Scott County

Juvenile Detention & Supervision Services

FY 2015 Annual Report

Director: Jeremy Kaiser

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DETENTION & SUPERVISION SERVICES TEAM

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A. BACKGROUND

The Scott County Juvenile Detention Center opened on December 1, 1980. Since opening, the center has served as a short term, secure placement for allegedly delinquent youth under the age of eighteen. Juveniles are referred for detainment only when there is probable cause to believe they have committed a serious criminal act. In most situations this criminal activity would be classified as a felony or an aggravated misdemeanor. Status offenses and simple misdemeanors are not considered detainable offenses. The severity of the criminal charge is not the only criteria sufficient to require detainment. One or more of the following conditions also must be present in order for a youth to be detained:

- 1. The youth is "wanted" by another state for the commission of a criminal act.
- 2. The youth is on probation/parole and has violated the conditions set forth prior.
- 3. The youth has absconded from a training school, a detention center, or a residential treatment facility.
- 4. The youth has committed a serious delinquent act and is at risk of:
 - a. Absconding prior to court appearances
 - b. Harming themselves or others
 - c. Damaging property.

Although the center is operated by Scott County, it receives referrals from several counties in Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois. At present, ten detention centers are operating in the State of Iowa—Linn County (Cedar Rapids), Dubuque County (Dubuque), Polk County (Des Moines), Woodbury County (Sioux City), North Iowa (Waterloo), Northwest Iowa (Cherokee), Southwest Iowa (Council Bluffs), Scott County (Davenport), South Iowa (Fairfield), and Central Iowa (Eldora).

PROGRAM VISION

"Our vision is a community which supports and empowers juveniles by giving them a second chance to succeed."

PROGRAM MISSION

"Scott County Juvenile Detention and Supervision Services strive to provide safe, secure detainment when necessary, as well as a cutting-edge continuum of community-based programs, so youth will ultimately have the best chance to succeed."

PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

Over the past fiscal year, the philosophy of how Scott County provides detention and supervision supervision services to the community has evolved. For twenty-four years, from 1980 to 2014, Scott County provided detention and supervision services merely as a "building." However, with study after study being published which has shown that the incarceration of juveniles can, in fact, *increase* the likelihood of recidivism, the center needed to innovate and be more creative. Center management made the decision to utilize staff resources to develop and implement detention alternative programs as an alternative to secure detainment. The two programs which were developed and implemented in the 2015 fiscal year were the "In-home detention" program, and the "Enhanced In-home detention" program. These programs will be discussed in more detail in section C of this report. As Scott County is able to now provide a continuum of detention and supervision services, we provide effective options for the juvenile court system to provide the least intrusive and restrictive service necessary. By doing this, we believe the youth will be more appropriately served and thus, more likely to succeed.

PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY - WHILE DETAINED

Building a strong relationship through positive interaction and engagement between youth and staff is an important behavior management tool. Detention Youth Counselors provide crisis counseling, living skills training, and supervised recreational activities to detained youth. Detention staff challenges youth to take responsibility for the criminal thinking patterns and decisions that brought them into placement. Youth Counselors help the residents explore areas of growth and change necessary to deter them from further delinquent activity. By focusing on the relationship with each young person in care and challenging their thinking, each staff feels they can make a difference in their thinking and attitude.

Development of rapport between staff and residents is a key to creating an environment conducive to positive change. The many positive interactions between staff and residents helps the Center effectively manage the behavior of otherwise obstinate youth. The involvement between staff and residents also helps reduce the frustration and anxiety felt by youth. Staff members view detention as an important component in this Juvenile Justice/Treatment System. Because this system strives to reduce juvenile crime by actively engaging youthful offenders at all points of contact, staff members are determined to seize every opportunity to positively impact the residents and create teachable moments.

Since the majority of the youth detained at the Center will be transferred to treatment programs, the Center's structure attempts to address the negative thinking and behavioral patterns that have disrupted past efforts to promote positive change. This approach allows for a rudimentary preparation for youth facing the structure found in treatment programs.

B. COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS

Two programs were developed and implemented in the 2015 fiscal year: the "In-home detention" (IHD) program, and the "Enhanced In-home detention" (EIHD) program. These types of community-based supervision programs have proven to be effective at reducing recidivism without the use incarceration. By utilizing the same staff to provide all three services, stronger relationships can be built between staff and residents as well as resident's families. The relationship no longer ends at discharge, but continues as the juveniles' transition back into the community. The benefit the child receives from these programs is significant. They have minimal disruptions to their daily life as they continue to attend their school, their church, continue working, and remain close to their families. Meanwhile they are closely supervised to ensure the safety of the community.

The IHD program was implemented in August 2014 and is the least restrictive and intrusive service option. Typically the program lasts 2-4 weeks. The IHD program consists of juveniles signing a contract to stay within their home residence at all times, with the exceptions of school, work, church, or court appointments. IHD staff members typically preform three unannounced phone checks and one unannounced face-to-face check daily to ensure the juvenile is abiding by the contract. IHD staff then report adherence to the contract as well as violations to Juvenile Court Officers. In the case of a violation, Juvenile Court Officers have the option to detain youth at the juvenile detention center or extend the contract for a longer length of time.

The Enhanced In-home detention program was implemented in April 2015. The EIHD program is more intensive than IHD as it utilizes GPS-enabled tracking ankle bracelets to monitor client location and movements. The software utilized with the GPS enabled bracelet allows staff to view a client's location 24-hours a day as well as track location and movements during any particular time period. EIHD staff members are alerted via text message if a client leaves the home without permission or enters a prohibited area. With the exception of wearing the tracking device, the EIHD program delivery and reporting to Court Officers is the identical to the IHD program.

EFFECTIVNESS ON RECIDIVISM

During the 2015 fiscal year, the IHD program served 25 clients and the EIHD program served 6. Of those 25 IHD clients, only 8 have returned to the detention center as of 09/01/2015. The IHD currently has a 32% recidivism rate, which is much lower than the Detention Center's recidivism rate. Of the 6 EIHD clients, 4 have recidivated as of 09/01/2015. The EIHD program has a 67% recidivism rate, but the large percentage may be due to a small sample size. Overall, community based programs have a 39% recidivism rate, which is about 20% lower than Juvenile Detention.

EXPENDITUTRES AND REVENUES

These programs are designed to be cost-neutral and are funded by the State of Iowa, through referrals from Juvenile Court Services. The Detention Center charges \$19.97 per half (1/2) hour of direct client contact for the IHD program and charges \$10.06 per quarter (1/4) hour for the EIHD program. Total revenues received in FY 15 for operating the IHD program were \$31,572. Total revenues received in FY 15 from EIHD service was \$1,720.

C. BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION SYSTEM

The behavior modification system which is used in the Scott County Juvenile Detention Center was developed internally by a team of Detention Youth Counselors. The program is based on a level system in which residents can earn more privileges as they ascend the level system. The level system requires all residents enter the on "Orientation Level" and must pass a test based on knowledge of program rules to progress to "Blue level." Once on blue level they must pass a test of program rules and be able to demonstrate ability to comply with rules and routine consistently for a period of time to move to "Green level." The final level is "Gold level." Residents must continue to follow rules and directions from staff consistently as well as pass a test based on positive thinking/behavior in order to reach Gold level. With each step up in the level system, residents are offered more privileges such as longer phone calls and later bed times.

Levels are achieved through the demonstration of positive behavior and refraining from earning "strikes". The strike system is a progressive system in which residents receive a consequence (strike) for committing small infractions at the center. Consequences for negative behaviors range from receiving strikes for small infractions, loss in privileges (i.e. gym time, early bed time, etc.), to a drop in the student's level in the Center's Program, and finally isolation in the control room for serious cases of disruptive or uncontrollable behaviors. Negative consequences are not intended to be personalized or excessively punitive, but rather a "learning process" where the youth can learn socially acceptable behaviors and develop positive habits of behavior.

