OF SACA	County of Sacramento		Policy Issuer (Unit/Program)	BHS-CMH-YDF
	Department of Health Services Division of Behavioral Health Services Policy and Procedure		Policy Number	02-01
			Effective Date	10/2009
CLIFORNIA			Revision Date	07/2017
Title: Basic Rights of Detained Youth		Functional Area: Youths' Rights		
Approved By:				
	Matthew Quinley, LCSW Health Program Manager		opher Eldridge, LMF al Health Program Co	

## Background/Context:

Title 15, Section 1353 requires the Youth Detention Facility (YDF) administrator to develop and implement written policies and procedures to orient youth prior to placement on a living unit. Provisions shall be made to provide accessible orientation information to all detained youth including those with disabilities, limited literacy or English language learners. The orientation shall include information regarding the youth's rights, facility rules, emergency evacuation procedures, non-discrimination policy, information on the court process, housing assignments, use of restraints and chemical agents, use of force and disciplinary procedures.

Title 15, Sections 1390 and 1391 require the YDF administrator to develop and implement written policies and procedures for the discipline of youth that shall promote acceptable behavior, including the use of positive behavior interventions and supports. All youth detained in the YDF have basic rights and may not be deprived of these rights as a means of behavior control and/or discipline. A copy of these rules and penalties shall be made available to all youth.

### Purpose:

The objective of this policy and procedure is to ensure Juvenile Justice Institutions Mental Health Team (JJIMHT) members are aware of, adhere to, and support and protect the provision of the basic rights of the youth detained in the YDF.

### Details:

- 1. Basic Rights
  - A. A place to sleep; this includes a clean and usable bed or mattress, pillows, blankets, sheets, etc.
  - B. Full meals and a balanced diet and scheduled snacks.
  - C. Full complement of clean clothes.
  - D. Attorney and parental visits.
  - E. Items necessary for personal hygiene; this includes soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, comb, etc.

- F. Minimum exercise, an opportunity to exercise large muscles for at least 1 hour daily.
- G. Visits and/or telephone contact with attorneys.
- H. Receive and send, at no cost to the youth, unlimited letters each week.
- I. The opportunity for a daily hot shower and access to toilet and water as needed.
- J. The opportunity to attend religious services and/or religious counseling of his/her choice.
- K. Clean and sanitary living conditions.
- L. Medical care and mental health assistance.
- M. Access to reading materials.
- N. Advisement of the rules of the facility/living unit, the consequences for violation of these rules and access to a procedure which provides for a fair hearing and resolution of complaints pertaining to his/her care in juvenile facilities.
- 2. Additional Program Elements:
  - A. All disciplinary action is determined and administered by staff and never delegated to other youth.
  - B. No corporal punishment or cruel, degrading punishment, either physical or psychological.
  - C. A school program approved by the state of California.
  - D. Counseling and casework; this includes assistance with personal problems or needs that may arise; assistance in requesting contact with parents/guardian, attorney, clergy, probation officer, or other public official and services appropriate to the youth housed in the facility.
  - E. Probation staff is responsible for posting and ensuring youth are aware and have access to information regarding their rights, Rules of Conduct and Grievance Procedure.
- 3. JJIMHT Responsibilities
  - A. JJIMHT clinicians shall be mindful of the basic rights of detained youth, keeping these rights in mind when making recommendations to assist Probation staff in understanding and managing youth experiencing difficulties in the facility.
  - B. JJIMHT clinicians shall consult with the Supervising Probation Officer (SPO) when recommendations involve housing, bedding, eating utensils, staffing ratios, clothing, the use of a suicide prevention gown and suicide prevention blanket.

# Reference(s)/Attachments:

BSCC Title 15, Minimum Standards for Juvenile Facilities

Sacramento County Probation Department Policy and Procedure-Resident's Rights

### **Related Policies:**

BHS-CMH-YDF-02-06 Grievance Procedure

BHS-CMH-YDF-06-09-Response and Recommendations to Probation

## **Contact Information:**

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