

REPORT ON THE
INSPECTION OF

CUYAHOGA HILLS JUVENILE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION

INSPECTION DATE: MARCH 26, 2026



DAVE YOST

OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL



Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facility

Inspection Date: March 26, 2026

Acronym: CHJCF
Address: 4321 Green Rd., Highland Hills, Ohio, 44128
Warden/Superintendent: Joseph Marsilio
CFIS Team Members Present: J. Wesson / D. Drummond / B. Forrest / D. Thompson

FACILITY INFORMATION

Date Institution Opened: 1969
Population Type: Male Female
Security Level Type: Minimum
 Medium
 Special Management
 Restrictive Housing
 Death Row
 Juvenile

Total Acres: 38
Total Buildings On-Site: 4

Total Custody Staff: 25
Total Service Area Staff: 274
Total Staff: 299

Total Volunteers: 117

INCARCERATED INDIVIDUAL INFORMATION

Current Count: 174
Total Available Capacity: 256
Incarcerated Person Age Range: 14 - 21
Incarcerated Person Average Age: 17.75

Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facility (CHJCF) is an open, dormitory-style institution consisting of eight housing units. The facility provides a comprehensive range of resources and treatment programs for youth, including fully accredited middle and high school education, behavioral health services, unit management, medical and dental care, recreational programming, religious services, community service opportunities, and reentry support.

CHJCF also delivers specialized programming focused on substance abuse treatment, victim awareness, sex offender rehabilitation, and gang intervention. These services are designed to address a broad spectrum of needs, including conduct disorders, anger and aggression, violent behavior, depression, anxiety, self-injury, sleep disturbances, and other related concerns.

RECENT INTERNAL MANAGEMENT AUDIT

CHJCF’s most recent Internal Management Audit (IMA) was conducted on March 25-27, 2025. The IMA is an annual audit conducted by an independent auditor who reviews a facility’s compliance with the American Correctional Association’s (ACA) 5th Edition Standards and the 2026 Ohio Standards and Observations for correctional facilities, in preparation for the next ACA audit. All institutional work, industries, vocational, and educational programs are also audited. The table below illustrates CHJCF’s rates of compliance for the previous three years:

IMA Audit Scores	2023	2024	2025
ACA Mandatory	92%	97%	92%
ACA Non-Mandatory	90%	95%	97%
Ohio Standards	72%	61%	75%

CHJCF External Inspection Results - Fire Safety Inspection Report	
Inspection Date	March 13, 2025
Total Violations	2
Corrected	2

OVERVIEW OF CFIS INSPECTION

On Thursday March 26, 2026, CFIS completed an annual inspection of CHJCF.

Upon arrival, CFIS members were welcomed by CHJCF leadership and escorted to the superintendent’s conference room for an opening session. Following introductions, CHJCF staff presented an introductory video providing an overview of the facility.

After the initial introductions and video presentation, the inspection began. Per Ohio Revised Code Section 109.39, mandatory areas of inspection are food services, the grievance process, and an educational or rehabilitative program. In addition to these mandatory areas of inspection, R.C. 109.39 empowers CFIS to inspect any other areas that it deems appropriate. While at CHJCF, CFIS also inspected the following:

- Recreation
- Recovery services
- Medical
- Library/law library (Ohio Jobs Means)
- Living units
- Mental health
- Visitation area

In advance of arrival, CFIS inspectors requested copies of CHJCF's Administrative Duty Officer (ADO) DYS policy 150-FAM-01, Facility Administrative Rounds and Communication, reports from the past seven days, and the most recent 30 days of grievances. In addition, CFIS requested the following:

- Current facility incarcerated population count (racial breakdown, average age)
- Use of force/assault totals (youth-on-staff/youth-on-youth)
- Current facility security threat group numbers
- Facility drug testing (previous quarter)

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE (Ohio Administrative Rule 5120-9-31)

DYS's grievance process is designed to help address youth complaints relating to any aspect of institutional life. This may include complaints regarding the application of policies or procedures, conditions of confinement, or the actions of institutional staff. The process begins when a youth files a completed DYS youth grievance form (DYS2069) by placing a hard copy in the locked grievance box, per DYS policy 159-YRI-07, Youth Grievance Process. The facility investigator/grievance coordinator has 14 business days from receipt to respond to a standard grievance, and 48 hours to respond to an emergency grievance (a grievance alleging actual or imminent sexual abuse). These time periods may be extended by the inspector/coordinator for good cause, with notice to the youth and approval by the chief inspector.

