

Comanche County Regional Juvenile Detention Center

Location: 701 SW 17th Street, Lawton, Oklahoma 73501

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About our Facility

History: Opened its doors in May 1987 as a 15-bed secure custody facility. Expanded by an additional 10 secure beds in 1995. In total we house 25 and house both male and female.

Ownership: Comanche County

Operation: Comanche County Juvenile Bureau of the District Court
315 SW 5th Street, Room 200
Lawton, Oklahoma 73501
(580) 357-4881

Authority: Oklahoma Law requires counties to provide for secure juvenile detention of juveniles as needed (10A O.S. 7304-1.3 C2). The state established a State Plan for Secure Juvenile Detention Centers that provides funding to certain counties. Comanche County is included in that State Plan and as such receives state funding for operations. Admissions to the Juvenile Detention Center are authorized by various juvenile courts pursuant to the Oklahoma Juvenile Code.

Why Regional: Oklahoma law (10A O.S. 7302-6.8) and the State Plan mandate that Comanche County's Juvenile Detention Center reserve at least 6 beds for regional use. In actuality the JDC utilizes the statutory priority system to hold the most serious & habitual offenders. This system as implemented means that regional counties frequently use in excess of 6 beds.

Funding: Oklahoma Law (10A O.S. 7302-4.1) provides a funding formula for Juvenile Detention Centers included in the State Plan. The formula is essentially:
85% to be paid by the State.
15% to be paid by the County.

Population Served: Juveniles Age 12 to age 18. Males and Females

Philosophy Statement:

CCRJDC believes that each child is an individual that should be valued. CCRJDC will recognize each child's strengths, interests, skills, abilities and knowledge; to encourage their successful reentry into the community with a more positive transition to adulthood.

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Comanche County Regional Juvenile Detention Center is to provide a temporary, secure, safe, and caring facility. The juveniles require secure detention for their protection; for the protection of the community and to assure their appearance for legal proceedings.

Programs/Contracts/Accreditations:

The Comanche County Regional Juvenile Detention Center is required by the Office of Juvenile Affairs Licensing Unit, and the American Correctional Association, to provide, at a minimum, services and programs in the following areas: education, recreation, counseling and library services. In accordance with those specifications, the detention center currently provides programs that meet or exceed the minimum criteria listed by the previously mentioned agencies.

Description of Facility Services and Programs

Medical Program – We have a Physician on staff, to provide medical services to the residents of the Comanche County Regional Juvenile Detention Center.

MAYSI-2 - The MAYSI-2 is a brief behavioral health screening tool designed especially for juvenile justice programs and facilities. It identifies youths 12 through 17 years old who may have important, pressing behavioral health needs. Its primary use is in juvenile probation, diversion programs, and intake in juvenile detention or corrections.

Educational Program – Our education program is provided through the Lawton Public Schools and classes are conducted Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. We house two teachers from LPS. Whenever LPS is in session, our kids are also in class. The facility benefits by having a Special Education professional who visits the facility almost daily to assist any and all residents who are on an I.E.P. with their special education needs. All legal holidays observed by the Lawton Public Schools, are also observed at the detention center.

DOE School Breakfast and Lunch Program - We maintain compliance with the Child Nutrition Program through the State of Oklahoma. In this endeavor CCRJDC contracts with a Licensed Dietician to provide information and education on nutrition and modified diets for residents and to families of residents if needed. The Dietitian shall perform clinical dietary assessments on nutritionally at-risk residents per facility

request. Nutritional recommendations will be made based on the assessments as well as identifying appropriate goals and approaches for the patient. Dietician signs that all menus fit the dietary guidelines for the School Lunch Program.

Recreation Program – Our recreation program consists of structured activities, utilizing the gym and the outside recreation area, for large muscle exercise. Scheduled gym/outside recreation area activities include but are not limited to; structured exercises, volleyball, and basketball. The outside recreation area is utilized when climate permits and security is not at risk.

Chaplain Services/Religious Counseling – Offered but not required on one night per week.

Licensed Clinical Social Workers - CCRJDC currently has professional service contracts with three (3) LCSWs. Two provide mental health assessments of residents on an as need basis. One of the LCSW provides group therapy, Aggression Replacement Training (ART), to our residents. ART offers a comprehensive intervention program designed to teach adolescents to understand and replace aggression and antisocial behavior with positive alternatives. He comes in each Thursday for an hour session with each pod. ART provides a coordinated, three-part training approach: Prosocial Skills; Anger Control; and Moral Reasoning. One LCSW also assists the facility as a point of contact regarding certain issues as required by ACA.

Collaborations With Outside Entities – Health Department, Indian Health Services, Vo-Tech, EquusWorks.

Leisure Time Activities – Leisure time is incorporated into the daily program. An example of structured leisure time activities is group participation games such as Scattagories; Taboo; Guesstures; Trivia and BINGO games. For dayroom recreation, we continue to build on our entertainment movie DVD library (Movies rated PG-13 or milder), have a video play-station for each pod, and have maintained a multitude of card and board games which are available to the residents upon request. Leisure time (letter reading and writing) is integrated into the daily/weekly schedules for resident's personal correspondence.

The Library Program – At CCRJDC we have included a collection of reading materials: purchased/donated books, newspapers, health pamphlets, religious pamphlets, educational/vocational materials and resource materials. Each dayroom also has access to computers (during school hours). All reading materials are kept in areas readily available and accessible to the residents.

Barbers – We have contracts with two barbers to provide quarterly haircutting services for our residents.

Staff Development

COTC Staff Training – On line through Relias

First Aid/CPR - Since July 2012, the facility has able to maintain staff Certified thru the American Red Cross Instructor training course in Oklahoma City. All new hires and current employees are certified in both First Aid and CPR/AED at the facility.

Handle With Care (De-escalation techniques) – CCRJDC maintains certified trainers in Handle with Care. They are charged with training all staff in its techniques.

Medication Administration Training - Medication Administration Training classes for all of the Direct Care Staff . CCRJDC contracts with an RN who created a MATT curriculum specifically for Juvenile Detention Centers. She now contracts with Legendcare Pharmacy and continues to provide these services for the facility.

Finally, we voluntarily maintain Accreditation thru the American Correctional Association. Because we feel that by doing so, we are upholding the highest possible standards for the staff and residents in our care.

At the present, the Comanche County Regional Juvenile Detention Center is providing program and services which meet or exceed the requirements of the Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs and the American Correctional Association. The objectives of the programs now offered and those that will be offered in the future will be engineered to respond to the needs of the juveniles and to provide a safe, secure and caring environment.

In conclusion, we have continued to grow as a facility and continuously strive to improve our current programs and will make every effort to provide the best services possible to the juveniles detained and to our community as a whole.