The components that comprise the behavior management program are:

- a. Educational Services (including G.E.D. testing)
- b. Crisis Counseling
- c. Recreational Activities
- d. Testing and Evaluation
- e. Living Skills Activities
- f. Realistic Success Planning
- g. Testing for Sexually Transmitted Diseases (done on a voluntary basis)
- h. Substance Abuse prevention and education
- i. Cognitive-behavioral treatment group counseling (A.R.T.)

D. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Education is the most highly structured of the program components. This service is provided by the Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency. The Center's school is fully accredited and is facilitated by certified teachers. The AEA education team tests all youth in mathematics and reading to assess their level of ability upon intake. Educational and social histories are obtained to assist in the determination of an appropriate level of competency. After the initial assessments the teacher has three options:

- 1. If the youth is currently enrolled in a school system, the teacher will communicate with the appropriate person(s) to obtain current assignments. The youth will be expected to continue with regular class assignments as closely as possible.
- 2. In cases where the youth is not enrolled in a school system, the teacher assigns individual diagnostics and prescriptive instructional lessons which are consistent with a traditional school curriculum.
- 3. Youth who will not return to a traditional school environment will be assigned work to prepare them for the GED (General Education Diploma) exam. Once the resident has passed all of the pretests, AEA teachers will contact the Eastern Iowa Community College and a proctor will administer the G.E.D. examine within the center. Several youth have been able to earn their G.E.D.'s while residing at the center, since testing began in 2012.

E. REPORTING BEHAVIOR

The Center observes behavior and reports to juvenile court officers as needed and upon discharge. In addition to these reports, youth may be evaluated by the staff of the Genesis Psychology Associates at the request of the Juvenile Court. These evaluations are performed in cases where the behavior is somewhat atypical or where the court needs more input to determine an appropriate care plan. In situations where an evaluation is deemed appropriate, the youth is normally confined from thirty to forty-five days in a separate facility.

F. RECRECATION

The recreational component is a large piece of the staff-resident involvement. Staff members interact with the youth in a variety of activities. Many of the activities are intended to promote physical fitness. Some activities to enhance creativity. Activities include: basketball, volleyball, weightlifting, cardio vascular exercise, and various other recreational activities. In addition to Center staff, the Center utilizes both practicum students and volunteers to interact with youth in various recreational activities. In 2012 the center also began a partnership with the Center for Alcohol and Drug Services (C.A.D.S) and now residents have access to monthly substance abuse education groups.

G. PREA STANDARDS

IMPLEMENTATION AND REPORTING

In 2003, the Federal Government Passed the PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) which seeks to put an end to sexual abuse and harassment in confined settings. In 2012 the federal government published and distributed PREA standards for juvenile facilities which include "best practices" in regards to the prevention, detection, and response to sexual abuse and harassment. Over the course of Fiscal Year 2013 the center modified and implemented several policies and practices regarding sexual abuse/harassment including but not limited to: resident and staff reporting procedures, resident risk assessment and

placement, resident education, response planning, treatment of alleged victims, treatment of alleged offenders, investigations, and staff training. The Scott County Juvenile Detention Center complies with all PREA standards for juvenile facilities. The PREA standards for juvenile facilities were in effect as of August 1st, 2013.

In FY15, the center had the following incidents of sexual harassment and abuse allegations.

