

Correctional Institution Inspection Committee: Indian River Juvenile Correctional Facility Inspection Brief

January 20, 2012

Institution Profile

- Massillon, Ohio
- Medium/Minimum Security
- Male Facility
- Population: 184 (Reported on Oct 7, 2011)
 - 60% Black, 32% White, 7% Bi-Racial, and <1% Hispanic
- Number of Employees: 224 (21 Vacancies)

Key Statistics

- **Use of Force:** From Sept 2010 through Aug 2011, staff conducted **917 interventions in response to incidents** and used 1,343 approved physical responses. Staff used **mechanical restraints** as a precautionary measure 492 times.
- **Seclusion Hours:** There were **2,207 interventions** resulting in one or more seclusion events (Sept 2010 – Aug 2011). A total of 48,908.87 hours of seclusion.
- **Assaults:** From Sept 2010 through Aug 2011, IRJCF documented **270 substantiated youth on youth assaults**, 105 substantiated youth on staff assaults, and zero substantiated staff on youth assaults.
- **Self-Injurious Behavior (SIB):** There were **179 incidents of SIB from Sept 2010 through Aug 2011**. Of the 179 reported incidents, 113 required medical treatment provided at the facility, and nine required outside medical attention.
- **Suicide Watch and Observation:** From Sept 2010 – Aug 2011, there were 14 instances of youth placed on Suicide Watch and one instance of youth placed on Suicide Observation.
- **GEDs Earned:** 160 GEDs were earned throughout DYS during the 2009-10 academic year. Of the 160 GEDs, 37 were earned by students at IRJCF, including five by special education students.

Key Findings

- Overall, the inspection was positive.
- Critical concerns included staffing, in that staff reported that Youth Specialists have been increasingly mandated (required to work overtime), and delays in responses to youth use of the grievance procedure.
- Unit Managers relayed that heavy workloads have been placed upon them due to institutional needs, reducing the time that they could spend with the youth.
- STG activity at IRJCF continues to be a concern, as half of the youth interviewed reported that they had been pressured to join a gang while at the facility.
- Housing Unit A (close security) raised concerns due to observable tension between the close security youth and youth that were described as having mental health concerns.
- Positive points included the institution's use of innovative mentoring and programming, which is very forward thinking in DYS, as well as staff's consistent praise for the Superintendent, who reportedly has excellent rapport with both youth and staff.

Number of GEDs Earned by Youth 2009-2010 Academic Year

