by the county.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies regarding the medical services.

Services and Programs: Recreation and Exercise

Joe Sellers is responsible for planning and overseeing the recreation and exercise program. Prior to the storm, there were regularly scheduled physical recreation activities outside for detainees. They were allowed outside one hour a day, three days a week to play basketball, volleyball, or touch football. He plans to resume activities once the repairs are made to the fence.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies regarding recreation/exercise activities for the detainees.

Services and Programs: Religious

The facility allows religious services, but no services are currently being provided. Religious visitation may take place anytime. Mr. Sellers is responsible for coordinating/scheduling these services.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

Written policies regarding religious worship are not explicitly listed in the Policy and Procedures Manual.

Services of Programs: Other

Prior to the storm, there were enrichment activities six to eight hours a week. Mr. Bill Myers would volunteer three times a week to assist with the art program. The art therapy program has not resumed since Hurricane Katrina.

Mr. Sellers would like to implement a reading program and an anger and behavioral management program for the juveniles. He would also like to provide suicide training for the security officers. However, time is an important factor preventing implementation.

Safety and Security

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies relating to safety and security: access to the control center, perimeter security, supervision and movement, transportation, searches, keys, firearms, use of force, natural disasters, escape procedures, and an emergency plan.

Staffing

Jackson County currently employs eight corrections officers full-time and no part-time employees. There are four supervisors. There are two twelve-hour shifts from 6:00 am -6:00 pm with three (one supervisor, two officers) staff per shift.

The informants describe their staffing situation as fully staffed with employee turnover somewhat of a problem. The current salaries are less than adequate to recruit and retain quality personnel. They describe their current salaries as adequate to retain current personnel and but state a difficulty in finding qualified applicants to fill the open positions.

Staff Training

A newly hired detention officer requires eighty hours of basic corrections officer training and eight hours of O.C. Spray in-service training. The informants believe the current training requirements are less than sufficient for new detention officers and that training on mental health, report writing, defense tactics, and professionalism should be expanded for newly hired detention officers.

The youngest officer at Jackson County Juvenile Detention Center is twenty-six and the minimum age at which someone should be hired as a juvenile detention officer is twenty-one.

According to the Staff and Training Survey, Joe Sellers notes the in-service training requirements for detention officers are less than sufficient. He would like to see more mental health detection, behavior management, professional correction, reports writing, and diversity training. He feels the facility has adequate resources for training the personnel.

All training takes place at the facility. Meeting the current training requirements creates a minor scheduling and staffing problem.

Mr. Sellers believes that with regard to his own position the level of in-service training and resources available are less than adequate for carrying out his work. He would like to see more training offered on site as well as in the local community.

Behavior management programs, suicide training, risk assessment, and safety issues training would be most important for him to better carry out his work.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding staff training.

Technology

Jackson County has two computers. One is linked to the internet. All computers have a DVD Drive and a CD Drive. There is a work email account provided for the director but no accounts for the staff. The facility also has audio/visual equipment.

Jones County Juvenile Justice Center

5178 Highway 11 North
Ellisville, MS 39437
601-649-7502

Date of Site Visit: November 2, 2005

Monitored by: Ms. Mary Lukens and Ms. Angela Maggard

Informants: Lt. Tom Eason, Administrator

Operated by: Sheriff's Office

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day

Number of Beds in Facility: 36

Census: 11

Average Daily Census: 11

Lt. Tom Eason is responsible for day to day administrative decisions for this facility.

Process for obtaining a detention order

The officer brings the juvenile in. The order may be verbal but must be followed up with a written within 24 hours. The Youth Court Judge, Gaylon Harper, has the authority to give a detention order. Stella Clayton is the designee and the administrator over Youth Services counselors. She can also give a detention order.

Admission Procedures

The officer brings in the juvenile, conducts a search of the detainee and his/her possessions. Personal property is put in separate bags and secured in the holding area. Next, the juveniles are showered (with lice shampoo), issued a uniform and personal hygiene articles. The delinquent offenders wear blue and the status offenders wear red. There is a unique booking number assigned to the juvenile. Detainees are allowed to call their parents to notify them of admission and procedures for visiting. All mental and medical health screening takes place during booking.

The juveniles are given written materials that explain the center's procedures, rules, programs and services. They are not required to sign the rules. Facility rules and juveniles rights are not posted.

Written Policy and Procedure Manual Review:

Written policies and procedure for the admission process include search of the juvenile and his possessions, disposition of personal property, shower and hair care, issuance of clothing, the assignment of a registered number to the juvenile or issuance of personal hygiene articles, recording basic personal data and information, notification of families of admission and procedures for visiting, and the assignment of housing unit/pod/cell. The orientation to rights and responsibilities are also in the current manual.

The manual is located at the adult jail and the juvenile detention center. It was last updated in 2002. Upon hiring, each officer is required to read the manual. An evaluation on their job performance is conducted twice a year. They are also required to attend correctional officers training for 2 weeks (80 hours). The Department of Public Safety comes to the facility and provides the training.

Health Screening

The detention officers are responsible for the medical and mental health screening of the youth upon admission. If there are any problems, detainees are referred to the staff nurse. Informants report all detainees are screened.

The MAYSI is used to screen detainees for suicide risk, aggressive behavior, and alcohol and drug use. They also use urine analysis to detect drug and alcohol usage. Detention officers also screen for physical health/medical history using a 12 item form.

The staff does not collect information on vocational status, peer relations, social skills, family relations, or educational status at booking. The average stay is only 3-5 days.

MAYSI scores, officer observation, and medical history is used to determine the detainee's need for emergency medical care or mental health intervention.

Juveniles in need of medical care are taken to the nurse or South Central Regional Medical Center. If they need mental health services they are referred to the Youth Services Counselor. The medical and mental health referrals are made immediately.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual has written policies on health/medical history screening and mental health screening.

Services and Programs: Educational and Reading Materials

There are no teachers housed in the detention facility and no education program offered. Parents may bring school work to the detained youth. The detention officer monitors the juvenile while doing school work.

The facility has a separate room designated as a library. However, the juveniles are not allowed free reading time.

A GED program is **not** available to the detainees.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The current manual does **not** have written policies regarding academic education, availability of reading materials, or GED preparation.

Services and Programs: Visitation with Parents and Guardians & Private Communication with Visitors and Staff

Using a separate room, this facility provides non-contact visitation for family. The regular visiting hours are on Saturday and Sundays for 30 minutes. Females are allowed visitation in the evenings and males in the morning. Visits by legal professionals may occur anytime.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written procedures for visitation.

Services and Programs: Food Service

The county jail prepares meals for the juveniles. The detention center officers pick up and serve the food. There is a limited kitchen facility (break room for employees). Jones County has a contract with Valley Food Service to provide one snack per day.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains a written policy on food services.

Services and Programs: Counseling

There are four counselors assigned to work at this facility. A youth is assigned a counselor within 24 hours of detainment. Stella Clayton is the Counselor Administrator and supervises the Youth Services counselors.

The informant estimates that 3% of the detainees are security threats with regard to other detainees, detention officers and staff or themselves, that 20% of the detainees require mental health services, and 75% have substance abuse problems.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does **not** contain policies or procedures for counseling and therapeutic services.

Services and Programs: Medical

There is one licensed practical nurse, Angie Mills, who is available 40 hours a week. She is also on call. Dr. Patal, M.D. is the general health care provider. South Central Regional Medical Center provides after-hours health care services.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies on the provision of medical services.

Services and Programs: Recreation and Exercise

Detainees are provided four hours of weekly recreation activities. Under the detention officers supervision, the detainees can go outside and play basketball or they may stay inside the day room to play cards.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies regarding recreation/exercise of juvenile detainees.

Services and Programs: Religious

The facility provides religious services one or two times a week. Lt. Tom Eason is responsible for coordinating/scheduling these services. A minister conducts services once day per week on Mondays from 7:00-9:00 pm. Religious visitation can take place anytime.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

Written policies regarding religious worship are not explicitly listed in the Policy and Procedures Manual.

Services of Programs: Other

Pine Belt Mental Health offers behavior management programs. Once the juvenile is out of the detention center, substance abuse prevention and treatment programs are available.

There are no other programs available. Lt. Eason feels that the turnover rate is so high that there is no time for other programs or services to be delivered on-site.

He would like to see more cameras but budget limitations constrain implementation of this request.

Safety and Security

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains the following written policies relating to safety and security: firearms and weapons, building security devices, use of dangerous materials, emergency procedures, vehicle security, and service personnel.

Staffing

Jones County currently employs 12 full-time and no part-time employees. There are two 12-hour shifts with three staff per shift. There are eight correctional officers, four sergeants, and one administrator.

The facility is currently under-staffed with an employee turnover problem. The current salaries are adequate to recruit quality personnel but less than adequate to retain current personnel. They do not have difficulty finding qualified applicants to fill the open positions.

Staff Training

A newly hired officer requires 80 hours of basic on the job training. The Department of Public Safety provides this training to the officers. Correctional officers are evaluated twice yearly. The informant believes the current training requirements are less than sufficient for new detention officers. He would like to see more training on how to deal with juveniles.

The youngest officer at Jones County Juvenile Justice Center is 24 and the minimum age at which someone should be hired as a juvenile detention officer is 21.

There is not any in-service training required for Jones County Detention Center personnel. Lt. Eason describes his current in-service training requirements as less than sufficient for detention officers.

According to the Staff and Training Survey, the detention center has less than adequate resources for training their personnel (just what state provides). Meeting the current training requirements does not create a scheduling and staffing problem. He would like to see more training offered on-site.

Lt. Eason believes that with regard to his own position the level of in-service training and resources available are less than adequate for carrying out his work. He has the time to take advantage of any current training resources available. He would like to be better trained in how to deal with juveniles.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies relating to staff training.

Technology

Jones County has one computer. The county provides one computer for the Administrator. It has a DVD Drive and a CD Drive and is linked to the internet. There is a work email account provided for the administrator but not for the staff. The control room has four TV's for monitoring.

Lauderdale County Juvenile Center

5400 Semmes Road
Meridian, MS 39307
601-483-3961

Date of Site Visit: November 2, 2005

Monitored by: Ms. Mary Lukens and Ms. Angela Maggard

Informant: Barbara Vinzant, Director

Operated by: Lauderdale County Board of Supervisors

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day

Number of Beds in Facility: 30

Census: 14

Average Daily Census: 14-15

Barbara Vinzant, Director, and Judge Frank Coleman are responsible for day-to-day administrative decisions regarding the juvenile facility.

The officers/jailers for Lauderdale County are called Masters/Matrons.

Process for obtaining a detention order

If the juvenile has committed a criminal offense and is brought in during work hours, a custody order should be signed or permission from the designee should be granted. If the juvenile is brought in after hours, the staff member on call is contacted and a verbal request is issued. A written request must take place within 24 hours. The County Court Judge, Frank Coleman, has the authority to give a detention order. Designees, Barbara Vinzant, Jan Pickett, and Amy Reynolds, can also give a detention order.

