

# WCRJC

## WEST CENTRAL REGIONAL JUVENILE CENTER



- \*Secure Detention/Residential Programs**
- \*Non-secure Programs**
- \*Outpatient Chemical Dependency Services**
- \*Transition Services Program**

**919 8th Avenue North  
Moorhead, Minnesota 56561  
Phone (218)299-5150  
Fax (218)299-7533**



## **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The West Central Regional Juvenile Center functions as a coed 24 bed secure facility, as well as a coed 14 bed non-secure program. The center is located in Moorhead, Minnesota and provides services for juveniles with behavioral, protection, dependency, and delinquency issues.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

In an expression of the community's concern for the safety and welfare of its youth, the West Central Regional Juvenile Center provides a safe, secure and non-secure setting for juveniles who are in need of out of home placement. Dignity, self-worth and responsibility are encouraged and developed. A varied and active program in education, recreation and counseling is provided.

# WCRJC

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## **STATEMENT OF INTENDED USE**

### **Expertise:**

The West Central Regional Juvenile Center (WCRJC) is a regional correctional facility licensed by the Minnesota Department of Corrections. This facility, which has served youth since 1971, provides both secure and non-secure programming for male and female youth. We adhere to the following standards and philosophies.

- Staff is well educated and trained so as to provide beneficial services to the youth served.
- Staff model respectful behavior and work to a high standard of performance.
- The building is maintained to enhance the safety and security of everyone.
- Education and Health services meet all state standards.
- Programs are developed which promote skill building, in youth.

### **Target Population:**

- Youth of all cultural backgrounds are served.
- Male and female youth are accepted.
- The age range is 11-21 years old, although most youth are in the 13 to 18 year old range.
- We serve youth who need secure and non-secure services as well as EJJ.
- We will accept youth with existing medical conditions on a case-by-case basis.

# WCRJC

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## **Primary Needs:**

The WCRJC will meet all basic living needs, including appropriate food and nutrition, housing and activity space, clothing and laundry, bedding and linens, hygiene items, mail service, telephone use, visiting privileges and access to canteen services. WCRJC will also meet the need for appropriate medical and dental care.

Other programs are available to assist residents to meet their religious/spiritual needs and to be involved in culturally specific programs and events. The facility will additionally meet primary needs for education, recreation and leisure activities.

The group living environment is structured so that daily living routines and activities also provide opportunities for residents to explore their flawed thinking as they learn basic living skills. Staff members are expected to model the kinds of behaviors that are pro-social and supportive of a therapeutic philosophy.

Our facility also meets the needs for public safety, accountability, and responsibility providing services for chronic delinquent behaviors as well as less serious problems. Youth have a need to develop empathy and making amends for anti-social behaviors. This facility provides these skills and opportunities.

## **Internal Programs:**

Following is the criteria for programs offered at this facility. Eligibility and admission standards used to determine placement at the WCRJC are established by state statutes.

# WCRJC

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- Secure Detention
  1. Offering services to delinquent offenders who have allegedly committed a delinquent offense and are placed by law enforcement or the courts until a court hearing is held or it is deemed appropriate to go home or to a community placement.
  2. The secure program is approved for a short-term residential treatment program as court ordered.
  3. Out patient CD programming is offered.
  
- Non-secure Program
  1. 30 Day Evaluations. This includes an assessment regarding mental health status, education, medical, family, a behavior summary and develops a treatment/placement recommendation upon conclusion.
  2. Consequence Program. This is a short term program that provides an immediate consequence for negative behavior or non-compliance with the courts. An individualized behavior contract is developed based on individual needs.
  3. Emergency Placements. This program includes youth placed by the court; social service agency, probation or a law-enforcement agency for the safety and well being of the child. Examples are children in need of protection, delinquency, truancy, runaways etc. and whether the resident is at the facility on a voluntary placement agreement.