Upon receiving the grievance, the investigator/coordinator meets face-to-face with the youth to discuss the complaint and to gather any additional information that was not provided on the written form.

The facility investigator/grievance coordinator determines the merits of the submitted grievance and indicates the decision on the grievance form. At this initial stage, there are a few possible outcomes. By the time the initial meeting with the youth occurs a grievance might have already been resolved without the investigator/coordinator's involvement (e.g. by the unit manager) and can be closed. Alternatively, the investigator/coordinator may determine that the grievance has no merit and close it, or may determine that it needs further investigation.

Any grievance filed against the facility investigator/grievance coordinator, superintendent, or regional administrator must be handled by the chief inspector's office.

Once the grievance response has been provided to the youth, he may appeal the decision by completing a grievance appeal (DYS2062) and submitting it to the chief inspector's office. The chief inspector or appointed designee has 10 business days from receipt of the appeal to affirm, reverse or modify the decision. Within three business days of the appeal decision, the facility investigator/grievance coordinator informs the youth of the outcome and obtains the youth's signature.

Are the incarcerated issued tablets with access to the grievance procedure: Yes No N/A

Are facility staff complying with answering grievances within policy: Yes No N/A

If tablets are not available, are there other measures in place to provide access to the grievance procedure (e.g. speaking to investigator, paper grievance forms): Yes No N/A

Upon reviewing responses, are there any issues with timelines or lack of substance within the responses to the grievances: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: CFIS conducted a comprehensive review of CHJCF’s facility’s grievance process to confirm adherence to DYS policy. CFIS verified that staff consistently log and track grievances at the time they are filed by youth. CFIS then evaluated whether staff responses were completed in a timely manner and whether each response complied with policy requirements.

CFIS also assessed the accessibility and integrity of the grievance system. This included examining secured grievance boxes, which were found to be strategically placed in each unit and in high-traffic areas such as food service, education, and recreation. CFIS was informed that these boxes are checked multiple times throughout the day by designated personnel to ensure prompt responses and timely attention to any reported concerns.

As part of the process review, CFIS examined how youths receive grievance dispositions. Youths do not receive a physical copy of their final disposition; instead, the investigator or grievance coordinator meets with them in person on their unit to explain the complaint, discuss findings, and communicate the outcome.

CFIS performed a detailed review of randomly selected grievances to identify any trends, confirm accurate citation of policy language, and detect any indication of retaliation toward youth for filing complaints. No evidence of retaliation or concerning patterns was found. All reviewed grievances were in compliance with DYS policy, and no violations were observed.

FOOD SERVICE AREA INSPECTION (160-FSM-02)

The food service department was inspected to ensure compliance with DYS policy 160-FSM-06, Food Service Safety, Sanitation, and Inspections.

Executive staff/supervisors conducting unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A

A. SANITATION

Dining rooms meets DYS policy for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Serving lines meet DYS policy: Yes No N/A

Dish room area meets DYS policy for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Dishwasher water temperature meets DYS policy: Yes No N/A