Admission Procedures

At booking the juvenile and his/her possessions are searched. Personal belongings are placed in a zip lock bag and locked up front until the juvenile is released. Then, juveniles shower with soap and shampoo. They are also checked for lice before showering and lice shampoo is provided if necessary. Detention uniforms and personal hygiene products (i.e. toothpaste, toothbrush, soap, deodorant, shampoo, and conditioner, and toilet tissue) are given to the juvenile. Every juvenile is assigned a number and assigned to a cell. There are two juveniles per cell.

The family is usually notified before the child gets to the facility, otherwise the youth is allowed to call the parent upon arrival. The youth is allowed to receive mail but the counselors review the contents first.

The center's procedures, rules, programs and services are posted on the wall. Detainees are not required to sign anything stating they have read and understand the rules.

Written Policy and Procedure Manual Review:

The Policy and Procedures Manual has the following written policies regarding admission: search of detainees and their possessions, disposition of personal property, shower and hair care, issuance

of clothing, personal hygiene articles (parents are asked to provide but if they do not then they are issued), and recording basic personal data.

The assignment of a registered number to a juvenile is not explicitly stated the policy manual. The manual does not state a procedure for the detainee orientation to rules and programs.

Each officer has a copy of the Policy and Procedure manual. When hired, each staff member must sign a form stating they are aware of the policies and procedures. They must also sign when updates are received. The manual is updated on a regular basis.

Health Screening

The Masters/Matrons are responsible for the medical and mental health screening of the youth upon admission. The facility screens 100% of their juveniles. Juveniles are screened for mental health status using the MAYSI. The MAYSI screens for suicide risk, aggressive behavior, and alcohol/drug use. Urine testing is also used to screen for alcohol and drug use. Information on the physical health/medical history of the youth is obtained by the master/matron using the attached form. The attached form is also used to obtain information about pregnancy and contraceptive use females.

The juveniles are not screened for family relations, peer relations, social skills, educational status, or vocational status but the counselors are available to provide this information.

The MAYSI scores, observations, and medical reports assist staff in determining whether the juvenile detainee is in need of emergency medical care or mental intervention. The medical referral process is immediate and the mental health referral is usually within 24 hours unless it is a holiday or a weekend. If after hours, a designee is called and treatment is provided as soon as possible. Parents are immediately notified in cases in which the sheriff takes the detainee to a hospital for emergency care. Lauderdale County uses Jeff Anderson Regional Medical Center, Riley Hospital, and Rush Hospital to provide medical services to juveniles.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does **not** include policies on health and mental health screening procedures.

Services and Programs: Educational and Reading Materials

There is not a teacher or staff member responsible for educational services. The parents provide school work if the juvenile is currently in school. Budget limitations resulted in the elimination of educational services to detainees.

Weems Community Mental Health Center staff counsel detainees and provide information on alcohol and drug use. They also help juveniles apply for jobs. Staff from Weems Community Mental Health Center are at the facility from 2:30-4:30 pm each Wednesday.

The facility does have a separate room formerly used for classroom instruction. There are shelves filled with books and tables provided for juveniles to complete homework during their own time. They are not allowed to take the reading material back to their cells/rooms.

There is a public library in the town but since the average stay is only 10 days, the juveniles do not have access to the library.

Meridian Community College offers a GED program. The judge may require the juvenile to attend upon release from the detention center.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are no written policies regarding educational services.

Services and Programs: Visitation with Parents and Guardians & Private Communication with Visitors and Staff

Non-contact visitation is provided. The regular visiting hours are Monday-Friday from 8:30 - 11:30 am. Legal professionals and religious visitation may occur anytime Monday-Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual outlines procedures for visitation.

Services and Programs: Food Service

Meals are prepared at the adult jail. The Masters/Matrons serve the food to detainees. Snacks are not provided. The menu for the juveniles is the same as the adult inmates. The facility does provide meals for detainees with medical conditions that require special dietary requirements such as diabetes.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies on food service.

Services and Programs: Counseling

There are three Division of Youth Services or County Youth Court Counselors assigned to work at this facility. A youth is assigned a counselor within 24 hours after detainment. Ms. Cindy Edwards and Ms. Ivy Wilson supervise the Youth Services Counselors. Ms. Edwards is with Division of Youth Services Region IV Regional office. Ms. Wilson is a senior counselor on site. The informant estimates that 90% of the detainees are security threats with regard to other detainees, detention officers and staff or themselves, 60% of the detainees require mental health services, and 80 % have substance abuse problems.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are no written policies regarding counseling and therapeutic services.

Services and Programs: Medical

There are no health care professionals on staff. Central Medical Center provides general health care to detainees as well as the Lauderdale Health Department. Detainees requiring emergency medical care are taken to one of the hospitals in the area. All detainees are transported by a deputy.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains policies regarding the medical services under the “Illness and Injury” and “Medication” sections of the manual..

Services and Programs: Recreation and Exercise

There is **no** regularly scheduled physical recreation activity for detainees. There is a small exercise yard but it is no longer made available to detainees because detainees abused the privilege and jumped over the fence. There is no workable T.V. for the juveniles in the day rooms. There is one T.V. which the security officer can watch during his/her shift. The informant stressed the need for a television.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains a hand written note stating: “At this time detainees are not allowed in the exercise area.”

Services and Programs: Religious

The facility does provide religious services on Wednesdays and Friday’s. Ms. Vinzant is responsible for coordinating/scheduling religious services.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does not contain a policy on religious services.

Services of Programs: Other

The youth service counselors work with the juveniles participating in family and parenting programs, behavior management, social skills training, delinquency prevention programs, self-esteem programs, conflict resolution, substance abuse prevention and treatment, and violence prevention/anger management. Weems Community Mental Health Center provides an Adolescent Offender Program and works with parents once the detainee is released.

Some programs not currently offered but needed are vocational training and a GED program. The informant reports the need for an education program, on-site nursing staff, and audio/visual equipment. Currently, there are **no** cameras in the facility. Money and space are important factors preventing the facility from implementing more programs.

Safety and Security

The facility had no security cameras. Security in the male and female sections are provided by a single security officer in each section.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies relating to safety and security.

Staffing

Lauderdale County currently employs 31 full-time and 2 part-time individuals. There is one director, one assistant director, one intake officer, one process server, one secretary/receptionist, one typist, one housekeeping staff, six masters, six matrons, one prosecuting attorney, and one public defender. There is one vacant position for a male security officer.

The informant describes the current staffing situation as fully staffed with no employee turnover problem. The current salaries are adequate to recruit and retain quality personnel. They typically do not have difficulty finding qualified applicants to fill open positions.

There are three shifts per day: 6:30 am - 2:30pm, 2:30pm - 10:30 pm, and 10:30 pm - 6:30 am. Each shift is manned by two staff members.

Staff Training

Eighty hours of training are required for all newly hired detention officers. The informant believes the current training requirements are sufficient for new detention officers.

The youngest officer at Lauderdale County Juvenile Detention Center is 35 and the minimum age at which someone should be hired as a juvenile detention officer is 25.

The only in-service training received is annual certification and on-the-job training. The director believes the current in-service training requirements are sufficient for detention officers. Additionally, the director notes an adequacy of resources for training personnel. Eighty percent of the training requirements take place on-site at the facility and twenty percent take place outside the community. Meeting the current training requirements does not create a scheduling and staffing problem.

The director of the facility would like to see more training offered on site and in the community. She believes that with regard to her own position as the administrator, the level of in-service training and resources available are adequate for carrying out her work. She currently has time to take advantage of current training resources available but emphasizes that funds are not available for training.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are no written policies relating to staff training.

Technology

Lauderdale County has five computers. There are three computers for the counselors, one for the court clerk, and one for the assistant director. One of the computers has a DVD Drive and all of the computers have CD Drives. One of the computers is linked to the internet but no work email accounts are provided. There is no audio/visual equipment available for use in the facility.

Lee County Juvenile Justice Center

454 North Commerce Street
Tupelo, MS 38801
662-680-6017

Date of Site Visit: November 15, 2005

Monitored by: Dr. Gregory Dunaway

Informants: Lt. Tim Erikson, Director
Amy Swan, Administrative Assistant
Sargent Chris Hill

Operated by: Sheriff's Office

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day

Number of Beds in Facility: 24

Census: 19

Average Daily Census: 20

The sergeant on duty is responsible for the day to day administrative decisions regarding the juvenile justice facility.

Process for obtaining a detention order

The arresting officer calls to get a verbal order before the juvenile is brought to the facility. If the order is verbal, there must be a written order on file within twenty-four hours. The Youth Court Judge, Charlie Brett, has the authority to give a detention order. David Anthony, judge designee, can also give a detention order.

Admission Procedures

The police officer brings in the juvenile handcuffed and searches the juvenile and his/her possessions. Once the juveniles have disposed of their personal property they shower with lice shampoo, and are issued a uniform and personal hygiene articles. A computer generated number is assigned to the juvenile upon booking. The parents are notified of admission and procedures for visiting. All mental and medical health screening takes place during booking using the Golden Eagle Booking System. The juveniles are assigned to a cell based on the type of offense. For example, an attempt is made to separate more serious offenders from less serious offenders.

The juveniles are given written materials that explain the center's procedures, rules, programs and services. They are required to sign a form stating they understand the rules.

Written Policy and Procedure Manual Review:

The manual has written policies regarding the following items related to the admission process: search of the juvenile and his possessions, disposition of personal property, shower and hair care, issuance of clothing, the assignment of a registered number to the juvenile or issuance of personal hygiene articles, recording basic personal data and information, and the assignment of housing unit/pod/cell. The orientation to rights and responsibilities are also in the current manual.

The manual does **NOT** include: notification of families of admission and procedures for visiting

A copy of the manual is located in the directors office and each sergeant on duty has a copy. It was last updated in August 2005. At hiring, each officer is required to read the manual and sign stating that they understand. The staff goes through orientation and training. The director trains the sergeants, who, in turn, are responsible for training the detention officers.

Health Screening

The detention officers are responsible for the medical and mental health screening of the youth upon admission. They screen eighty percent of their juveniles.

Using the MAYSI, they screen for suicide risk and aggressive behavior, and alcohol and drug use. The facility also screens for physical health/medical history, vocational status, peer relations, social skills, family relations, and educational status using the Golden Eagle Booking System.

To determine if the detainee is in need of emergency medical care or mental health intervention they use the MAYSI scores, observations or booking forms.

If the juvenile is in need of medical care he/she is taken to the nurse or the emergency room. If they need mental health care they taken to Region 3 Community Mental Health Center.

