

# Correctional Institution Inspection Committee: Scioto Juvenile Correctional Facility Inspection Brief

August 22, 2012

## Institution Profile

- Delaware, Ohio
- Male: Reception, medium, and close security
- Primary housing for female youth
- Population: 82 (as of 6/28/12)
  - 75.6% Black, 15.9% White, 8.5% Other
- Number of Employees: 298 (51 vacancies)

## Key Statistics

- **Use of Force:** In 2011, there were 930 use of force incidents, a 51.7 percent increase in comparison to 2010. In 2011, mechanical restraints were used 420 times by staff.
- **Seclusion Hours:** In 2011, staff reported 46,093 hours of seclusion resulting from 1,844 interventions. The most frequently utilized forms of seclusion were “intervention seclusion,” resulting from youth acts of violence, and “pre-hearing seclusion,” also resulting from acts of violence. The total number of seclusion hours increased by 73.7 percent from 2010 to 2011, despite an overall decrease across DYS.
- **Assaults:** In 2011, SJCF documented 166 youth-on-youth assaults and 188 youth-on-staff assaults, an overall increase of 23.3 percent in comparison to 2010.
- **Self-Injurious Behavior (SIB):** There were 136 incidents of self-injurious behavior documented at SJCF in 2011. None required outside medical assistance. Total incidents of SIB decreased by 57.5 percent in comparison to 2009.
- **Suicide Watch and Observation:** In 2011, there were 96 instances of youth placed on suicide watch (highest level). Also in 2011, there were 36 instances of youth placed on suicide observation (precautionary status).
- **GEDs Earned:** 102 GEDs and 56 high school diplomas were awarded to DYS youth in the 2011 – 2012 school year. Of the total, SJCF youth earned 16 GEDs and seven high school diplomas.

## Key Findings

- Overall, the inspection raised concerns, particularly in regard to the key statistics, but the recent change in administration indicates a positive future for SJCF.
- Use of force, seclusion, and assaults all increased in comparison to prior years (see side panel).
- Social workers and youth specialists interviewed relayed concerns regarding their safety. Staff morale was generally rated as low. Positively, staff were optimistic about the new administration.
- Most youth rated the Cognitive Behavioral Treatment programming as poor or very poor, which may impact its effectiveness.
- Some staff accountability concerns were raised, including documentation of executive staff rounds and cell searches.
- Positively, no major concerns were noted in any operations area (medical, mental health, food services, etc.).
- Overall, the housing units appeared excellent in their cleanliness, and at least one unit was undergoing renovation at the time of the inspection.

## Total Assaults at SJCF