Handwashing stations in working order: Yes No N/A

Handwashing stations operate at a proper temperature: Yes No N/A

Eye washing stations operate appropriately: Yes No N/A

B. FOOD SERVING & STORAGE COMPLIANCE

Appropriate food menus posted: Yes No N/A

Food temperatures in compliance with DYS policy: Yes No N/A

Food service workers wearing hairnets, gloves, etc.: Yes No N/A

Serving utensils appear to be in good working order: Yes No N/A

Freezer temperatures in compliance with DYS policy: Yes No N/A

C. CHEMICAL & TOOL CONTROL

Tools properly stored/signed out/accounted for: Yes No N/A

Tools properly etched with an identifier: Yes No N/A

Chemicals properly stored and inventoried: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: CFIS sampled the lunch meal being served, which consisted of tortilla chips, meat, nacho cheese, tomatoes, peppers, lettuce, and oranges. The portion sizes were appropriate, and the meal met policy standards for taste, appearance, and temperature.

At the time of the inspection, five of the 12 food service positions were vacant. Three youths were observed helping within the food service area.

CFIS then assessed the meal preparation and food service areas. Overall, these spaces were clean and well-organized. However, CFIS noted concerns with food handling and storage practices. Several seasoning storage containers required cleaning, including the salt container, which staff promptly sanitized. The ingredient room also required cleaning and the removal of outdated items. Food service personnel immediately discarded expired products and sanitizing containers. Staff also removed outdated tartar sauce from the cooler and stated they would begin labeling all containers with dates on their lids to ensure expiration dates are clearly visible.

An inspection of the kitchen tool room confirmed that all tools were either present or properly accounted for as in use. Any missing tools had been replaced with a chit placed on the corresponding peg. A tool control log was actively maintained, accurately documenting which individuals had possession of each tool. One broken tool was identified, appropriately documented, and steps were already underway for replacement issuance. No additional concerns were noted.

The back dock area was clean and free of odor. The surrounding area near the trash compactor was clear of debris, and no signs of rodents or pests were observed in either the food service area or the back dock.

CFIS interacted with several Aramark employees (non-IP contract workers) working in food services, and no concerns were identified that would constitute a violation of DYS policy. The food service manager reported that, aside from the need to fill the five vacant positions, there were no additional issues or concerns.

CFIS will provide a follow-up visit to CHJCF's kitchen area to ensure that the deficiencies are addressed in food services.

EDUCATION & REHABILITATIVE PROGRAMS (157-EDU-01)

DYS partners with the Buckeye United School District to offer academic and career-technical programming designed to meet youth needs and enhance employability upon release. Programs include high school educational courses and career technical courses.

A. EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Does the facility have an education department for in-person learning: Yes No N/A

Executive staff/supervisors conduct unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A

Programs offered: GED ACADEMIC CAREER-TECH APPRENTICESHIP

VOCATIONAL DEGREE PROGRAMS/CERT.

OTHER: Horticulture, Landscaping, Turf Science, Media Arts N/A

Are there currently any vacant teaching/staff positions within the education department:

Yes No N/A

Does the area have appropriate signage/information displayed: Yes No N/A

Does the education department comply with DYS standards for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

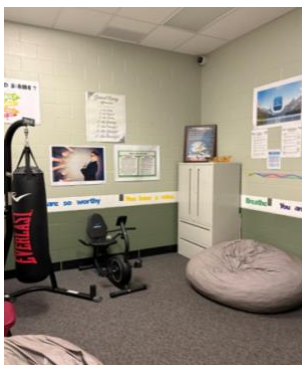
Additional Notes: CFIS conducted an inspection of the education area and confirmed that the facility contains enough classrooms to support its programs in a school-like environment. At the time of the inspection, the education department was in intersession.

The facility offers a comprehensive range of educational services, including GED preparation, academic instruction, vocational training, and post-secondary courses. These programs provide individualized learning opportunities for youth, with vocational offerings aligned to current job market demands. Educational technology throughout the facility is modern, up to date, and compliant with standards. The school is also equipped to accommodate youth with learning disabilities.