The medical and mental referral process is immediate; that is, referrals are made within twenty-four hours or less.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual has written policies regarding the following items related to screening at booking/intake: health/medical history screening and mental health screening

Services and Programs: Educational and Reading Materials

Academic instruction is provided in a separate, designated classroom. Dr. Diane Paige is a certified teacher employed by the sheriff's department. She provides academic instruction to the detainees five days per week, five hours a day from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Academic instruction is provided twelve months per year. Ryan Curry is an art teacher and comes three times a week for an hour and a half each day. The art program is funded by a federal grant.

Dr. Paige is responsible for providing reading materials to the youth. The facility has a collection of books but no separate room designated as a library. Parents may also bring books. The juveniles can check out the books. The juveniles are allowed free reading time and can take the materials to their cell.

A GED program is available to the detainees. Dr. Paige is responsible for the GED program.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does **NOT** have written policies regarding the GED program but does for academic education and availability of reading materials.

Services and Programs: Visitation with Parents and Guardians & Private Communication with Visitors and Staff

Non-contact visitation is available for family on Tuesday from 9:00-11:00 A.M., 1:00-4:00 pm; Thursday 9:00-11:00 am, 6:00-9:00 pm.; and Saturdays 9:00-11:00 am, 6:00-9:00 pm. Detainees are allowed 15 minutes at a time and have to schedule twenty-four hours in advance. Legal professionals visitation may occur anytime.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding visitation procedures.

Services and Programs: Food Service

The Lee County Jail prepares meals for the juveniles. The detention center officers pick up and serve the food. The Sargent designates an officer to eat in the day room. There is no kitchen facility. They provide one snack per day between lunch and dinner. The snack usually consists of crackers, cookies and sometimes fruit.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding food services.

Services and Programs: Counseling

There are three DYS/Youth Court counselors assigned to work at this facility. A youth is assigned a counselor less than twenty-four hours after detention. Judge Brett supervises the youth services counselors. The counselors are not on site, but two blocks away at the youth court.

It is noted that sixty percent of the detainees are considered to be security threats with regard to other detainees, detention officers and staff or themselves, and informants estimate that fifteen percent of the detainees require mental health services, and eighty percent have substance abuse problems.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does **NOT** contain any written materials on the counseling and therapeutic services.

Services and Programs: Medical

There are two licensed practical nurses available forty hours a week. Their offices are at the adult jail. There is also a dentist on staff. North MS Medical Center is the general health care provider and also provides after hours health care services. .

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding the medical services provided.

Services and Programs: Recreation and Exercise

There are no regularly scheduled physical recreation activities for detainees. However, for one hour/day, they are allowed free time in yard or play board games or cards in the day room. There is also a letter writing activity for an hour.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding policies related to recreation/exercise.

Services and Programs: Religious

The facility provides religious services one or two times a week. On Tuesday, Saturday, and Sundays nights there is a volunteer ministry. Chaplain Brother Bob, Mark Howard and Danny Robinson are responsible for coordinating the religious services. Religious visitation can take place anytime once the youth court determines legitimacy.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding the religious services provided.

Services of Programs: Other

There are videos provided on social skills training, self-esteem programs, conflict resolution, and violence prevention/anger management. Dr. Paige brings in outside presenters to speak on abstinence and STD's.

The informants would like the following programs: music therapy, life skills, vocational training, crisis intervention, and a mentor program. Money, staffing, space, and security issues are factors preventing Lee County from implementing more programs.

Safety and Security

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies relating to safety and security

Staffing

Lee County currently employs 25 full-time and no part-time employees. The staff include a director, an administrative assistant, a teacher, an assistant teacher, four shift sergeants and 4 shift captains, and 12 juvenile corrections officers. There are four, twelve hour shifts 6:00 am - 6:00 pm with five staff members per shift.

The informant describes their staffing situation as fully staffed with somewhat of an employee turnover problem. The current salaries are not adequate to recruit and retain quality personnel. The Director reports that it is difficult to find qualified applicants to fill the open positions.

The minimum age for employment as a juvenile detention officer is 21 and the youngest officer is 21.

Staff Training

A newly hired officer is required to complete 80 hours of basic corrections training, 24 hours on policies and procedures, and 16 hours on defensive tactics. The informants believe that the current training requirements are sufficient for new detention officers. In-services training for detention officers is provided on a yearly basis and consists of eight hours of PPCT defensive tactics, 16 hours of SSGT defensive tactics, four hours of pepper spray re-certification, and 16 hours of policy and procedure review. The informant believes that the current in-service training requirements are more than adequate and that resources for training personnel are sufficient.

Half of staff training takes place on site, 30% in the local community and the rest outside the community. The Director would like to see more training take place on site and in the local community as meeting the current training requirements creates a minor scheduling and staffing problems.

Lieutenant Erickson believes that with regard to his own position the level of in-service training and resources available are adequate for carrying out his work. However, he does not have time to take advantage of training opportunities that are currently available to him.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies relating to staff training.

Technology

Lee County has ten computers; six for the staff and four for the detainees. All of the computers have a CD Drive and are linked to the internet (but are blocked and monitored). There is a work email account provided for the director and the staff (in-house network). There are T.V.'s, a VCR, and a DVD player for educational purposes.

Leflore County Juvenile Justice Center

P.O. Box 452
Greenwood, MS 38935
662-455-7992

Date of Site Visit: November 18, 2005

Monitored by: Mr. Gregory Dunaway

Informants: Mr. Robert Fitzpatrick, Director (responsible for day to day administrative decisions)
Mr. John Wiley

Operated by: Youth Court

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day

Number of Beds in Facility: 30

Census: 12

Average Daily Census: 15

Process for obtaining a detention order

The officer brings the juvenile in. The Youth Court Judge, Solomon Osborne, has the authority to give a detention order. The Youth Court Counselor can request a detention order if there is a violation but a written order must follow within twenty-four hours.

Admission Procedures

The officer brings in the juvenile and searches the juvenile and his/her possessions. The juvenile is photographed. The detainees personal property is placed in the property safe box in the director's office. Once the juveniles have disposed of their personal property they are showered (with lice shampoo), issued a uniform and personal hygiene articles. There is a unique booking number assigned to the juvenile upon booking. Detainees are allowed to call their parents to notify them of admission and procedures for visiting.. They are allowed to call their parents every other day but are monitored. All calls are kept confidential. All mental and medical health screening takes place during booking. The housing unit/pod/cell is assigned based on age/attitude.

A shakedown search takes place upon booking and there are random cell checks every thirty minutes.

The juveniles are given written materials that explain the center's procedures, rules, programs and services. They are required to sign the rules.

Written Policy and Procedure Manual Review:

The manual has written policies regarding the following items related to the admission process: search of the juvenile and his possessions, shower and hair care, issuance of clothing, or, recording basic personal data and information, notification of families of admission and procedures for visiting, and the assignment of housing unit/pod/cell, disposition of personal property, issuance of personal hygiene articles, or the assignment of a registered number to the juvenile. The orientation to rights and responsibilities are also in the current manual.

The manual is located in the director's and the youth court judge's office. It was recently updated. All staff go through orientation and must sign stating they received a P&P manual.

Health Screening

The detention officers are responsible for the medical and mental health screening of the youth upon admission. They also take pictures of the detainees. They screen one hundred percent of their juveniles.

Using the MAYSI, they screen for suicide risk and aggressive behavior, and alcohol and drug use. The facility also screens for physical health/medical history, family relations, and peer relations.

Screening is not done with regard to vocational status, social skills, or educational status.

To determine if the detainee is in need of emergency medical care or mental health intervention they use the MAYSI scores, observations or medical forms. If the juvenile requests to get help because they are sick, they take them straight them hospital.

If the juvenile is in need of medical care, the director is notified and they are taken to Greenwood Hospital.

If the juvenile is in need of mental health intervention, they get help from Life Help, a local mental health facility (provided through the youth court).

The medical and mental referral process is immediate.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual has written policies regarding the following items related to screening at booking/intake: health/medical history screening and mental health screening. They also provide information on dental screening.

Services and Programs: Educational and Reading Materials

There are two certified teachers housed in the detention facility. Levona Rickles is employed by the Leflore County School System. Also Greenwood Public School System provides certified rotating instructors to work with the youth.

Using a separate room, educational services are offered twelve months a year from 8:00-11:00 am and 12:30-1:30 pm on Monday-Friday. Also on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday a computer class is offered from 1:30-4:00 pm. On Friday's there are two hours and thirty minutes of recreation time during regular class hours. (Class schedule attached)

Academic instruction is **not** provided during the summer months but AmeriCorp or Greenville County Schools will send someone to work with the youth.

The facility has a collection of books, but no separate library room. The juveniles are allowed free reading time and may take the materials back to their day room, but if they damage property they are responsible to pay the damages. They can read newspapers.

A GED program is **NOT** currently available to the detainees but will start in January.

Leflore county wants to establish a juvenile justice center to expand. They would like a state of the art trade center to give the juveniles the opportunity to develop vocational skills.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does **NOT** have written policies regarding the GED program, but **DOES** include academic education and the availability of reading materials.

Services and Programs: Visitation with Parents and Guardians & Private Communication with Visitors and Staff

This facility provides non-contact visitation for family. The regular visiting hours are on Friday from 7:00-9:00 pm and Saturday's and Sunday's from 10:00 am -2:00 pm (may also make special appointments). Legal professionals visitation may occur anytime as long as informed ahead of time.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding visitation procedures.

Services and Programs: Food Service

Delta Correction Facility in Greenwood prepares and delivers meals for the juveniles. The detention center officers serve the food. There is a limited kitchen facility (break room for employees). There is a snack provided in the evening (chips/crackers).

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding food services.

Services and Programs: Counseling

There are two counselors assigned to work at this facility. A youth is assigned a counselor within twenty-four hours after detainment. The Department of Human Services supervises the youth services counselors.

There is also an alcohol and drug counselor available to provide therapeutic services to juveniles on site.

It is noted that less than five percent of the detainees are considered to be security threats with regard to other detainees, detention officers and staff or themselves, and informants estimate that thirty percent of the detainees require mental health services, and eighty-five percent have substance abuse problems.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written materials on the counseling and therapeutic services.

Services and Programs: Medical

There are no health care professionals on site. The officer dispenses the prescriptions that they get from parents and/or pick up using Medicaid. Greenwood Hospital is the general health care provider and also provides after hours health care services.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding the medical services provided.

Services and Programs: Recreation and Exercise

There is currently regularly scheduled physical recreation activities for detainees. Under the shift commander's supervision, one to three hours a day, the detainees can go outside and play basketball, or they may stay inside the day room to play cards or board games (no dice allowed).

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding policies related to recreation/exercise.

Services and Programs: Religious

The facility **does** provide religious services. Pastor Wiley, from the Presbyterian Church, comes once a week for Bible Study. Clyde Sago from Church of God and Christ also provides religious services. Men of Zion come to mentor the juveniles. Religious visitation can take place anytime.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

Written policies regarding religious are **NOT** listed in the manual.

