

Correctional Institution Inspection Committee: Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility Inspection Brief

June 4, 2012

Institution Profile

- Circleville, Ohio
- Close security (highest in DYS)
- Male
- Population: 96 (as of 4/12/12)
 - 85.4% Black, 13.5% White, 1% Hispanic
- Number of Employees: 238 (18.5 vacancies)

Key Statistics

- **Use of Force:** In 2011, there were 826 use of force incidents, or an average of 68.8 uses of force per month. In 2011, mechanical restraints were used 605 times by staff.
- **Seclusion Hours:** In 2011, staff reported 92,910 hours of seclusion resulting from 3,581 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 21.5 percent from 2010 to 2011, despite an overall decrease across DYS.
- **Assaults:** In 2011, CJCF documented 223 youth-on-youth assaults and 197 youth-on-staff assaults, an overall increase of 35 percent in comparison to 2010. The number of assaults at CJCF is far greater than at most DRC facilities.
- **Self-Injurious Behavior (SIB):** There were 76 incidents of self-injurious behavior documented at CJCF in 2011. Only one required outside medical assistance. Total incidents of SIB decreased by 70.5 percent in comparison to 2009.
- **Suicide Watch and Observation:** In 2011, there were 74 instances of youth placed on suicide watch (highest level). Also in 2011, there were 16 instances of youth placed on suicide observation (precautionary status).
- **GEDs Earned:** 160 GEDs were earned throughout DYS during the 2009-10 academic year, five of which were earned at CJCF.

Key Findings

- Overall, the inspection raised concerns, particularly in regard to the key statistics and staff accountability.
- The facility has experienced significant change following the closure of the Ohio River Valley Juvenile Correctional Facility, including changes in both the staff and youth population.
- The facility reported increases in uses of force, seclusion hours, and assaults in comparison to prior years (see Key Statistics). All of these increases are despite a decreasing population.
- Both administration and staff expressed concern regarding the number of youth specialist vacancies and staff on leave.
- 40.7 percent of the interviewed youth reported feeling unsafe or very unsafe.
- Staff were inconsistent with the documentation of rounds, shakedown, and security checks.
- The primary positive was the new Superintendent, who relayed enthusiasm for his job and the youth, as well as commitment to staff accountability.

Number of GEDs Earned by Youth 2009-2010 Academic Year