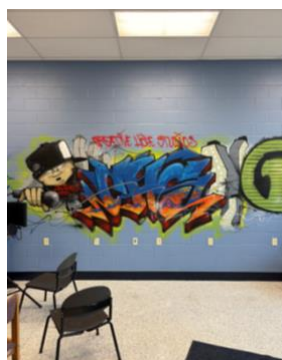
Vocational programs provide training and certifications in CPR, landscaping, turf science, and horticulture science. Youth also have opportunities to complete the Occupational Safety and Health Administration 10-hour (OSHA-10) course and obtain respirator certification.

The school includes a designated reflection room for students experiencing behavioral issues or crises during instructional time. This space is designed to support de-escalation and help students refocus before returning to class. The room is equipped with a heavy bag, an exercise machine, bean bag chairs, and motivational posters to promote healthy physical and emotional regulation.

No violations of DYS policy 157-EDU-01, Comprehensive Education Program, were observed or reported during the inspection.



Reflection Room



Media Arts Room



Horticulture



Heavy Machinery Simulator

B. REHABILITATIVE / REENTRY PROGRAMS

Executive staff/supervisors conduct unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A

Please list the kind of rehabilitative/reentry programs that the facility offers:

Character development (TYRO), Ohio Means Jobs, and financial literacy (BeRe Stewardship)

Does the area have appropriate signage/information displayed: Yes No N/A

Does the reentry department comply with DYS standards for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: The education department includes an Ohio Means Jobs area equipped with eight computers designated for youth. These stations allow participants to develop résumés, conduct job searches, and access information related to successful reintegration.

The facility also offers the Ridge Project's TYRO character development program, which focuses on personal growth, leadership skills, and community reinvestment. Completion of the TYRO program serves as a prerequisite for enrollment in the electrical apprenticeship program.

Additionally, the BeRe Stewardship initiative provides a justice-informed financial education curriculum specifically tailored for individuals impacted by the criminal justice system.

No violations of DYS policies were noted in the reentry department.

MEDICAL (168-MED-01)

A. MEDICAL SERVICES

Executive staff/supervisors conduct unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A

Services offered: Dental, medication distribution, physical examination(s), 24/7 on-call mental health services.

Are there any staffing vacancies within the medical department: Yes No N/A

Does the area have appropriate signage/information displayed: Yes No N/A

Does the medical department meet DYS policy standards for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Are there any maintenance issues that may hinder sufficient medical care: Yes No N/A

Are there any ongoing hunger strikes, constant watches, dry cells, or special supervision youth in this area: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: CFIS conducted a tour and inspection of the medical department and evaluated its operations in coordination with staff. The facility includes a nurse's station, medication room, examination rooms, and designated dental area. A dentist and dental hygienist provide weekly on-site services, and the facility receives 20 hours of psychological services per week. No violations of DYS policy 168-MED-01, Health Care Services Program, were identified.

RECREATION (177-REC-01)

A. RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Executive staff/supervisors conduct unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A

Does the area have appropriate signage/information displayed: Yes No N/A

Types of recreation programs offered: Weight room, CrossFit, batting cage, EA Sports

Types of recreation areas: Indoor Outdoor N/A

Are equipment and facilities in working order: Yes No N/A

Does the recreation department comply with DYS policy standards for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: The recreation area provides a wide range of activities for youth, and is overseen by six general activity therapists and one activity therapy administrator. The facility includes a large gym, a mini gym, a game room, and multiple outdoor areas equipped with athletic fields, courts, and a pavilion.

The outdoor recreation area serves as a multipurpose space to support field sports such as softball, football, and sand volleyball. CHJCF recently hosted a CrossFit competition in which all three DYS facilities participated.

Overall, the recreational equipment and spaces at CHJCF meet the needs of both active and electronic sports participants. No violations of DYS policy 177-REC-01, Recreational Programming, Recreation and Leisure Time Activities, were observed.

LIBRARY (157-EDU-08)

A. LIBRARY

Executive staff/supervisors conduct unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A

Does the library have policies and procedures available: Yes No N/A

Does the library have operation hours and information posted: Yes No N/A

Does the library meet DYS standards for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: The CHJCF contains both a general library and a dedicated law section. During the review, a substantial collection of books was observed to be accessible to youth. The library remained available to all youth throughout regular school hours.