Sexual Abuse allegations: 0

Founded Incidents of sexual abuse: 0 Confirmed Incidents of sexual abuse: 0

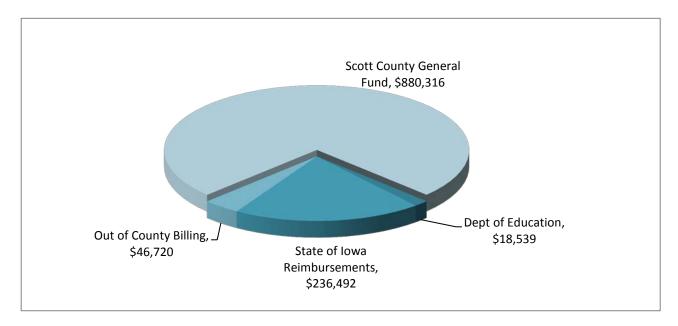
Sexual Harassment Allegations: 0

Founded incidents of sexual harassment: 0 Confirmed incidents of sexual harassment:

H. EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES

Total expenditures for Fiscal Year 2015 were \$1,182,071. In addition to Scott County funding, the Center received revenue from the Iowa Department of Education, Out of county Funding, and State of Iowa Reimbursements.

Revenue



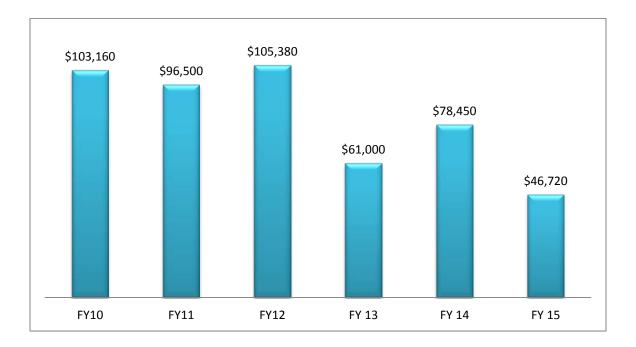
DEPARTMENT OF EDCUATION FUNDING

This funding is a combination of state and federal funding that are partial reimbursements for breakfast, lunch, and after-school snacks. The total amount of reimbursement received in FY15 was \$18,539. This amount increased slightly from FY14 in which the center received \$17, 218 in reimbursements.

OUT OF COUNTY FUNDING

Youth from other jurisdictions may be placed in the Center; however the committing jurisdiction must pay a per diem. In FY15 the center received \$46,720 in funding for detaining juveniles from Counties outside of Scott County. This amount increased from a total of 78,450 in FY14.

Counties within Seventh Judicial District the charge is \$140.00 per day. Counties outside of this district must pay \$150.00. This funding source will continue to remain steady as long as there is sufficient bed space at the Center to accommodate surrounding counties within the Seventh Judicial District. The Center also continues to have an agreement with Rock Island County, in which Scott County will house residents for the rate of \$150.00 per day. In the last six years, Out of County Revenue has averaged approximately \$81,870 per year in Out of County funding. However, over the past three years the center has only averaged \$62,050 in Out of County funding. This can be attributed to Juvenile Court Officers making a concerted effort to utilize detention alternative programs as opposed to secure detention.



STATE OF IOWA REVENUE

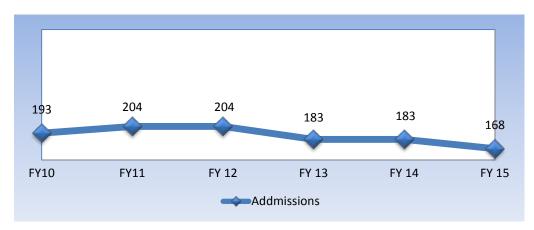
State of Iowa reimbursement for Fiscal year 2015 was: \$236,492, which is approximately 20% of the centers total operating budget. This revenue is a dedicated funding stream, which is a pool of money resulting from first offender OWI fines, and is reimbursed based on the Center's operating budget for the previous fiscal year. Each of Iowa's ten detention centers may be reimbursed a portion of their expenses by the state. Iowa Code states that Detention Centers be reimbursed at rates ranging from 10% to 50% of their operating budgets.

During the fiscal year 2012, the Center management team, in addition to 8 other juvenile detention centers in Iowa, decided to contract with a Lobbyist to work on behalf of the centers to ensure that this funding stream stays protected. The Center management team has decided to retain the lobbyist though Fiscal year 2016.

I. POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

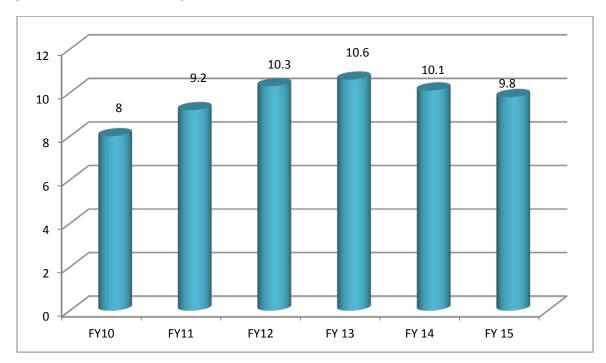
ADMISSIONS PER YEAR

The Center processed 168 admissions during the 2015 fiscal year. As the graph below demonstrates, the number of admissions per year has been decreasing since FY12. Over the past six years, the detention center has averaged 189 admissions per year.



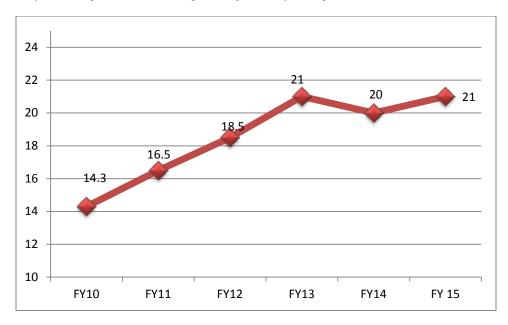
AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION

Even though the number of admissions processed has decreased over the past five years, the average population has remained steady as shown in the chart below. In FY15 the center averaged 9.8 residents per day and had a total of 3568 bed days. The slight increase in average population over the last four years can be attributed to an increase in resident's average lengths of stay and the center accepting more adult waiver juveniles from the Scott County Jail.



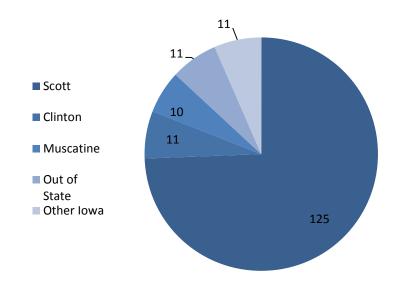
AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY

The average length of stay for a Scott County Juvenile Detention Center resident in FY15 was 21 days. The chart below indicates the center's average length of stay has been increasing significantly, where now residents stay an average of one week longer than just five years ago.



ADMISSIONS BY COUNTY

Of the 168 admissions in FY14, 125 were from Scott County, 32 admissions came from five different Iowa counties and there were 11 from out of state as the graph below illustrates.

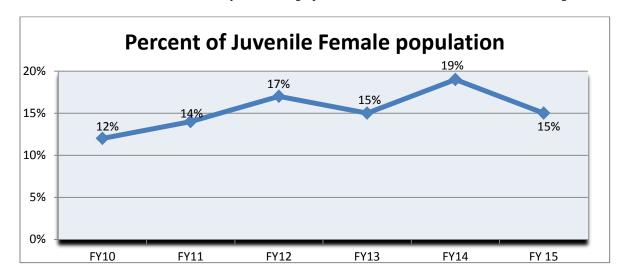


ADULT WAVIERS

Juveniles age 16 or older who are charged with a forcible felony are automatically waived to adult court. In addition, juveniles age 15 or above who have a preponderance of charges and have exhausted all services available through the juvenile justice system, may be waived to adult court. Juveniles who have been waived to adult court are initially placed at the Scott County Jail. Due to the decrease in average population in 2009, the Juvenile Detention Center management team made the decision to accept more adult-waiver juveniles from the jail to assist with over-flow population in the jail's juvenile section. In FY15, the Scott County Juvenile Detention Center detained an average of over two adult wavier juveniles per day. A total of 723 bed days were adult wavier juveniles from the Scott County Jail. Adult waiver juveniles made up 20% of the center's total population in FY15.