Services of Programs: Other

Ms. Rickles provides programs for social skills training and self esteem programs during classroom instruction. The officers work with the detained on conflict resolution. Also, Men of Zion are provided as mentors. There is an AOP program for substance abuse treatment and prevention.

Mr. Fitzpatrick would like to see more vocational training, agriculture, and drug court programs offered. Money, staffing and space are important factors preventing Leflore county from implementing more programs.

Safety and Security

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies relating to safety and security for the control center, perimeter security, youth supervision and movement, post orders, court principles and procedures, transfers and transportation, use of permanent logs, disaster plan searches, key control, use of force, control of firearms, and the emergency plan.

Staffing

Leflore County currently employs seventeen full-time and no part-time employees. There are three shifts; 7:00 am-3:00 pm, 3:00 pm-11:00 pm, 11:00 pm - 7:00 am with three staff per shift (unless over twenty juveniles). There are eleven detention officers, three watch sergeants, one assistant director, one secretary, and one administrative assistant.

The informant states that the minimum age at which someone should be hired as a juvenile detention officer is 21. The youngest officer at Washington County Detention Center is 39. The informant describes their staffing situation as very under-staffed. The current salaries are less than adequate to recruit and retain quality personnel (because they have part-time jobs). However, he does not have difficulty finding qualified applicants to fill the open positions.

Staff Training

A newly hired detention officer must complete eighty hours of basic detention officer training. The informant believes the current training requirements are sufficient for new detention officers. Detention officers receive the following in-service training for a total of forty hours per year: report writing, crisis intervention, proper use of restraints gear, emergency procedures, HIV/AIDS awareness, CPR training, PPCT training, juvenile justice system, policies and procedures manual.

The director describes the current in-service training requirements as less than sufficient for detention officers. He noted: 'I recently took over the facilities on October 3rd and working on implementing in service training: Fire safety training, health and sanitation training, officers safety, dealing with special needs juveniles, legal liability, search and seizure, cultural diversity, team building, security procedures key/tool control, staff/juvenile relations, relationship with other service agencies.'

The detention center has more than adequate resources for training their personnel. However, meeting the current training requirements creates minor scheduling and staffing problems. The Director would like to see more training offered on site and in the local community.

Mr. Fitzpatrick believes that with regard to his own position the level of in-service training and resources available are more than adequate for carrying out his work and he has the time to take advantage of any current training resources available. He would like to be better trained in current computer applications, grant writing, juvenile justice law, interstate compact, and standard first aid and CPR.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does **NOT** contain written policies relating to staff training.

Technology

There are two computers for staff. These computers have CD drives and are linked to the internet. Staff have email accounts. There are 15 computers in the classroom for youth education. The facility has TVs and VCRs.

Lowndes County Juvenile Detention Center

1602 College Street
Columbus, MS 39701
662-680-6017

Dates of Site Visits: Oct. 4 and Dec. 13, 2005

Monitored by: Dr. Angela Robertson, Dr. Gregory Dunaway, Ms. Angela Maggard

Informant: Anthony Nelson, Administrator

Operated by: Youth Court

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day

Number of Beds in Facility: 25

Census: 11

Average Daily Census: 14-15

The juvenile detention facility was severely damaged by a tornado in November 2002. Juveniles were held in the Lowndes County Adult Jail while the new facility was being built. The facility was completed in August 2005, but the control board had to be fixed before reopening. Juveniles were placed into the new facility on December 12, 2005.

Process for obtaining a detention order

Arresting officer makes charge for crime and provides arrest report or intake sheet to Donna Stone, Youth Court Administrator/Designee for Judge Beverly Franklin. Donna Stone has the authority to give a detention order.

Admission Procedures

Personal data (i.e: name, date of birth, social security number), charges, officer's visual assessment of physical status, mental status, alcohol and drug intoxication, and medical information are keyed into the booking computer system. Juveniles are searched before placed in holding cell. The holding cells are located at the entrance and are separate from the regular cells. Anthony Nelson or Donna Stone make the decision to hold them before their hearing or release them to a parent (if a minor and charged for a misdemeanor charge). If released to a parent they are held in a holding cell until parent arrives and then given a scheduled court date. A detention center hearing must be conducted within 48 hours of the juvenile's arrival. Ms Stone typically holds the detention center hearings and Judge Franklin handles the adjudication and disposition hearings.

If the decision is made to detain the youth, the juvenile is given a copy of their rights, rules and regulations to read, sign and return. The rules are also posted on the wall. The juvenile is issued an individual number as well as assigned a booking number within the computer system. They are given an orange jump suit and personal hygiene items such as toothpaste, a toothbrush, soap, deodorant, and a hairbrush if held in the facility. Each juvenile is also showered and shampooed with lice shampoo before entering the common room or cell.

Written Policy and Procedure Manual Review:

The current Policy and Procedures Manual is dated August 1993. There are written admission policies for search of the juvenile and his possessions, disposition of personal property, shower and hair care, issuance of clothing, recording basic personal data, and notification of families of

admission and procedures for visitation. However, these policies need to be updated. The manual does not include admission policies on issuing personal hygiene articles, assignment to a housing unit or cell and assigning a registered number to the juvenile. In addition, orientation to rules and programs is not addressed in the current manual.

The administrator keeps the only copy of the policy and procedures manual in his office. Staff are required to read the policy and procedures manual and it is the responsibility of the shift supervisor to keep staff aware of changes in policies and procedures.

Health Screening

The detention officers and nurse, when she is on duty, are responsible for conducting the health screening of the youth. Every juvenile that is detained is screened. Juveniles placed in holding and released to a parent/guardian are not screened. The staff screens approximately 75% of juveniles brought into the facility.

Juveniles are screened for mental health status and substance abuse using the MAYSI and detention officer observation. They also screen for physical health/medical, educational status and vocational status. They do not screen for family relations, peer relations, or social skills.

If a juvenile requests medical care or the need for immediate medical care is determined the nurse, they are taken to Lowndes Family Medical Clinic or Baptist Memorial Hospital emergency room. If the MAYSI shows the need for mental health intervention, the youth is referred to Community Counseling Services, the public community mental health provider. Usually, if contacted during the day, the referral occurs the same day. If the determination is made after business hours, the juvenile can be seen the next morning.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies on health and mental health screening at booking/intake, but not for other screening as required by legislation.

Services and Programs: Educational and Reading Materials

The facility has two classrooms with a total of 32 computers for educational use. One classroom is for incarcerated juveniles. Mr. Maxwell Barnes is responsible for providing educational services for detained youth. He is available five days a week from 7:00 A. M.- 3:00 pm throughout the year. He is not a certified teacher, but has 4-5 years experience as a tutor. The other classroom is used for youth attending the GED training program. Mr. Jordan is responsible for implementing the GED program and he is employed with the Greater Columbus Learning Center.

Although there is not a library, one of the classrooms has a collection books. Parents can bring reading material. The juveniles are allowed free reading time but may not take the material back to their cell.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies on the educational services. However, there is not a policy on the availability of reading materials or the GED program.

Services and Programs: Visitation with Parents and Guardians & Private Communication with Visitors and Staff

Using a separate room, this facility provides non-contact visitation for family, counselors, and legal professionals. The visiting hours for juveniles at the adult jail are weekdays from 7:30-9:30 pm. Visiting hours will change when juveniles are placed in the new facility. Legal professionals and religious visitation may occur at anytime with advance notice.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The current material has written procedures for visitation that are out of date.

Services and Programs: Food Service

There is no kitchen facility on the premise. Meals are prepared by the Lowndes County Sheriff's Department and picked up by the detention staff. The juveniles are provided with one snack a day and eat all meals in the day room.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies for food services.

Services and Programs: Counseling

There are two full time and three part time Youth Services counselors assigned to this facility. Jason Collins and Dee Miller are the two full time counselors and their offices are located within the detention facility. On average, a youth is assigned to a youth court counselor within 24-48 hours of detainment.

Mr. Nelson estimates 15% of the detainees are security threats with regard to other detainees, detention officers and staff or themselves, 5% require mental health services, and 5% need substance abuse treatment.

Community Counseling provides some in-house mental health services and an Adolescent Offender Program. Mr. Nelson suggested a mentoring program would be a helpful counseling service and provide positive role models to the youth.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does **not** contain written policies for counseling and therapeutic services.

Services and Programs: Medical

There is a licensed practical nurse (LPN) available four hours a day. She is also on call. General health care and after hours emergency services are provided by West Lowndes Medical clinic and Baptist Memorial Hospital.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies on the provision of medical services.

Services and Programs: Recreation and Exercise

Recreation and exercise were not provided for juveniles when they were held in the adult jail. The new facility has an enclosed outdoor recreation area. The plan is for juveniles to have at least one

hour of recreation a day. The detainees can go outside (if weather permits) and may play basketball or other outdoor activities in the allotted secure area. Mr. Nelson would like to begin an exercise program but the details are still in progress. There is also cable throughout the building and watching videos or television may be a future possibility to reward good behavior. If the juveniles would rather stay indoors, there are board games available.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies on the recreation/exercise program that need to be updated.

Services and Programs: Religious

In the past there have been religious services provided to detained youth. Mr. Nelson plans to continue these services once the youth return to the juvenile detention facility. There have been several churches in the area who have offered to provide services on weekends. The plan is to provide these services one or two times a week.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are **no** written policies related to religious services.

Services of Programs: Other

Janis Stockman, a representative from the National Exchange Club/COPES Program, provides an anger management/violence prevention program at the facility one day per week. Ms. Stockman comes every Wednesday for about 1-2 hours and focuses on anger management as well as other interpersonal skills. In addition, juveniles may be referred to Community Counseling for the following programs: family and parenting programs, behavior management, social skills training, delinquency prevention programs, self-esteem programs, conflict resolution, vocational education, volunteers, substance abuse prevention, and substance abuse treatment.

Staffing

Lowndes County currently employs 18 full-time and two part-time staff. There are four shift supervisors, 12 detention officers, one tutor, one door security officer who works the front desk area, a part-time nurse and a part-time custodian. There are four shifts with four detention officers per shift. The informant described their staffing situation as under staffed and employee turnover as somewhat of a problem. Mr. Nelson stressed the need for an additional officer per shift. The additional officer per shift is needed to remain in the control room at all times and to allow for perimeter patrol because there is no fence around the facility. The current salaries are less than adequate to recruit and retain quality personnel. Mr. Nelson reports that it is difficult to find qualified applicants to fill open positions.

Staff Training

All newly hired detention officer must complete 80 hours of basic jail officer training and training on report writing, booking procedures, CPR and First Aid, use of pepper spray, and defensive tactics. The informant believes the current training requirements are sufficient for new detention officers. However, he would like to see training for newly hired detention officers to be expanded to include how to deal with “troubled” inmates.

The minimum age for a juvenile detention officer is 21. The youngest officer employed at the facility is 21.