# WCRJC

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## **External Programs:**

This facility partners with a number of outside service providers to assist with community re-entry and aid in a supported and well structured transition back to the community. These services exist to meet the cultural and ethnic needs of the resident. Examples of these include: Translators to meet cultural and language barrier needs. Youth for Christ, which meets spiritual and religious needs. University of Minnesota Extension service provides a class to improve nutritional knowledge. Local colleges, which provide interns and volunteers to expose the resident to new ideas and faces. Community AA and NA groups which provide excellent speakers and services in the facility.

The facility also uses external services to meet medical or psychiatric care needs of youth that this facility is unable to. This includes Emergency room care for injury or illness, urgent care facilities, emergency dental clinics and referrals to a psychiatric care facility.

Emergency services such as fire, police and EMS are provided by City of Moorhead and Clay County personnel.

# WCRJC

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## OBJECTIVES OF WCRJC

- To provide an atmosphere which will develop and maintain self-respect, responsibility and concern for others.
- To provide a variety of expectations so that each youth can realize some measure of success.
- To respect the rights of each youth.
- To help youth to discover and utilize resources that can help them to live successfully.
- To provide for basic needs of youth.
- To provide a safe living environment for youth.

## COMPONENTS OF WCRJC

- Educational Programs.
- Recreational Programs.
- Arts and Crafts Programs.
- Life Skills Continuum Program
- Counseling Services.
- Correctional Residential Program
- Psychological Services.
- Health Services.
- Work details.
- Commissary privileges.
- AA/NA Sessions.
- Work Release (non-secure).
- Community Services work program (non-secure).
- Visitation and phone privileges.
- Pass privileges. (non-secure).
- Transportation Services.

## COMPONENTS DESCRIPTIONS

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### EDUCATION



Educational services are provided on an individual basis. Assignments are given by determining age factors, ability levels, lengths of stay and special needs. Residents are able to graduate or receive their GED while in the center. We also collaborate with the students home district to update credits earned, and to provide the best comprehensive approach to learning as possible.

### RECREATION



This program assists in engaging the residents in a relaxed, but structured interaction. Activities are planned throughout the week, which corresponds with the interest levels of the residents, as well as their ability levels.

### ARTS AND CRAFTS



Residents participate in our arts and crafts program. This program offers the residents an opportunity to relieve inner tension and frustration, as well as encourage self-esteem and pride.

# WCRJC

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## TRANSITION SERVICES

This program helps residents achieve social adjustment, employment and educational success once they leave the juvenile center. The ultimate goal of transition services is to promote successful reintegration of residents back into the home, community and school.

## COUNSELING SERVICES

WCRJC staff performs one on one and cognitive based group counseling to assist each resident in recognizing and dealing with his or her problem areas. The staff will discuss recommendations and future placements with the clients and referring agencies.



## CORRECTIONAL RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

This program is offered to both male and female clients ages 13 to 18 who have had repeated charges or who have committed serious offenses. There is a guideline that needs to be followed and the program lasts from 30 to 120 days. A court order is also required. It is meant to be a correctional placement to deter future involvement in the juvenile justice system.

# WCRJC

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## **PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES**

These services are available to residents who are in need of them. WCRJC can contract with psychologists in the Fargo/Moorhead area for this service. Costs for all psychological services will be the responsibility of the referring county or agency.

## **HEALTH SERVICES**

The WCRJC offers on site health services by an R.N. 32 hours per week. Emergency medical care is obtained when deemed necessary. WCRJC also provides physical assessments which are done to ensure that all health needs of the resident are being met. All medical bills and prescription costs, not covered by insurance, are the responsibility of the referring county.



## **WORK DETAILS**

Depending on the program that a resident is in, they may be assigned work details. This involves daily or individual cleaning of the residents' rooms and/or specified area. There also is an opportunity to earn money, depending on the program that they are in, for completing these chores.



# WCRJC

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## **COMMISSARY PRIVILEGES**

Based on a residents level, behavior and/or account balance, he/she may be able to purchase commissary items.

