

Mission, Philosophy, Goals and Purpose

Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families
Division of Juvenile Correctional Services: RI Training School

Policy: 1200.0001

Effective Date: May 17, 2010

Version: 1

RI General Law (RIGL) 14-1-36.2 provides that children and youth placed in the custody of the Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) receive suitable treatment, rehabilitation and care in the least restrictive environment.

The mission of the Department is to assist families with their primary responsibility to raise their children to become productive members of society. The Department recognizes its obligation to promote, safeguard, and protect the overall well-being of culturally diverse children, youth, and families and the communities in which they live through a partnership with families, communities and government.

Within this context, the mission of the Training School is to provide care in a secure facility to youth who are detained or adjudicated by order of the Family Court. The Training School promotes public safety and rehabilitation of residents through a comprehensive continuum of services provided in partnership with families, the community and Department in the least restrictive setting compatible with youth and community safety. Supervision, security, education, behavioral health, health and transition services are provided in an individualized, culturally and gender sensitive manner. Goals and objectives consistent with this mission are developed annually to measure effectiveness of programming for residents.

Related Procedure

[Mission, Philosophy, Goals and Purpose](#)

Related Policy

[Vision, Mission and Guiding Principles](#)
[Administration of the Education Program](#)
[Legal Establishment and Licensing](#)

Mission, Philosophy, Goals, and Purpose

Procedure from Policy 1200.0001: Mission, Philosophy, Goals and Purpose

- A. The Training School's mission is reviewed and revised annually by the Superintendent and staff.
1. The Roosevelt Benton Youth Assessment Center provides necessary services to male residents who are held awaiting disposition and utilizes nationally validated instruments and professional judgment to identify the most appropriate treatment and accountability setting for newly adjudicated and sentenced male residents.
 2. The Female Correctional Treatment Unit provide necessary services to female residents who are held awaiting disposition and utilizes nationally validated instruments and professional judgment to identify the most appropriate treatment, educational and accountability interventions for newly adjudicated females. Gender specific programming assists adjudicated female residents in understanding, taking responsibility for and changing behaviors that brought them to the Training School so that they can transition successfully to the community.
 3. The Youth Development Center assists adjudicated male residents in understanding, taking responsibility for, and changing behaviors that brought them to the Training School so that they can return successfully to the community. Within the Youth Development Center, four units address the specialized needs of residents. The focus of each of these units is reviewed annually to ensure that specialized interventions are responsive to the needs of residents.
 4. Paragraph A is consistent with American Correctional Association (ACA) Standards 3-JDF-1A-03, 3-JTS-1A-03, 3-JDF-1A-04, 3-JTS-1A-04.
- B. The Superintendent collaborates with staff to ensure that the philosophy, goals and purpose of programming reflect the DCYF and Training School missions and are reviewed annually to assess effectiveness.
1. Assessment, Classification and Treatment Planning ensure that:
 - a. Necessary health and behavioral health services are provided for pre-adjudicated residents.
 - b. Comprehensive assessment, classification and treatment planning is provided to adjudicated residents.
 - c. Each resident's family, care givers and/or educational surrogate parents, as well as appropriate community supports, are invited to participate in assessment, treatment and transition planning.
 2. Treatment ensures that:
 - a. Pre-adjudicated residents have a preliminary medical screening and access to needed medical, dental or psychiatric services.
 - b. Adjudicated residents receive comprehensive health and behavioral health services as described by an Individual Treatment Plan.
 3. Education:
 - a. The educational program complies with all state and federal education laws, regulations and the policies of the State of Rhode Island Board of Regents for Elementary and Secondary Education and with the requirements of all federal and state laws and regulations governing the education of students with disabilities.
 - b. The educational program continuously maintains state certification to provide special education and state approval to provide regular education.
 - c. Education and treatment services are coordinated to assist residents in meeting rehabilitative goals.
 4. Recreational programming ensures that:
 - a. Residents have two (2) hours daily of organized physical exercise, physical recreation and/or physical education out doors (weather permitting) or in the gymnasium; one of these two hours may be provided during the school day as a part of the school program.

- b. Sufficient gymnasium facilities are available to meet these recreational requirements.
 - 5. Behavioral Management:
 - a. The Points and Levels System provides incentives for positive resident behavior.
 - b. Behavior and disciplinary processes are fair, proportional, progressive and supportive of the needs of residents and staff for safety and security.
 - c. Data is collected on major disciplines to identify patterns and trends that indicate frequency of occurrence and the frequency of occurrence related to specific staff and/or residents.
 - d. Utilizing collected data, the Superintendent identifies staff development and/or re-training needs relating to behavioral management policies and procedures necessary to ensure that behavior and disciplinary processes are fair, proportional, progressive and supportive of the needs of residents and staff for safety and security.
- C. Paragraph B is consistent with ACA Standards 3-JDF-1A-03, 3-JTS-1A-03, 3-JDF-1A-04, 3-JTS-1A-04.