No violations of DYS policy 157-EDU-08, Library/Media Center Services, were observed or reported.

VISITATION (175-MAL-04)

A. VISITATION

Visitation hours: Monday-Friday from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., and 6:30 pm to 8 p.m. Saturday-Sunday from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., and 12:30 pm to 2:00 p.m.

Executive staff/supervisors conduct unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A

Visits allowed: Contact Non-Contact Semi-Contact

Does the visitation area provide adequate seating: Yes No N/A

Does visitation area provide food and drink options: Yes No N/A

Does the area have appropriate signage/information displayed: Yes No N/A

Does the visitation area meet DYS standards for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: Visitation is limited to immediate family members, with certain exceptions permitted on a case-by-case basis. All visits take place in the designated “blue room,” a large multipurpose space also used for graduations, religious services, and other programming. During visitation, a toy area and separate playroom are available for youth and their children.

No violations of DYS policy 175-MAL-04, Youth Visitation, were noted or observed.

GENERAL HOUSING

A. GENERAL POPULATION HOUSING #1

Name/Identifier: South Side Units (A, B, C, and D)

Executive staff/supervisors conduct unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A

Does the unit have appropriate signage/information displayed: Yes No N/A

Does this housing unit offer programming: Yes No. N/A

Programs offered: Parenting classes, staff-led youth mentoring initiatives, Thinking for a Change (T4C), Aggression Replacement Training (ART), victim awareness education, Roots for Success, and the Positive Response Incentive Driven Environment (PRIDE).

Type of unit: Open Dorm Cells

Total max capacity: 32 (each housing unit)

Are equipment and facilities in working order: Yes No N/A

Does the unit meet DYS policy standards for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: CFIS conducted inspections of the south side housing units. Units A, B, and C are general population units. Unit D serves as the intake unit where youth typically remain for approximately 30 days before transitioning to their permanent housing assignment.

During the inspection, required Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) posters and appropriate documents were clearly posted and available, and schedules with unit rules were conspicuous in the dayrooms. Each unit was staffed with behavioral health professionals, a program specialist, a unit manager, and two youth specialists per shift.

All units contained standard amenities, including a microwave, game console, music speaker, and television. Cleaning supplies and chemical bottles were observed to be properly secured.

Staff identified that four restroom sinks across three housing units were nonfunctional due to piping issues. Administration reported that work orders had already been submitted and were in progress for necessary repairs.

B. GENERAL POPULATION HOUSING #2

Name/Identifier: North Side Units (F and G)

Executive staff/supervisors conduct unannounced rounds: Yes No N/A

Does the unit have appropriate signage/information displayed: Yes No N/A

Does this housing unit offer programming: Yes No. N/A

Programs offered: Parenting classes, staff-led youth mentoring initiatives, Thinking for a Change (T4C), Aggression Replacement Training (ART), victim awareness education, Roots for Success, and the Positive Response Incentive Driven Environment (PRIDE).

Type of unit: Open Dorm Cells

Total max capacity: 32

Are equipment and facilities in working order: Yes No N/A

Does the unit meet DYS policy standards for cleanliness: Yes No N/A

Additional Notes: CFIS conducted inspections of two of the four north side housing units, Units F and G, both designated as general population units.

PREA posters were prominently displayed. All required youth-facing documents – including grievance forms, job applications, chaplain request forms, public defender forms, health call forms, and CFIS contact forms – were readily accessible. Daily schedules, treatment schedules, and institutional rules were clearly posted in each dayroom.

Each unit was staffed with behavioral health professionals, a case program specialist, a unit manager, and two youth specialists per shift. Both units were equipped with amenities, including a microwave, gaming console, speaker, and television. All cleaning supplies and equipment were properly secured and fully accounted for.

