



San Mateo County Juvenile Hall

2022 Annual Inspection Report



San Mateo County

Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Commission

We are a state-mandated, court-appointed Juvenile Justice Commission and a Board of Supervisors appointed Delinquency Prevention Commission

California Welfare & Institutions Code Sections 225-232 mandate that each California County shall have a Juvenile Justice Commission. Our duty is to inquire into the administration of justice in San Mateo County's Juvenile Court.

California Welfare & Institutions Code Sections 233-236 authorizes the Board of Supervisors to establish, support, and maintain a Delinquency Prevention Commission, of at least 7 citizens, to coordinate on a countywide basis the work of governmental and Non-Profits engaged in activities designed to prevent juvenile delinquency.

Annual Inspections: Juvenile Hall, Camp Kemp, Canyon Oaks, & Educational Sites

Commissioners have access to all publicly administered institutions in San Mateo County authorized by the Juvenile Court Law. This includes annual inspections of county's probation administered institutions, jails, facilities, police and sheriff departments, or any other secure holding facility used detain juveniles in San Mateo County.

Juvenile Hall Statistical Data

August 2021 - August 2022

- 192 Bookings
- Average Daily Population: 18
- Almost all Receive Mental Health Services
- Race: 99% Youth of Color
- Average Age: 17
- Average Length of Stay: 30 Days.
- Out of County Youth: 45 or 18.23% of bookings
- City of Residence
 1. Redwood City
 2. San Mateo
 3. East Palo Alto and San Bruno

Annual Inspection Reports & Recommendations

2021 Successes

Pillows

All youth at this facility now receive pillows.

Cups

Youths are now allowed to have a paper cup inside their cell to use to drink from their sinks when locked in their cells.

Technology

Long term youth now have MPS Players uploaded with music and various meditations.

Mattresses

Youth are now allowed to “double-up” mattresses to help decrease the number of medical complaints re: back pain and insomnia.

Reduce Sensory Deprivation in Cells

Youth are now allowed to hang personal photographs and artwork (i.e. paper drawings, origami) in their cells. While there was some staff confusion and outdated signage on the intake unit regarding what is allowed on the cell walls, the majority of staff understood the new policy.

Behavioral Health & Recovery Services Related Recommendations

Mental Health Counseling Rooms

A dedicated mental health space that is therapeutically designed and equipped for youths to receive trauma informed mental health services from BHRS clinicians and staff.

ACE's Admission Assessment & Training

Perform an ACE's Assessment on every youth entering the facility at intake.

Intake, Quarantine, and Solitary Confinement

Have BHRS perform daily check-ins with all youth in the intake, quarantine, or solitary confinement phases of incarceration. During the pandemic youth spent 23.5 hours a day in locked confinement. Decrease sensory deprivation by allowing youth to have books, magazines, drawing materials, activity books, cards during extended period of locked confinement.

Expand Multi Disciplinary Team Meetings

Hold bi-weekly meetings with each youth's team members to discuss their treatment needs and progress. Participants to include: BHRS, Housing Unit, Education, mentors, etc.

Electronic Records: Court Orders & Medical Records

Ensure staff has immediate access to updated information for every youth.

Implement Essential Core Programming

- **Intensive Mental Health Care**
- **Substance Abuse**
- **Anger Management**
- **Life Skills**
- **Victim Impact & Awareness**
- **Vocations**
- **Mentorship**
- **Restorative Justice**
- **Parenting Classes**

Secure Track and Long Term Youth

Intensive Mental Health Treatment & Services

- **Assessment & Evaluation**
- **Medication Management**
- **Daily Psychotherapy**
- **Somatic Interventions**
- **Group Therapy**
- **Family Therapy**
- **Art Therapy**
- **Anger Management**
- **Emotional Intelligence**
- **Effective Communication**
- **Decisive Decision Making**
- **Meditation**
- **Activities & Workbooks**

Services to be provided in a therapeutically designed room(s) designated exclusively for delivering mental health treatment and services to youth.

Substance Abuse Treatment

Create a Culturally Competent Harm Reduction Treatment Program for Youth

- Drug & Alcohol Intake Assessments*
- Cognitive Behavioral Interventions (CBI)
- 12-Step Programs and Support Groups (AA/NA)
- Education and Prevention

**DJJ uses SASSI– Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory to assess youth upon their arrival.*

How you can make a difference?

1. **Help secure a therapeutically designed dedicated mental health space**
2. **Help implement Intensive Mental Health Treatment services**
3. **Help create a Substance Abuse Treatment Program**
4. **Support the implementation of ACE's assessments for every youth**
5. **Support our Secure Track Core Programming Recommendations**