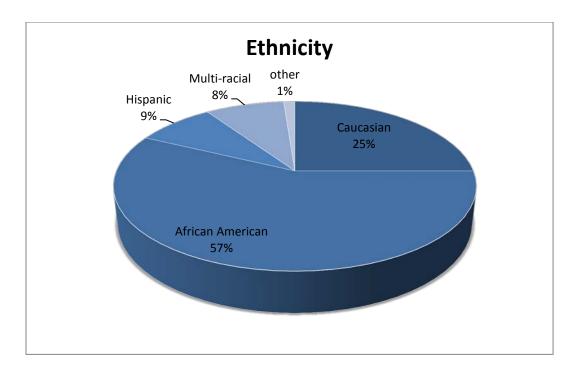
AVERAGE AGE AND GENDER

The average age of the youth detained at the Center this fiscal year was 15.5 years old. One hundred forty three (143) of the admissions were males, which is 85% of the total population. Twenty five (25) of the admissions were females, which make up the remaining 15% of the total population. The percentage of females has fluctuated over the last six years as the graph below illustrates, however 15% is the average.



ETHNIC BREAKDOWN

RACE	Admits	Percentage
Caucasian:	42	25%
African American:	96	57%
Hispanic:	14	8%
Asian/Pacific Is.:	0	0%
Multi- racial	14	8%
Other	2	1%



J. SPECIAL INCIDENTS

A special incident is a situation that deviates from normal Center routine (i.e. property destruction, acts of physical aggression, injuries, etc.). In FY15 the Center had 24 special incidents. Of the 24 incidents, 11 incidents required staff physical intervention. The number of special incidents requiring staff physical intervention increased between FY 14 (7) and FY 15 (11). However, the vast majority of the physical interventions in FY 15 were resident transports as opposed to physical restraints. Resident transports have shown to be much safer than physical restraints.

K. SHORT TERM PLACEMENTS

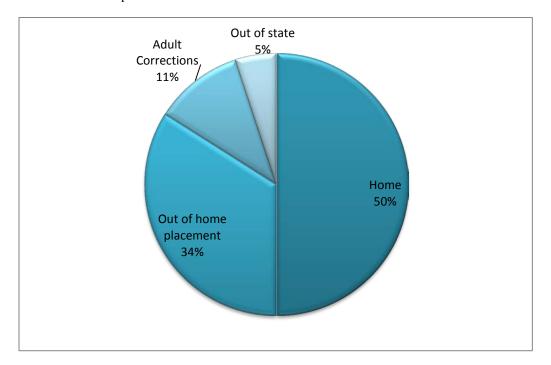
In most cases of short-term placements, the Center holds a youth until transportation can be arranged to place the youth in a state institution. During the 2015 Fiscal Year, no youth were held under this status.

L. DISPOSITION OF CASES

The following list represents the placements of residents directly after they had been released:.

- Home: Residents who have been released to Home/ Home with Services, Day Treatment, and Independent Living have been returned to the community with varying degrees of supportive structure.
- Adult corrections: residents whose crimes were sufficiently serious, or their age was advanced to such a degree that a Waiver Proceeding was warranted and they were waived to adult court.
- Out of home placement: The remainder of cases represents residents who were placed in other detention centers, residential treatment facilities, state training school, shelters or situations in which charges have been completely dropped.

In a vast majority of these cases, treatment and/or services were provided in an attempt to decrease the chances of future law or probation violations.



M.SUMMARY OF CRIMINAL CODE

The majority of allegations against detained youth involve felonious acts. Many youth are admitted for multiple allegations of criminal conduct. As seen by the list of offenses, the youth detained at the Center are detained for involvement in the entire range of criminal conduct. The 183 criminal conduct offenses are listed below by frequency:

