Introduction

The Juvenile Detention Center (JDC), Bay Minette, Alabama, is a collaborative thirty-bed residential facility between Baldwin County Regional Detention Center and Baldwin County Public Schools (BCPS) for students in grades 6-12 adjudicated by the court.

The legislature established the Alabama Department of Youth Services in September of 1973 with the responsibility of establishing minimum standards for juvenile detention facilities. The Baldwin County Regional Juvenile Detention Center was created by an act of the legislature in 1990. The act authorized the Baldwin County Commission to construct and operate the facility. It also named the detention building Phyllis L. Nesbit after the first elected female juvenile judge of Baldwin County. The construction of the building began in July of 1991 and was completed in April of 1992. The facility was opened on June 15, 1992. The Department of Youth Services licensed the Baldwin County Regional Juvenile Detention Center in June of 1992. The facility is licensed by the Department of Youth Services on an annual basis.

All aspects of the facility are reviewed and evaluated on a frequent and regular basis to ensure that deficiencies may be corrected, that improvements can be made when needed, that new ideas and methods can be considered and tried when appropriate, and that the facility may pursue the highest standards of excellence established at the time.

Objectives of the JDC Program

The purpose of the facility is to provide temporary care of delinquent children or children alleged to be delinquent in secure custody pending court dispositions or transfer to a residential facility for further care of a child adjudicated to be delinquent. Included is the temporary care of juveniles or pending return to their home states pursuant to the Interstate Compact on Juveniles or pending their return to a residential facility from which they have absconded while in treatment under court order.

Specifically, the facility does the following:

1. provide for juveniles' basic needs, such as shelter, food, clothing, and medical care
2. prevent the abridgement of juveniles' legal rights during detainment at the facility
3. provide for physical, emotional, religious, educational, and social needs of juveniles during detainment
4. house juveniles in a safe and humane environment, maintaining the level of security necessary to prevent escape and assure that juveniles live free of fear of & assault or intimidation by staff or other juveniles.

Placement of Students in the Program

The Baldwin County Regional Juvenile Detention Center was established to provide short-term care in secure custody to students in grades 6-12 from Baldwin, Escambia, Choctaw, Clarke, and Washington Counties who are accused or adjudicated pending court action or awaiting transfer to another facility and who cannot be served in an open setting.

Home (or Base) School Responsibilities

Complete the Detention Center Entry Form (Appendix). Complete all items on the list. Send hard copies of the following documentation to the Juvenile Detention Center within three days of placement:

- Transcript
- Current schedule of classes
- Class grades prior to entry of JDC
Explain the parent responsibilities to the parent at the expulsion or placement meeting.

Parent Responsibilities

1. Telephone the Juvenile Detention Center to schedule a placement meeting for your child.
2. Attend the placement meeting at the Juvenile Detention Center.
3. Set up an appointment with the base school for re-entry upon notification from the JDC that the student can return to the base school.

Rules for Visitation

1. Parents / Guardians must provide a picture identification prior to visitation.
2. Only parents or legal guardians are allowed to visit unless prior approval from the Director of Detention. NO EXCEPTIONS
3. All jackets, coats, and sweaters are to remain in the lobby or in a vehicle. Purses must be left in a locked car or with a family member in the lobby.
4. Nothing (no food, no magazines, no toiletry items) is to be given to youth during the visitation time and nothing is to be brought in to the youth except prescription medication or a Bible. These items must be given to staff at front desk.
5. Letters are to be mailed through the United States Postal Service to Post Office Box 219, Bay Minette, Alabama 36507
6. All visitors will be searched and scanned with the scanning wand before visiting youth.
7. Visitation is for 15 minutes only, unless the youth has purchased more visit time. Only level 3 & 4 can purchase more visitation time.
8. If during a visit, the youth becomes angry or upset, the visitor will let a staff member know.
9. No weapons are allowed on the premises.
10. Visitors are not allowed to leave small children unattended in the lobby.
11. Anyone suspected of drinking alcoholic beverages will not be allowed to visit and will be asked to leave the premises.
12. Visitors' cooperation concerning these rules and regulations are greatly appreciated. If a staff member sees a visitor not complying with these rules, the visitor will be asked to leave the and visit will be postponed until the next visitation day.

JDC School Responsibilities

JDC has two fulltime teachers and one part-time special education teacher. All employees will fax a completed Employee Daily Attendance Log (Appendix) each Friday to Billie Jo Ganey (251.580.5120).

The facility strives to provide a humane setting to the fullest extent possible within the confines of a secure environment. To this end, the facility provides a variety of services: educational, recreational, medical, food, and religious. Those services which cannot be provided within the facility will be available from resources within the community and residents of the facility may be transported to those services or arrangements made for service providers to come to the detention center.
The staff and administration of the facility are trained to be competent and caring individuals who are concerned about the well-being of the residents at all times. Staff demonstrate respect and high expectations for the residents. By so doing, they serve as examples for residents.

The Detention Center's responsibilities include the following:

1. Contact student's base school to request the school registrar send hard copies of the following documents:
   a. Transcript
   b. Current schedule of classes
   c. Class grades prior to entry to JDC
   d. Test scores
   e. Attendance report
   f. Discipline report
   g. IEP
   h. GEP
   i. Section 504 plan

2. Compile information from student's base school on the Detention Center Entry Form (Appendix) and email completed entry form to Wynell Bell (wbell@bcbe.org) and to student's base school.
3. Conduct intake meeting and advise parents of disciplinary process.
4. Ensure that each student is scheduled into appropriate classes.
5. Notify student's base school of the impending return of the student approximately ten days before the student exits the Detention Center. Notify parents after the base school has been informed.
6. Send weekly attendance reports to the base school.
7. Ensure that the grade report is sent to the base school.

Length of Assignment

Boys’ average stay is 3-4 weeks and girls’ stay is often 3-4 months.

JDC Advisory Board

Instructional Materials, Supplies, and Equipment

1. Instruction is computer-assisted and/or textbook based. Instructional materials, including textbooks and software, will be provided for each student and will be the responsibility of the Detention Center for inventory and student assignment purposes.
2. Equipment necessary to provide a freehand appropriate education will be available to all students.
3. Basic library resources such as encyclopedias, thesauruses, and dictionaries will be provided.
4. Other resources may be secured from Baldwin County Public Schools or the BCPS Teacher Resource Center.

Disciplinary Process

A Behavioral Management Program is used to provide motivation for residents to improve their personal relationships with other residents and with the staff. The skills learned in the facility should increase the likelihood that residents will make adjustments with parents, teachers,
employers and others when they leave the facility. While the detention center is not a treatment facility, it is not a place for idleness, boredom, frustration and alienation. The detention care program promotes meaningful activities, opportunities for self-improvement, personal reflection and frequent interaction with caring professional staff members.

Exit Criteria

Exit from the program and future placement is determined by the court, and the availability of a facility to receive them. When a student withdraws, the Detention Center will email a completed Detention Center Withdrawal form (Appendix) to the student's base school registrar and to Wynell Bell (wbell@bcbe.org). JDC will also send hard copies of the following items to the receiving school's registrar:

- Current schedule of classes
- Grades earned at JDC
- Attendance report
- Discipline report
- IEP
- GEP
- Section 504 plan

Aftercare

Upon completion of the Juvenile Detention Center, it is required that the parent/guardian and student schedule an appointment with the base school personnel for re-entry. Follow-up counseling is deemed an integral part of a student's re-entry.