During the inspection of Unit G, CFIS observed an active group session in progress involving six youth and a behavioral health specialist inside the social worker’s office. Unit G contained multiple televisions in the sleeping area, which were utilized for gaming consoles and instructional programming.

ADDITIONAL NOTES FROM INSPECTION

Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)

PREA provides for the analysis of the incidence and effects of prison rape in federal, state, and local institutions. It provides information, resources, recommendations and funding to protect incarcerated people from prison sexual assaults and rapes. PREA applies to all DYS facilities.

As the law enforcement agency responsible for investigating criminal offenses inside correctional institutions, the Ohio State Highway Patrol tracks sexual assaults using the PREA incident system.

CFIS conducted an evaluation of PREA compliance at the facility. No incidents were substantiated during inspection; however, one youth-on-youth case is still undergoing active investigation.

PREA notification signage and contact information for the local rape crisis center were found to be appropriately posted throughout the facility. No issues or non-compliance were observed regarding DYS policy 179-YSA-01, Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment: Reporting and Responding.

Staff Recruiting and Retention

CHJCF's vacancy breakdown:

- Youth specialists: 24 out of 146 (16.4%)
- Food service workers: six out of 17 (35.2%)
- Maintenance (to include laundry): two out of 11 (18.2%)
- Nurses: one out of 15 (6.7%)
- Medical services: one out of two (50.0%) (may include nurse supervisor or health information technician)
- Unit management: one out of seven (14.2%) (may include administrative professional or human services program administrator)
- Total vacancies: 35 out of 299 (11.70%)

Information regarding hiring events and job openings was posted.

Administrative Duty Officer Reports (ADO)

CFIS reviewed the Administrative Duty Officer (ADO) Reports (DYS2480) in accordance with DYS policy 150-FAM-01, Facility Administrative Rounds and Communication. These reports, completed daily by designated executive staff, document inspections of food service, visitation, housing units, recreation, and other areas assigned by the superintendent. Completed reports – which also include dates, times, areas visited, observations, concerns, and recommendations – are submitted to the superintendent's office for review.

CFIS confirmed that the March 15–21, 2026, reports were timely and met DYS policy standards.

Security and Safety

Each unit was staffed with two youth specialists, a case manager, and a unit manager. CFIS inspected several housing units and evaluated cleanliness, maintenance of facilities, and the presence of safety equipment. All units met established hygiene and safety standards, including proper sanitation, functional safety devices, and well-maintained common areas. No security issues or violations of DYS policy were identified during the inspection.

Use of Force (UOF)

CHJCF recorded 31 Use of Force (UOF) incidents from March 1-26, 2026, in accordance with DYS policy 163-UOF-02, Managing Youth Resistance. CFIS analyzed incident reports and reviewed video footage to assess compliance with policy, while the facility intervention administrator provided relevant documentation and facilitated access to all necessary incident report packets and video materials.

All reviews were completed within the timelines mandated by the UOF policy, ensuring prompt oversight of incidents. These policies are critical because they promote accountability and the safety of youth during interventions. A review of the incident packet confirmed that all separation monitoring logs adhered to the procedural requirements of DYS policy 156-DCS-05, Separation, and DYS form 2113, Youth Intervention Monitoring Log, which is specifically designed to protect youth by documenting their status and well-being throughout the intervention process.

However, a review of the Safe to Release (STR) forms (DYS2015) revealed that two of the STRs were improperly completed and missing vital information. When a youth commits an act of violence, they are required to undergo the STR process to evaluate their readiness for return to regular programming. The STR process consists of a structured interview conducted by behavioral health staff, a unit manager, or an operations manager. Per DYS policy 156-DSC-05, the initial assessment must be completed within two to three hours of the incident, excluding sleeping time, with subsequent checks occurring every two hours until the youth is released. Aside from these documentation gaps, there were no operational concerns regarding the incidents reviewed.