## **VISITATION AND PHONE PRIVILEGES**

Visiting hours are from 2:30pm to 9:00pm Mondays and Wednesdays, and from 2:00pm to 9:00pm on Sundays. Saturday visiting hours are from 3:00pm to 7:00pm. Immediate family members, including grandparents may visit, while extended family may only visit by administrative approval. Visits are limited to one (1) hour. All residents are allowed one incoming or outgoing phone call per day to an appropriate family member and/or guardian.

## **OFF-SITE PRIVILEGES**

Residents in certain programs may earn pass privileges. This is dependent upon their behavior and status level, as well as the approval of the referring agency. All outings are under the supervision of agency staff. Passes not related to our treatment program must be authorized by the resident's home county court.

## **OUTPATIENT CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY PROGRAM**

The WCRJC offers chemical dependency programming as an addition to our 30-60-90-120 day Residential Treatment Corrections program. This treatment is classified as outpatient and is provided onsite. It consists of an evaluation, education, group therapy, and individual therapy. Discharge recommendations are made at the conclusion of a client's stay. The WCRJC can furnish Rule 25 trained assessors.

**A) Approach**– Several different modalities are used to best meet the needs of each client. These include but are not limited to cognitive behavioral therapy, solution focused therapy, and components of substance abuse information and education. Additionally, 12 step community support is strongly encouraged. Both AA and MA meetings are offered on site. This program is licensed by the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

**B) Payment**– Outpatient services are paid by PMAP, consolidated funding, and private insurance.

**C) Address**– Drake Counseling Services  
1202 23rd St. S.  
Fargo, ND 58103  
Phone: 701.293.5429

## SECURE DETENTION PROGRAMS

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Our secure programs are designed to hold juvenile offenders ages 12 through 18. All residents need to be charged with at least a misdemeanor offense or be adjudicated delinquent for placement in the secure unit. Psychological evaluations may also be administered upon request or referral to either program. We will assist area counties with transportation whenever possible.

### A. SECURE HOLD PROGRAM

This program is designed to offer a safe and secure , as well as a consequential placement for residents with recent charges, probation violations, awaiting court appearances, awaiting placement in other facilities or transition into the adult legal system.



### B. 30-60-90-120 DAY CORRECTIONAL RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM

The focus of this program is to provide a positive and worthwhile experience for our residents.

#### ADMISSION

Initial acceptance of any resident shall be determined by Administrative Staff. A court order must accompany a new resident entering our program.

# WCRJC

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## GUIDELINES

1. The length of stay can be 30, 60, 90 or 120 days. We prefer clients sent for the CD component be placed for at least 60 days.
2. New residents may be of either gender and between the ages of 13-18 years old.
3. There will have been an adjudication of delinquency and a court order.
4. We have an initial 10 day acceptance period. We also reserve the right to terminate a stay if a residents behavior gets completely out of hand or there are specific psychological problems over and above what this agency can accommodate.
5. We will obtain information regarding social history, and background materials. We must also immediately receive educational and medical history information.

Referring agencies are expected to be involved with resident staffings, as well as writing up goals and contracts. Our policy is that we have staffings on residents every 30 days, or as deemed appropriate by staff.

## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The program is designed to focus on areas of concern that are identified by the family/legal guardians, referring agency and the resident. The resident will be assigned a special counselor who will facilitate in addressing those issues.

A contract will be drawn up that will be based on the specified areas of concern. It will also include individual responsibilities, such as work details and journaling, as well as expected behavior. The resident's progress and privileges are determined by their ability to meet the objectives of their contract and their behavior.

Residents are eligible to earn up to one dollar a day by completing prearranged work details and/or other arrangements agreed upon in the resident's individualized contract or case plan. This money can be used toward commissary, arts and crafts projects, outings or personal items.

We offer Chemical Dependency Programming as an addition to our 30 to 120 day Corrections Program. This treatment is classified as outpatient and is provided on site. It consists of evaluation, education, group and individual therapy.