In-service training is on-going and covers a variety of topics as well as reviews of policies and procedures. Mr. Nelson believes the current in-service training requirements are sufficient for detention officers. However, he has less than adequate resources for training personnel.

Most (80%) of the staff training takes place on-site at the facility. Meeting the current training requirements creates minor scheduling and staffing problems. Mr. Nelson would like to see more training offered.

The administrator believes that the level of in-service training and resources available to him are less than adequate for carrying out his work. He currently has time to take advantage of training opportunities.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does **not** contains written policies relating to staff training.

Technology

Lowndes County has eight computers for staff use which are all linked to a server located in the administrator's office. Although the server is the only computer with a DVD Drive, all the computers have CD Drives. Internet access is available on the four computers for the staff offices in the back of the facility. There is a work email account provided for the administrator; however, the additional staff does not have access to a work email account. There is currently no audio/visual equipment.

Pike County Juvenile Detention Center

100 Fifth Avenue
McComb, MS 39640
601-249-0909

Date of Site Visit: November 22, 2005

Monitored by: Dr. Angela Robertson

Informants: Ronnie Pierce, Administrator (responsible for day to day administrative decisions)
Pam Williams, Executive Assistant

Operated by: Pike County Board of Supervisors

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day

Number of Beds in Facility: 22

Census: 8

Average Daily Census: 14-15

Pike County Juvenile Detention Center was converted in 1986 from a police office to a holding facility. It now consists of two buildings. The first, older building consists of an office for the detention officers which contains the video monitors, a day room, and the cells. The office space/control room is very cramped. The day room, cells and furnishings are old and in poor condition. The second building was built in 2001 and contains the classroom/multipurpose room and administrative offices.

Process for obtaining a detention order

Judge John Price, Youth and County Court Judge, can give a detention order. The designee, Sue Moak, Court Administrator, can also give a detention order if Judge Price is unavailable. When a police officer makes an arrest, he or she calls the judge or designee and asks for a detention order. The judge can issue a verbal order, but it must be followed the next day with a written order.

Admission Procedures

The officer brings in the juvenile and searches the juvenile and his/her possessions. The juvenile's possessions are bagged and put into the storeroom. Once the juveniles have disposed of their personal property they are showered with lice shampoo and body wash, issued a uniform (including shoes, socks, and underwear), and given personal hygiene articles such as toothpaste, toothbrush, soap and towels. Each juvenile is photographed, fingerprinted, and assigned a unique number by the computer. Then medical, physical, and health screening is performed. After booking, the officer in central control contacts the parents to notify them of the admission and inform them of the court date. All personal data is collected and put into the computer. Juveniles are assigned to a cell at booking.

The juveniles are given written materials that explain the center's procedures, rules, programs and services. The rules and rights are posted on the wall and they are also read a copy. They must sign stating they understand the rules posted.

Written Policy and Procedure Manual Review:

The Standard Operating Procedures Manual has written admission policies on the following: search of the juvenile and his possessions, disposition of personal property, shower and hair care,

issuance of clothing, issuance of personal hygiene articles, assignment of housing unit/pod/ cell, recording basic personal data and information, notification of families of admission and procedures for visiting, and the assignment of a registered number to the juvenile. The orientation to rights and responsibilities are also in the current manual.

All employees have a copy of the Standard Operating Procedures Manual and the administrator keeps one in his office. The manual was last revised three years ago.

Health Screening

The detention officers are responsible for all types of screening of the juveniles. Between seventy-five and eighty percent of the juveniles are screened each month; repeaters within thirty days are not screened again. One way the juveniles are screened for mental health status is using the MAYSI. This screening obtains information about anxiety/depression, suicide risk, aggressive behavior, and alcohol/drug use. Another instrument used is the intake form. This form is used to collect information pertaining to physical health/medical history and educational status. The teacher also collects information on the juvenile's educational status. Pike County does not screen for family relations, peer relations, social skills, or vocational status.

The MAYSI scores, observation, and a medical report can help the staff determine whether the juvenile detainee is in need of emergency medical care or mental health intervention. The juvenile is checked at booking to determine if in need of medical care. If the juvenile is bleeding, sick or intoxicated, he or she is not admitted to the juvenile detention center and is sent directly to the hospital. The medical referral process is immediate and the mental health referral is usually within twelve hours.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies related to health/medical history and mental health screening at booking/intake. No other screening policies are documented.

Services and Programs: Educational and Reading Materials

A certified teacher is on-site and is responsible for providing educational services for the youth in the facility. Tonnette Todd is the teacher. She is employed by the Board of Supervisors. She has her Masters degree in Biology. Academic instruction is offered four hours a day, five days a week. During the summer, individual tutoring is offered. Males and females receive academic instruction at separate times. The facility does not have a separate room designated as a classroom. A multipurpose room is used for the education program.

Voluntary enrichment activities such as life skills and vocational/occupational skills are offered four hours a day .

The facility has a collection of books but no separate library room. Youth are allowed free-reading time and may take the reading material back to their cells/rooms. Mr. Pierce and the Board of Supervisors purchase the books and school supplies.

The facility does not offer a GED program.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does **not** contain any written policies regarding the education services such as academic education, GED preparation or the availability of reading materials.

Services and Programs: Visitation with Parents and Guardians & Private Communication with Visitors and Staff

Using a separate room, this facility provides non-contact visitation for family and counselors. The regular visiting hours are on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Visitors must call ahead and make an appointment to visit. Legal professionals may visit during business hours and if necessary after hours at request.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written procedures for visitation.

Services and Programs: Food Service

There is a full size kitchen with household size appliances, utensils, etc on the premise with one part-time cook on the food service staff. The cook prepares breakfast and lunch on week days, and a female detention officer provides dinners and meals on the weekends. There is a snack provided every afternoon, such as cookies, chips, popsicles, and fruit cups.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are **no** written policies on food services.

Services and Programs: Counseling

There are two Youth Services counselors assigned to work at this facility. Clarence Powell, who works in the Jackson DYS office, supervises the Youth Services Counselors. The administrator didn't know the average length of incarceration or to which counselor the juvenile was assigned. He said most juveniles are already assigned a counselor due to prior detention and involvement in the juvenile justice system.

Southwest Mental Health Center only sends counselors to this facility for consultation/ assessment services.

The Director estimates that 40-60% of the detainees are security threats with regard to other detainees, detention officers and staff or themselves, 90% of the detainees require mental health services, and 60-70% have substance abuse problems.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies regarding counseling and therapeutic services.

Services and Programs: Medical

There are currently no health care professionals on staff at Pike County. Southwest Medical Center is the general health care and after-hours health care provider.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Standard Operating Procedures Manual contains written policies regarding the medical services.

Services and Programs: Recreation and Exercise

There is a fenced in area (sallie port) between the two buildings that could be used for outdoor recreation. There is also a multipurpose/classroom that could be used for indoor recreation. However, there are currently no regularly scheduled physical recreation activities for detainees.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are no written policies regarding the inside and outside recreation/exercise activities for detainees..

Services and Programs: Religious

The facility provides religious services one to two times a week for thirty minutes. Ronnie Pierce is responsible for coordinating/scheduling these services. Religious visitation can take place with permission of the court during the regular visiting hours.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does not contain written policies related to religious worship.

Services of Programs: Other

Some additional programs regularly provided for youth at this facility include social skills training (life skills), vocational education, and substance abuse prevention provided by the teacher.

Some programs that the facility does not offer but would like to include are on-site counselors/evaluation and recreation. The informants also expressed the desire for a new physical facility that provides separation and privacy. They expressed the need for a new control room and better training for the detention officers and administrators as well. The informants emphasized the lack of money, staff, space, and appropriate training needed for additional programs.

Safety and Security

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Standard Operating Procedures Manual contains written policies relating to safety and security. In this manual are policies governing fire and workplace safety, an evacuation plan, disciplinary action, security/control, security search, escape procedures, firearms, and severe weather procedures.

A copy of the Evacuation Plan was obtained which shows a detailed floor plan with all emergency exits provided.

Staffing

Pike County currently employs thirteen full-time and one part-time individuals. There is one administrator, one secretary, one executive assistant, one teacher, ten correctional officers, and one part-time cook.

The facility describes their staffing situation as fully staffed with employee turnover as a very important problem. The current salaries are less than adequate to recruit and retain quality personnel. Therefore, they typically have difficulty finding qualified applicants to fill open positions.

Staff Training

A newly hired detention officer requires eighty hours of correctional officer certification training provided by Southwest Community college. The informants believe the current training requirements are sufficient for new detention officers.

The minimum age at which someone should be hired as a juvenile detention officer is 21 and the youngest officer at Pike County is 25.

The informants believe that training should be expanded for newly hired detention officers to include dealing with different types of psychological problems, relationships with other officers, basic writing and computer knowledge, and job burnout.

In-service training consist of four hours for first aid and CPR refresher and four hours for OC (pepper) spray. In-service training for suicide prevention and behavior management is optional. The director believes the current in-service training requirements are less than sufficient for detention officers They also note they have less than adequate resources for training their personnel.

The informants believe that in-service training should be expanded to include supervision of juveniles, rights of juveniles and officers, written communication, handling stress, security of facility, procedures for disciplinary action, medical problems of juveniles, and contraband control.

Sixty percent of the training requirements take place on-site at the facility. Thirty percent take place in the local community and ten percent take place outside the community. Meeting the current training requirements creates a significant scheduling and staffing problem.

The director of the facility would like to see more training offered on-site as well as in the local community. He also believes that with regard to his own position as director, the level of in-service training and resources available are less than adequate for carrying out his work.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies relating to staff training.

Technology

Pike County has five computers of which three are used for the booking system only. Two of the computers are linked to the Internet. None of the computers have DVD Drives but two computers have CD Drives. There is a work email account provided for the administrator and the executive assistant. There is currently audio/visual equipment used in the facility.

Rankin County Juvenile Justice Center

3350 Hwy. 468
Pearl, MS 39208
601-932-5766

Date of Site Visit: October 19, 2005

Monitored by: Dr. Angela Robertson, Dr. Gregory Dunaway, Ms. Mary Lukens

Informants: Captain Sid Norsworthy, Juvenile Detention Administrator

Thomas H. Broome, County Court Judge

Paul Bowen, Youth Court Administrator

Sheriff Ronnie Pennington

J. Richard Lawrence, Attorney for the Sheriff Department

Operated by: Rankin County Sheriff's Office

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day

Number of Beds in Facility: 30

Census: 15

Average Daily Census: 15

Rankin County Juvenile Justice Center experienced some roof damage during Hurricane Katrina, and therefore were unable to operate for one week. Some juveniles were transferred to Hinds County Juvenile Detention Center, and other juveniles released to their guardian.

Process for obtaining a detention order

To obtain a detention order the law enforcement officer contacts the judge which issues a verbal order. The verbal order must be followed by a written order within 24 hours. The County Court Judge, Thomas Broome, has the authority to give a detention order.