Type of Incident	Total
Youth-on-staff assaults	0
Youth-on-youth assaults	13
Youth-on-youth fights	10
OC (pepper spray)	7
Mechanical restraints (handcuffs/flex cuffs)	35

Drug Testing

Upon admission to DYS, each youth undergoes a drug test administered by intake nursing staff, per DYS policy 168-MED-12, Reception Intake Medical Screening. Every facility conducts an annual comprehensive saturation test, screening 100% of youth. Additionally, facilities must randomly test at least 10% of each housing unit's population every month and at least 50% of youth participating in off-grounds work. Youth are also drug tested within two business days before their scheduled release and within 48 hours of intra-system transfers between DYS facilities; receiving facilities may also conduct arrival tests. For-cause testing and testing after any off-ground activity can also be ordered at any time. There were no observed violations of DYS policy 182-SAS-02, Youth Drug Testing.

CHJCF's March 2026 Drug Testing Results		
Test Category	Number of Tests	Results
Medical intake review	0	N/A
Random testing (10% level)	21	All negative
Transfer screening	1	All negative
Release screening	4	All negative
Off-grounds test	25	All negative

Security Threat Groups (STG)

Security Threat Groups (STG) are organized groups within correctional facilities that that are often linked to gang activity/organized crime and pose significant risks to the safety and security of the facility. Classifying an individual as an STG member assists the facility and DYS in proper tracking, housing, and monitoring of trends.

As of April 2026, CHJCF reported a total of 170 STG members: 16 individuals (15%) with active STG status, 69 individuals (41%) with passive STG status, and 85 individuals (50%) who are not affiliated with a gang. DYS classifies youth by status, not gang name.

Institutional Overtime

Corrections officers worked a total of 3,683 overtime hours from January 2026 to the day of inspection. No violations of DYS policy 135-PAY-01, Employee Pay, Timekeeping and Payroll, were observed or noted.

Annual Evacuation Drills

The health and safety coordinator conducts quarterly fire drills on all shifts to ensure compliance with safety standards. All drills were conducted promptly and in accordance with DYS policies and procedures 10-SAF-05, Fire Prevention and Safety Practices.

Staff Roll Call / Briefing Area

The roll call area was clean and orderly. Pertinent information was posted to inform staff of daily events, identifiers for various situations, proper search conduct, and qualifying events for body-worn camera activation.

Special Events/Family Engagement Events

Over the past 12 months, CHJCF has held at least 39 family engagement events. Additionally, the facility organized approximately three volunteer events during this period. Events were conducted in compliance with DYS policy 101-COM-05, Tour and Special Events Guidelines.

CONCLUSION

The inspection of the CHJCF confirms that the facility is well-maintained overall. A high standard of cleanliness and organization is evident throughout all units and common areas. Staff demonstrated professionalism and expertise, responding promptly to inquiries and operational needs. This dedication directly supports CHJCF's mission and fosters a positive environment for youth residents.

CHJCF continues to prioritize prosocial behavior through a variety of programs and services designed to help youth successfully return to their communities. The facility demonstrates a commitment to clear communication by posting schedules, activities, and essential notices for both staff and residents. Leadership is actively addressing staffing vacancies by recruiting qualified personnel and regularly updating protocols and procedures to enhance safety and compliance with departmental standards.

Despite these strengths, the inspection identified several areas requiring improvement. It is essential for facility leadership to address specified deficiencies to ensure ongoing compliance and operational excellence:

- Meal quality inconsistencies, meal service delays, and food handling and storage practices
- Four nonfunctional restroom sinks in housing units
- Documentation gaps in STR forms
- Staffing vacancies

Overall, CHJCF demonstrates a strong commitment to youth rehabilitation and facility safety but must address specified deficiencies to ensure the best outcomes for staff and youth alike. CFIS will ensure CHJCF appropriately addresses these deficiencies through follow-up correspondence and a follow-up visit to the kitchen area.



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OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

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Correctional Facilities Inspection Services

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