## Non-Secure Programs

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Our non-secure program is designed to hold juveniles ages 11-18. We offer three different programs. These include emergency shelter, a consequence program, and a 30 day evaluation program.



### A. EMERGENCY SHELTER

Emergency Shelter provides a safe, 24 hour professionally staffed facility to children unable to be in their homes because of crisis, conflict or protection issues. The child may be pre-adjudicated in Need of Protection and/or Services and/or delinquent. Placements are made by law enforcement, court order, social services and corrections. Residents may be allowed to sustain their employment while in this program.

### B. CONSEQUENCE PROGRAM

The Juvenile Court will order adolescent offenders into the Consequence Program. The program will be utilized to provide a short term correctional experience for adolescents in need of an immediate consequence.

The placement may be from one to sixty days. Each resident will have an individualized behavioral contract that includes expectations for behavior and requirements for the program. This entails work details, as well as an opportunity to participate in the Moorhead Community Policing Program, which would be used toward community service hours. Residents may also be allowed to sustain their employment while in this program.

# WCRJC

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## C. 30 DAY EVALUATION PROGRAM

The focus of this program is one of assessment. While the child may participate in psychological and psychiatric evaluations, which could result in a mental health diagnosis, the program will emphasize a complete assessment of both internal and external factors. The child's environment is seen as a critical part of the child's problem situation. Recommendations may be made to target change in the child's environment or systems that are external to the youth. The process of assessing the situations is done in partnership with the client and their family. The involvement of the child and their family in the assessment process is vital to making change and solving problems. The assessment program will target the problems and needs that are identified by the assessment team, but will also strive to identify and cultivate the strengths the child and family have. By recognizing and building upon the identified strengths, many youth are able to overcome or offset many problem areas.

The assessment service is administered by a team of human service professionals including a licensed psychologist, psychiatric nurse specialist, rule 25 assessor, licensed family therapist, registered nurse, a school representative, and an assessment coordinator.

The assessment will produce a comprehensive written report detailing intervention recommendations. This report will include a detailed plan of activities, services, and persons responsible for services and "wraparound" planning. The report will be aimed at assisting the family at integrating the youth back into the community.

Residents in the evaluation program have the opportunity to earn one dollar a day by completing various work details and/or written work. Also, depending on the referring agent, they may earn passes outside the facility.

## TRANSITION PROGRAM

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### LIFE SKILLS CONTINUUM PROGRAM

The WCRJC provides a comprehensive Transition Services Program. This program was established to provide youth who have been at the juvenile center for 30 days or longer with resources and/or training. This helps them achieve social adjustment, employment, and educational success once they leave the WCRJC.

Normally, services are provided for up to three (3) months after the youth is released from the WCRJC, but may continue longer based on the youths needs for on going services

#### **Pre-release Areas of Focus Includes:**

- Social Skills Development
- Independent Living Skills
- Interview and Pre-employment Training
- Educational Planning and Training
- Identification of Activity and/or Hobby Interests
- True Life Interactive Computer Program
- Volunteer at a Local Homeless Shelter

#### **Post-release Areas of Focus Includes:**

- Frequent Client Contacts by Phone and in Person
- Employment Assistance and Placement
- Educational Support and Follow-up
- Utilization of Community Resources
- Community Activities

**The ultimate goal of transition intervention is to promote successful integration of juveniles into the community.**



**“Making a Positive Connection.”**



# WCRJC

For further information about the WCRJC and its programs, you may contact Barry Steen in regards to the secure detention programs and John Farnberg about non-secure Programs. Transition information may be obtained by calling (218) 299-5150.

\*\*\*Additional brochures can be obtained by going to <http://www.co.clay.mn.us>. Choose departments and then click on the West Central Regional Juvenile Center from your list of options. Scroll to the bottom of the page and choose brochure. You may also download a Referral Packet for the 30-day Evaluation Program and the Secure Detention Corrections/CD Program from this web page.