Currently the City of Pearl has a separate Youth Court and Judge John Shirley has the authority to place juveniles under his jurisdiction at this facility. Reportedly, the City and County Youth courts will be consolidated in the near future.

Admission Procedures

The officer brings in the juvenile and searches the juvenile and his/her possessions. Once the juveniles have disposed of their personal property they are showered with lice shampoo and issued a uniform. There is a number assigned to the juvenile using a computer generated number. Juveniles who are repeat offenders receive a new (and different) number for each subsequent incarceration. They are allowed to call their parents to notify them of admission and procedures for visiting.

The juveniles are given written materials that explain the center's procedures, rules, programs and services. The rules and rights are posted on the wall and they are also read a copy. They must sign a form stating they understand the rules posted.

The security staff preforms medical and mental health screening and records basic personal data and information to be used for mail and visiting lists.

Written Policy and Procedure Manual Review:

The Policy and Procedure Manual has written policies regarding the following items related to the admission process: search of the juvenile and his possessions, disposition of personal property, shower and hair care, issuance of clothing, recording basic personal data and information, notification of families of admission and procedures for visiting, and the assignment of a registered number to the juvenile. The orientation to rights and responsibilities are also in the current manual.

The admission procedures **not** in the manual include the issue of personal hygiene articles and the assignment of housing unit/pod/cell. However, there is a form used during juvenile admission which lists the personal hygiene articles issued. This form is incorporated into the manual.

All employees have to go through policy and procedure training to ensure the staff is aware of policies and procedures. As changes/updates are made staff receive the updated version. Copies of the policy and procedures manual are located in the offices of Captain Norsworthy and the Attorney for the Sheriff's Department.

Health Screening

The detention officers are responsible for the medical and mental health screening of the youth upon admission. Medical and mental health screening is conducted during the booking process. The Attorney for the Rankin County Sheriff Department developed a screening instrument based on state legislation in 2002 that obtains all the information listed in the statute. Urine testing is another method used for alcohol and drug use screening.

The medical and mental referral process is immediate. If the juvenile is in need of medical care the judge is contacted and the detainee is transported to the local hospital or emergency room. If the juvenile is in need of mental health care, Region Eight Mental Health Care is contacted and a Crisis Intervention Specialist comes to the facility to conduct an assessment and to make recommendations.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Policy and Procedure Manual has written policies regarding the following items related to screening at booking/intake: health/medical history screening, mental health screening, and other screening including urine analysis for drug testing.

Services and Programs: Educational and Reading Materials

There is one certified teacher, Bridgette McNeil, housed in the detention facility. She is hired by Rankin County Schools and is responsible for providing educational services for the youth in the facility.

The academic instruction is provided only during the 9-month school year. Classes are separated by sex. Males and females each receive academic instruction for one half of the day. The facility's education services are provided from 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

There are no enrichment activities during educational service hours. The classroom is part of the common area and is separated from the common area by a partition. The classroom contains a collection of books provided by the teacher, the school district, and donors. Juveniles are allowed

free reading time during the educational period of the day. Juveniles are not allowed to take reading materials back to their individual cells for security reasons (hardback books could be used as weapons) and because some juveniles tend to destroy the books and clog the facility's plumbing with pages ripped from the books and flushed down the toilets).

There is no GED program because the average length of stay is two to four days. However, the Youth Court Counselors coordinate referrals to GED programs for those juveniles needing it.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies regarding academic education but no policy on the availability of reading materials.

Services and Programs: Visitation with Parents and Guardians & Private Communication with Visitors and Staff

Using a separate room, this facility provides non-contact visitation for family. The regular visiting hours are on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00-11:00 am and 1:00-4:00 pm Contact visitation between the juvenile and counselors or legal counsel may occur at any time request.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written procedures on visitation.

Services and Programs: Food Service

There is a limited kitchen at this facility. They contract with Valley Food Service to prepare and deliver meals. The security officers handle and serve the food. There are extra desserts available, as well as snacks provided at lunch and dinner.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding food services.

Services and Programs: Counseling

There are three state and two county counselors assigned to work with juveniles at this facility. There is also one vacant position. A youth is assigned a counselor within 24 hours of detainment. The Regional Director for the state supervises the Youth Services Counselors monthly. Mr. Paul Bowen supervises the Youth Services Counselors on a day to day basis.

Region Eight provides psychological assessments on site. Christy Emerson is a mental health counselor that provide services to juveniles. Gerald O Brian, PhD is a psychologist that is available every Friday. Family counseling is also available through court services.

Informants estimate that less than 5% of the detainees are security threats with regard to other detainees, detention officers and staff or themselves, 30-35% of the detainees require mental health services, and 55-60% percent have substance abuse problems.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are no policies regarding counseling services.

Services and Programs: Medical

There are two licensed practical nurses available, and three registered nurses available once or twice a week (based on need). The facility has a contract with the Medical Group to provide a licensed physician for on-site health care and after hour services.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies regarding the medical services.

Services and Programs: Recreation and Exercise

There is currently regularly scheduled physical recreation activities for detainees. There is a total of two hours of recreation/exercise allowed per day. Under the detention officers supervision, the detainees can go outside, or they may stay inside the day room to play cards. The recreation time is voluntary, that is, juveniles do not have to participate.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies related to recreation/exercise.

Services and Programs: Religious

The facility provides religious services one to three times a week. Attendance at these services is voluntary. Captain Norsworthy is responsible for coordinating/scheduling these services. Also the Detention Center provides local ministers that visit the facility. Religious visitation usually takes place in the evenings and weekends.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

Written policies regarding religious worship are not explicitly listed in the Policy and Procedures Manual.

Services of Programs: Other

Most of the other services provided are through the Youth Court. Youth Court Counselors provide referrals for family counseling and parenting planning services, which are provided through various community resources.

The Rankin County facility is in the process of starting a drug court. They would also like to begin an art therapy program. They believe that the lack of space and the facility layout is a major factor which prevents them from implementing more programs.

A daily schedule with regard to program services is provided:
5:30-5:45 am Wake up, breakfast, School, lunch, break, school, recreation at 3:00 pm, supper, shower, clean area, card games, 9:00 pm-Lights out.

Safety and Security

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Policy and Procedures Manual contains written policies relating to safety and security including policies for the control center, perimeter security, supervision and movement of juveniles, transportation, searches, keys, firearms, use of force, and an emergency plan.

Staffing

Rankin County currently employs 18 detention officers full-time and no part-time employees. They also have two maintenance personnel and four shift supervisors. There are four 12-hour shifts from 7:00 am-7:00 pm with four to five staff per shift.

The minimum age at which someone should be hired as a juvenile detention officer was not reported. The age of the youngest officer at Rankin County Juvenile Justice Center is 22 years. The informant describes the staffing situation as fully staffed with no employee turnover problem. The current salaries are adequate to recruit and retain quality personnel. The current salaries are adequate to retain current personnel and finding qualified applicants to fill the open positions is not a problem.

Staff Training

A newly hired detention officer must complete 80 hours of NSA Basic Detention Officer training and 40 hours of Rankin Juvenile Detention Orientation. The 80 hour NSA Basic Detention Officer training and a substantial part of the orientation training occurs at the sheriff department's training center in Brandon. The informants believe the current training requirements are sufficient for new detention officers. Captain Norsworthy believes that the detention center has adequate resources for training personnel. However, meeting the current training requirements creates minor scheduling and staffing problems.

Captain Norsworthy believes that the level of in-service training and resources available to him to carrying out his work is adequate.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies relating to job descriptions and staff training. The manual states there is a staff training facility in Brandon, MS.

Technology

Rankin County Juvenile Detention Center has six computers. There is one computer in the school classroom that, under direct supervision of the teacher, the juveniles may do school related work. Three computers are linked to the internet. One of the computers has a DVD Drive and four have CD Drives. There is a work email account provided for each of the staff. The facility has access to audio/visual equipment.

Warren County Juvenile Detention Center

1100 "A" Grove Street
Vicksburg, MS 39180
601-630-8003

Date of Site Visit: October 18, 2005

Monitored by: Dr. Angela Robertson, Dr. Gregory Dunaway, Ms. Mary Lukens

Informant: Kathy Holder, Officer Manager

Operated by: Youth Court/Johnny Price

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day

Number of Beds in Facility: 30

Census: 13

Average Daily Census: 13-14

Rachael Hardy, Administrator, and George Flaggs, Assistant Administrator are responsible for day-to-day administrative decisions regarding the juvenile facility.

Process for obtaining a detention order

The probation officer, school resource officer, or a police arrest report are considered valid to request a detention order. They accept verbal orders but must be followed by a written order within 24 hours. Depending on the crime, the juvenile may return home until the court date. The County Court Judge, Judge John Price, has the authority to give a detention order. Designees, Rachael Hardy, George Flaggs, and Kashan Haynes, can also give a detention order.

Admission Procedures

At booking the juvenile and his/her possessions are searched. Personal belongings are placed in a bag and labeled. Then juveniles shower with lice shampoo. Detention uniforms and personal hygiene products (i.e. toothpaste, toothbrush, soap, deodorant, shampoo, and conditioner) are given to the juvenile. Every juvenile is assigned a number. The females shower in their cell and the males shower in the male booking area. The family is usually notified before the child gets to the facility, otherwise the youth services counselor notifies them once the juvenile is detained.

Juveniles are given written materials that explain the center's procedures, rules, programs and services. The rules and rights are posted on the wall and they are also read a copy. They must sign a form stating they understand the rules.

Written Policy and Procedure Manual Review:

The Standard Operating Procedures Manual has written policies regarding admission: search of the juvenile and his possessions, disposition of personal property, shower and hair care, issuance of clothing, and recording basic personal data. The orientation to rights and responsibilities are also in the current manual. However the juvenile rights and responsibilities does not mention how the youth are informed.

The issuance of personal hygiene articles, notification of families of admission and procedures for visiting and the assignment of a registered number to a juvenile is not explicitly listed in the admissions procedures.

The Standard Operating Procedures Manual was written in 1996 when the center opened. Copies of the policy and procedures manual are kept up front, on the male and female sides of the building. Every security officer has a copy of the manual. When hired, each staff member must sign a form stating they are aware of the policies and procedures. They also attend an orientation.

Health Screening

The detention officers are responsible for the medical and mental health screening of the youth upon admission. The facility screens 100% of their juveniles. Juveniles are screened for mental health status using the MAYSI. This screening instrument is used to assess suicide risk, aggressive behavior, and alcohol/drug use. Urine testing is also used to screen for alcohol and drug use. Information on the physical health/medical history of the youth is obtained by the security officer (see attached form). The school and youth court collects information on the youth's educational status after booking.

The juveniles are **not** screened for family relations, peer relations, social skills, or vocational status.

The MAYSI scores, observation, and a medical report can help the staff determine whether the juvenile detainee is in need of emergency medical care or mental intervention. The nurse makes the decision to seek medical care. The medical referral process is immediate and the mental health referral is usually within 24 hours unless it is a holiday or a weekend.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies on health, mental health, and urine drug screening at booking/intake.

Services and Programs: Educational and Reading Materials

Ms. Lilly Cowan is a certified teacher from Vicksburg Warren School District. She is located at the facility and is responsible for providing educational services to the youth. Teresa George is a special education teacher from Vicksburg Warren School District. She collects the assignments from the school counselor/teachers and brings them to the on-site educational program. Academic instruction is year round and is offered from 8:30am-11:30am and 1:00pm-3:30pm Monday-Friday. The recreation room (gym) is used as the classroom.

There is one hour a week of voluntary enrichment activity. Ms Nichols from Grove Street Alternative School comes on Mondays for goal setting and behavior counseling.

The facility does not have a library but the youth are allowed free-reading time during recreation time in the afternoons. They are not allowed to take the reading material back to their cells/rooms. Ms. Cowen provides reading materials during school hours.

The facility does offer a computerized GED program. There are five computers for the classroom with no internet access.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies on the educational services. However, there are no policies/procedures on the availability of reading materials or the GED program.

Services and Programs: Visitation with Parents and Guardians & Private Communication with Visitors and Staff

Using a separate room, this facility provides non-contact visitation for immediate family. The family must show a valid ID. The regular visiting hours are Wednesday from 5:30-7:00 pm and Saturday and Sunday from 1:00-3:00 pm. Visitation with legal professionals may occur anytime.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written procedures for visitation.

Services and Programs: Food Service

The County Jail prepares and delivers the food for the facility. The detention officer serves the food once it reaches the detention center. There is a snack provided once per day in the evenings. There is also a weekly menu developed by a nutritionist.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies for food services.

Services and Programs: Counseling

There are two (one full time, one part time) Division of Youth Services or County Youth Court Counselors assigned to work at this facility. A youth is assigned a counselor within 24 hours of detainment. Ms. Eileen Anderson supervises the Youth Services Counselors. She is with Clayborn County Office, Region 5.

The informant estimates that 4% of the detainees are security threats with regard to other detainees, detention officers and staff or themselves, 65% of the detainees require mental health services, and 60% have substance abuse problems.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does **not** contain written policies for counseling and therapeutic services.

Services and Programs: Medical

There is one licensed practical nurse who works full time. She is at the county jail eight hours a day and is also on call as needed. If the juvenile is in need of medical services, she must contact the parent in order to transport the youth. If it is an emergency, they are taken to the River Region Hospital emergency room.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies on the provision of medical services.

Services and Programs: Recreation and Exercise

There is regularly scheduled physical recreation activities for detainees. There is a total of one hour of recreation/exercise per day. Under the detention officers' supervision, the detainees can go outside or stay in the gym. Some activities include basketball, ping pong, board games and computer games.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies on the recreation/exercise program.

Services and Programs: Religious

The facility does not provide religious services. Religious visitation may occur by request from the parent.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are **no** written policies related to religious services.

Services of Programs: Other

Some additional programs regularly provided for youth at this facility include family and parenting programs, behavior management, substance abuse prevention, substance abuse treatment, and violence prevention/anger management. The school system sends staff to the facility to teach a number of topics ranging from personal hygiene to how to write a letter. Coach Carson, with the school system, provided summer programs for four weeks last summer and touched on a different issue every week. The facility had an art therapy program that ended the Summer 2004.

Some programs that the facility does not offer but would like to include consist of an on-site mental health service and family therapy. The informants emphasized the need for appropriate training for detention center officers.

Safety and Security

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains the following policies relating to safety and security: the control center, perimeter security, youth supervision and movement, post orders, count principles, transfers, inspections, youth searches, keys, firearms and security equipment, use of force and emergency plan.

A copy of the Evacuation Plan was obtained which shows a detailed floor plan with all emergency exits provided.

Staffing

Warren County currently employs 14 full-time staff. There is one office manager and thirteen detention officers, including one superintendent, one assistant superintendent, and two shift supervisors. The informant described their staffing situation as fully staffed with no employee turnover problem. The current salaries are adequate to recruit and retain quality personnel. They typically do not have difficulty finding qualified applicants to fill open positions.

There are three shifts: 12:00 am-8:00 am, 8:00 am-4:00 pm, and 4:00 pm-midnight. Each shift has three staff members.

Staff Training

All newly hired detention officer must complete 80 hours of basic detention officer training. The informant believes the current training requirements are sufficient for new detention officers.

The youngest officer at Warren County Juvenile Detention Center is 21 and the minimum age at which someone should be hired as a juvenile detention officer is 21.

In-service training consist of a total of 80 hours for booking, observation, and court services. The director believes the current in-service training requirements are sufficient for detention officers. They also note they have adequate resources for training their personnel.

Fifty percent of the training requirements take place on-site at the facility and fifty percent take place outside the community. Meeting the current training requirements does not create a scheduling and staffing problem.

The director of the facility is not concerned with having more training offered on-site or in the local community. The administrator believes that the level of in-service training and resources available to him are adequate for carrying out his work. He currently has time to take advantage of training opportunities and feels continuous training in children at risk would be most important for him to better carry out his work.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies relating to staff training. There are training, expertise, and experience requirements listed with position descriptions.

Technology

Warren County has eight computers. There are three computers for the administrators and five for academic purposes. None of the computers have DVD Drives but one of the computers has a CD Drive. Two of the computers are linked to the internet but no work email accounts are provided. There is audio/visual equipment available for use in the facility.

Washington County Juvenile Justice Center

3330 Highway 82 East
Greenville, MS 38704
662-334-2750

Date of Site Visit: November 18, 2005

Monitored by: Mr. Gregory Dunaway

Informants: Mr. Bennie Bowie, Director (responsible for day-to-day administrative decisions)

Operated by: Youth Court

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day

Number of Beds in Facility: 28

Census: 18

Average Daily Census: 15

Process for obtaining a detention order

The arresting officer brings the juvenile to the facility. The Youth Court Judge, Vernita King Johnson, has the authority to give a detention order. Judge Solomon, and Judge Lukenbar, municipal court judge, can also give a detention order. If there is a probation violation the youth court counselor takes the custody order to the judge.

Admission Procedures

The police officer brings in the juvenile through the side of the facility to the booking desk and searches the juvenile and his/her possessions. The booking sheet is filled out and a description of clothing taken. Clothing are the only personal items that are kept at the facility. The youth showers, and is issued a uniform and personal hygiene articles. There is a unique booking number assigned to the juvenile. All mental and medical health screening takes place during booking. They are assigned to their cell.

The juveniles are given written materials that explain the center's procedures, rules, programs and services. They are required to sign a form stating they understand the rules.

Written Policy and Procedure Manual Review:

The manual has written policies regarding the following the admission process: search of the juvenile and his possessions, shower and hair care, issuance of clothing, recording basic personal data and information, notification of families of admission and procedures for visiting, and the assignment of housing unit/pod/cell. The orientation to rights and responsibilities are also in the current manual.

The P&P manual does **not** include the following policies: disposition of personal property, issuance of personal hygiene articles, or the assignment of a registered number to the juvenile. The manual is located in the control room and in the director's and assistant director's offices. The manual was last updated in 2002. At hiring, each officer is required to read the manual. There is also in-service training on policies and procedures every two months.

Health Screening

The detention officers are responsible for the medical and mental health screening of the youth upon admission. The director and assistant director also assist in screening the youth. They screen 100% of their juveniles.

Using the MAYSI and their own screening form, they screen for suicide risk and aggressive behavior, and alcohol and drug use. The facility also screens for physical health/medical history (see booking form).

Detention officers do not ask questions about vocational status, peer relations, social skills, family relations, or educational status during the screening process.

To determine if the detainee is in need of emergency medical care or mental health intervention they use the MAYSI scores, observations or information collected using the physical health/medical history forms.

If the juvenile is in need of medical care they are taken to the hospital by the arresting officer. If they need mental health care they call the local mental health hotline. A mental health counselor will be sent to the facility and make an assessment as to whether a referral needs to be made. The mental health referral process requires scheduling, but will take place generally within 24 hours.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual has written policies on health/medical history and mental health screening at booking/intake.

Services and Programs: Educational and Reading Materials

Leland, Hollendale, Western Line, and Greenville Public Schools are responsible for providing educational services for the youth. There are two certified teachers housed in the detention facility. Barbara Laye and Lovie Patterson are both retired teachers from Greenville Public Schools. There is also an AmeriCorp worker available to assist the teachers. A school counselor comes to the facility to conduct standardized academic testing if needed.

Educational services are offered from 8:00-11:30 am and 12:30-3:00 pm (except Monday and Thursday when class is dismissed at 2:30 pm).

One hour a week and during the summers, arts and crafts are provided through MS Cultural Crossroads.

Academic instruction is provided during the summer months but the teachers are not available at that time of year. During the summer, there is either an AmeriCorp worker or someone from the Greenville County Schools to work with the youth.

The facility has a separate room designated as a library. The juveniles are allowed free reading time and may take the materials back to their day room, but not their cell. The materials are provided by Ms. Laye.

A GED program is **not** available to the detainees.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Policy and Procedure Manual has a written policy on academic education, but does **not** have a policy on the availability of reading materials.

Services and Programs: Visitation with Parents and Guardians & Private Communication with Visitors and Staff

Using a separate room, this facility provides non-contact visitation for family. The regular visiting hours are on Tuesdays and Thursday from 3:00-4:00 and Saturday's from 1:00-2:00 pm. They are also allowed to use the telephone 3 times a week. Legal professionals may visit at anytime as long as the detention staff are notified in advance.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There is a written policy and procedure for visitation.

Services and Programs: Food Service

Staff at the Sheriffs Department prepares meals for the juveniles. The detention center officers pick up and serve the food. There is a limited kitchen facility (break room for employees).

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There is a written policy for food services.

Services and Programs: Counseling

There are three counselors assigned to work at this facility. A youth is assigned a counselor in less than 24 hours after detainment. Mr. McCaleb supervises the youth services counselors.

There is also a Department of Human Services Social worker available to provide therapeutic services to juveniles on site.

The director estimates that only 1% of the detainees are security threats with regard to other detainees, detention officers and staff or themselves, that 30-35% of the detainees require mental health services, and 10-15% percent have substance abuse problems.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies and procedures on the provision of counseling and therapeutic services.

Services and Programs: Medical

A physician is on site once a week. If the child needs medication, the detention officer dispenses the drugs. Delta Regional Medical Center in Greenville is the general health care provider. The Family Medical Center is also the health care provider during work hours. Juveniles are taken to the local hospital for after hours health care services.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There is a written policy on the provision of medical services.

Services and Programs: Recreation and Exercise

Physical recreation activities are regularly scheduled for one hour per day. Under supervision of a detention officer, the detainees can go outside and play basketball, or they may stay inside the day room to play cards.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There is a written policy on recreation/exercise for detainees.

Services and Programs: Religious

The facility does not provide religious services. Religious visitation can take place anytime if appointment is set up in advance.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

Written policies regarding religious services are listed in the operations manual.

Services of Programs: Other

Social skills and self-esteem topics are discussed by the teachers.

Safety and Security*Written Policy and Procedure Review:*

The manual contains written policies relating to safety and security.

Staffing

Washington County currently employs nine full-time and six part-time employees. There are three shifts; 7:00 am -3:00 pm, 3:00 pm -11:00 pm, 11:00 pm -7:00 pm with two staff per shift (some days it is three when part time workers come in). There are twelve detention officers (6 full time) and (6 part time), one sergeant/assistant director, one secretary, and one custodian.

The facility describes their staffing situation as fully staffed with employee turnover not a problem. The current salaries are more than adequate to recruit and retain quality personnel. They do not have difficulty finding qualified applicants to fill the open positions.

Staff Training

A newly hired officer requires 80 hours of basic detention officer training.

The informant believes the current training requirements are more than sufficient for new detention officers.

The youngest officer at Washington County Detention Center is 27 and the minimum age at which someone should be hired as a juvenile detention officer is 21.

Detention officers receive the following in-service training: 12 minutes of inmate body searches clothed, 17 minutes of inmate body searches unclothed, 11 minutes of cell searches, 22 minutes of suicide inmates, 12 minutes of introduction to contraband, 16 minutes of fire in the jail training, 22 minutes of correctional officer-principles of discipline, and 22 minutes of con games inmates play.

The director describes the current in-service training requirements as sufficient for detention officers.

According to the Staff and Training Survey, the detention center has less than adequate resources for training their personnel.

Eighty percent of the training requirements take place on site at the facility, and 20% take place outside the local community. Meeting the current training requirements creates a minor scheduling and staffing problem. The Director would like to see more training offered on site but not in the local community.

Dr. Bowie believes that with regard to his own position the level of in-service training and resources available are adequate for carrying out his work and he has the time to take advantage of any current training resources available. He would like to be better trained in the key steps for debriefing after a crisis, how to use verbal and/or non-verbal techniques to defuse hostile behavior and resolve a crisis before it becomes violent and how to identify behaviors that could lead to a crisis.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The Policy and Procedures Manual contains written policies relating to staff training.

Technology

Washington County has one computer for staff use that has a DVD Drive and a CD Drive. The computer is not linked to the internet. There is no work email account provided for the administrator nor for the staff. There are five computers and two printers in the classroom. There is audio visual equipment in the classroom and a T.V. in the Day Room.

Yazoo County Juvenile Justice Center

217 South Washington Street

Yazoo City, MS 39194

662-746-0019

Date of Site Visit: November 14, 2005

Monitored by: Ms. Mary Lukens and Ms. Angela Maggard

Informants: Wade Woods, Director (responsible for day-to-day administrative decisions)

Operated by: Youth Court

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day

Number of Beds in Facility: 25

Census: 8

Average Daily Census: 10-15

Process for obtaining a detention order (warrant).

The police officer goes before the judge and obtains a warrant. Almost every time an order is issued in writing. If a verbal order is issued, it must be in writing by the time the juvenile is placed in detention. The Youth Court Judge, Hudson Thomas, has the authority to give a detention order.

Admission Procedures

The arresting officer may assist in the strip search of the juvenile, but the detention officer always supervises searches. The detention officer bags and documents seized personal items. Once the juveniles have disposed of their personal property, they are showered (with lice shampoo), issued jump suits and personal hygiene articles. A booking number assigned to the juvenile. The arresting officer is responsible for contacting the parents to notify them of admission. The facility also contacts the parents to explain the visitation procedures. All mental and medical health screening takes place during booking.

Juveniles are given written materials that explain the center's procedures, rules, programs and services. The rules are read to the juveniles, and posted on the walls. Youth sign a statement that they have been informed of facility rules.

Written Policy and Procedure Manual Review:

The manual contains the following written policies on the admission process: search of the juvenile and his possessions, disposition of personal property, issuance of clothing, the assignment of a registered number to the juvenile, recording basic personal data and information, notification of families of admission and procedures for visiting, and the assignment of housing unit/pod/cell.

The orientation to rights and responsibilities, shower and hair care, or issuance of personal hygiene articles are **not** in the current manual.

A copy of the procedures manual is located in the assistant director's office. It was created in 1997 (when the facility opened) and was last updated in 2004. At hiring, each officer is given a copy of the manual and is required to read the manual. Memos are posted for any revisions or updates to the manual. Employee must sign for receipt of the manual and sign memos.

Health Screening

The booking officer is responsible for the medical and mental health screening of the youth upon admission. They use the MAYSI and booking packet to screen for mental health status. They screen for suicide risk, aggressive behavior, alcohol and drug use, and physical health/medical history. Urinalysis is used to detect drug use. The facility also screens for educational status using their own instrument. Detention officers do **not** screen for vocational status, peer relations, social skills, or family relations.

To determine if the detainee is in need of emergency medical care or mental health intervention they use the MAYSI scores, observations or medical forms.

If the juvenile is in need of medical care, the administrative staff transports the juvenile to the emergency room at Kings Daughters Hospital. If it is after hours, Mr. Woods, the Director, is contacted. If mental health services are needed, steps are taken to insure that there is no immediate risk to self or others. The detainees are put in a constant view cell if not an emergency until a counselor arrives. A counselor from Warren Yazoo Mental Health conducts an assessment and makes recommendations for further treatment.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies regarding health/medical history screening, but **no** policies/procedures regarding mental health screening.

Services and Programs: Educational and Reading Materials

The Yazoo County Juvenile Detention Center employs a certified teacher, Ms Mary Harper, who is on-site every Monday through Friday morning (8am to noon) for 12 months a year. There is a small room designated for school work. Every morning a list of juveniles, their schools and grade levels is faxed to the appropriate school district liaison. Geraldine Moore is the liaison for the city schools and Brenda Davis is the county school liaison. On Fridays, the school district liaison delivers each child's work for a week and picks up work from the prior week. Older youth (ages 16 and 17) may work towards a GED while in detention as determined by the court. Ms. Harper handles the GED program. The county school district also provides a Special Education Teacher to the facility when a special needs child is held in detention.

There are no enrichment activities provided due to staff and space.

The facility has a collection of books donated by the school district. Books may also be brought to the facility by the family members (once screened). The juveniles are allowed free reading time anytime in the day room. If they request a Bible, they can have one. They are not allowed to have any reading materials in their cell.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies regarding academic education and the GED program, but there is **no** policy on the availability of reading materials.

Services and Programs: Visitation with Parents and Guardians & Private Communication with Visitors and Staff

Using a separate room, this facility provides non-contact visitation for family. The regular visiting hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1:00-4:00pm. Visitors must schedule an appointment. They get 15 minutes per child, depending on how many youth are detained. Visitation by legal professionals may occur anytime.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written procedures for visitation.

Services and Programs: Food Service

Valley Food Services prepares and delivers the meals for the juveniles. The detention officers serve the food. There is a limited kitchen facility (break room for employees). Valley Service provides one snack every night.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies and procedures for food services.

Services and Programs: Counseling

There are two counselors assigned to work at this facility. One is employed by the state, Division of Youth Services and the other by the county. Judge Thomas supervises the counselors.

Monica Douglas from Warren-Yazoo Mental Health Service is responsible for collecting and reviewing the MAYSI.

The Director estimates that 100% of the detainees are security threats with regard to other detainees, detention officers and staff or themselves, that 20% of the detainees require mental health services, and 80% have substance abuse problems.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The juvenile detention manual does not contain policies on the counseling and therapeutic services. The informant explained that the need for counseling and other therapeutic services is determined by the Youth Court at each child's detention hearing and if deemed necessary are ordered by the court.

Services and Programs: Medical

There are no medical professionals on staff. Dr. Moore, M.D. is the general health care provider and will come with a registered nurse if needed. Kings Daughter's Hospital provides after-hours health care services.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies and procedures on the provision of medical services to incarcerated youth.

Services and Programs: Recreation and Exercise

The amount of time for physical recreation activities varies. Weather permitting, the detainees can go outside or may stay inside and play cards or watch movies. Yazoo County was approved for an expansion four months ago for additional space. The contractor who was awarded the bid has yet to start construction. Once the expansion is built, there will be more space for recreation and the plan is to schedule recreation for an hour a day.

Mr. Woods is responsible for planing and overseeing the recreation and exercise programs.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual contains written policies regarding on recreation/exercise.

Services and Programs: Religious

Religious services are provided one times a week and participation is voluntary.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

Written policies regarding religious worship are **not** listed in the manual.

Services of Programs: Other

If the youth is in need of behavior management the judge will contact a counselor. The youth court is responsible for conflict resolution programs/services. The youth are drug tested upon judges or parent's request. If tested positive they are taken to River Region, Brentwood, or Trilakes for substance abuse prevention and/or treatment.

There are no other programs available but Mr. Woods would like to have a female holding area, more inside activities, more educators to work with the kids, a TV and VCR in every zone, additional reading materials, computers, and social programs. He emphasizes the need for additional female staff, money, and space.

Safety and Security

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

There are written policies on safety and security related to headcounts, contraband control, inspecting housing areas, lock downs, and inmate control.

Staffing

Yazoo County currently employs eleven full-time and two part-time individuals. There is one director, one assistant director, one deputy director, one part-time educator, and eight detention officers (one part time). There are two, 12-hour shifts and each shift has two staff members, a male and female officer.

The informant describes the staffing situation as fully staffed. However, employee turnover a problem. The current salaries are less than adequate to recruit and retain quality personnel. He typically has difficulty finding qualified applicants to fill open positions.

The minimum age at which someone should be hired as a juvenile detention officer is 21 and youngest officer at is 21.

Staff Training

A newly hired detention officer requires 80 hours of on the job training. The informant believes the current training requirements are not sufficient for new detention officers. The director believes the current in-service training requirements are less than sufficient for detention officers. Resources for training their personnel are not adequate and meeting the current training requirements creates a significant scheduling and staffing problem. Mr. Woods believes that current training programs should be geared more toward Juvenile Detention Centers as opposed to Adult Jails. He would like to see more training offered on-site and in the local community. He believes that with regard to his own position as the administrator, the level of in-service training and resources available are less than adequate for carrying out his work. He does not currently have time to take advantage of current training resources available.

Written Policy and Procedure Review:

The manual does **not** contain written policies relating to staff training.

Technology

Yazoo County has two computers located at the booking station and the control station. Both of the computers have CD Drives but no DVD drives. Neither one is linked to the internet. Therefore there are no work email accounts provided for the administrator or the staff. There is a portable TV and VCR for the juveniles to use to watch movies. Also there is a TV in the female holding area.