

Santa Clara County Jails: General Fact Sheet

Jail Numbers

- The County has two jail facilities (collectively, County jails) with a total capacity of 4650.
 - Main Jail can hold up to 1450 inmates, who are all male with the exception of the infirmary and acute psychiatric unit 8A, which both house female and male inmates.
 - Elmwood can hold up to 3200 inmates; Elmwood Men's Facility can hold up to 2600 males; and the Correctional Center for Women at Elmwood can hold up to 600 females.
 - The average daily census was 3507 as of December 2015.
- In 2015, the County jails had:
 - Approximately 40,000 bookings.
 - Approximately 30,000 admissions (bookings where the individual is housed, rather than simply cited and released).
- The average length of stay in the County jails has gone from about 138 days (2010) to about 205 days (2015).

Custody Health Services and Department of Correction

- Custody Health Services
 - Custody Health Services (CHS) provides health care services in the County jails, as well as in Juvenile Hall and the Juvenile Ranch.
 - The CHS budget for the County jails is approximately \$76 million.
 - In the County jails, CHS has over 50 administrative/supportive staff and over 160 clinical staff.
 - Included in the clinical staff are psychiatrists, medical physicians, psychologists, dentists, psychiatric nurses, clinical nurses, and marriage and family therapists (MFTs)/licensed clinical social workers (LCSWs).
 - Behavioral health staff members are being added to ensure that there are sufficient services being provided to inmates who are seriously mentally ill.
 - In addition to CHS, Traditions Behavioral Health provides about 6.5 to 7 Full Time Equivalent (FTEs) worth of psychiatrist services in the County jails.
- Department of Correction
 - The Department of Correction (DOC) budget is approximately \$241 million.
 - DOC has over 250 non-badge staff and over 800 badge staff. In addition, the Sheriff's Office provides approximately 42 FTEs of transportation staff to the DOC.

Connecting Inmates to Health Care

- Intake
 - At intake, every inmate undergoes an initial health screening by a registered nurse.
 - The screening includes taking a set of vital signs; asking dental, medical and mental health questions related to acute, chronic and infectious

diseases and suicide risks; and observing the inmate for any acute conditions or injuries.

- Inmates who have an emergency medical condition are immediately transported to an appropriate emergency department.
 - Inmates who have non-emergent medical or dental needs, or who have behavioral health needs, are referred as appropriate for additional health care services (including assessments and treatment) and special housing considerations.
 - o Available health care services are described in more detail below.
 - o Inmates whose health care needs require special housing may be housed in:
 - 8A, the unit that serves the patients with acute psychiatric needs, such as being a danger to themselves or others;
 - The jail infirmary, which provides medical/nursing care for patients needing certain medical treatments and/or frequent nursing interventions; or
 - Special management housing for seriously mentally ill inmates, which is used to ensure that DOC staff members take special considerations for their safety, and to flag the inmates especially likely to need mental health services.
- Other Avenues for Receiving Health Care Services
 - CHS staff may refer inmates for health care services or special housing considerations at any time.
 - DOC staff may refer inmates for health care services or special housing considerations at any time.
 - Inmates may request health care services at any time through a variety of means, including:
 - o Submitting a “white card” on their housing unit to CHS. CHS accepts and processes white cards 7 days a week.
 - o Asking DOC or CHS staff at any time.

Medical Services

- Medical Services Onsite at the County Jails
 - General Medical Clinics
 - o These clinics provide outpatient medical care.
 - Specialty Clinics/Provider
 - o PACE Clinic: This clinic serves patients with HIV/AIDS.
 - o Orthopedic Clinic: This clinic serves patients with injuries/disorders of the skeletal system and associated bones, joints, tendons, muscles, ligaments, and nerves.
 - o Ob/Gyn Clinic: This clinic serves female patients, including those who are pregnant.

- Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Provider: This provider primarily serves patients disabled by disease or injury to restore bodily movement and function.
- Latent TB clinic: This clinic serves patients with latent tuberculosis.
- Jail Infirmary
 - The infirmary provides medical/nursing care for patients needing certain medical treatments and/or frequent nursing interventions.
 - Nursing services are provided 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in the infirmary.
 - Seriously ill or injured patients requiring acute care are transferred to Valley Medical Center (VMC).
- Offsite Medical Services
 - Valley Medical Center (VMC)
 - VMC provides inmates with additional specialty health care services, such as cardiology or gastroenterology, which are not offered onsite at the jails.
 - VMC also provides acute care for seriously ill or injured patients who cannot remain in the infirmary.
 - Emergency Department
 - Inmates who have an emergency medical condition at any point during their stay are transferred to the appropriate emergency department.

Behavioral Health Care

- Behavioral Health Teams
 - The County has established multidisciplinary behavioral health teams focused on particular housing units; the purpose of these teams is to provide consistent and informed care for patients with the greatest behavioral health care needs.
 - CHS has taken a data-driven approach to team placement by working with the Health and Hospital System's (HHS's) Center for Population Health Improvement.
 - Each team roster includes a psychiatrist, psychologist, psychiatric nurse, and licensed clinician.
 - Each team works collaboratively with multi-support deputies from DOC to provide services. Multi-support deputies specialize in working with health care providers, and receive training on topics like crisis intervention, suicide prevention, depression, anxiety, traumatic events, acute psychosis, substance use, and de-escalation techniques.
 - Currently, there are five teams in total working at the County jails. They are placed in housing units at Main Jail, Elmwood Men's Facility, and the Correctional Center for Women.

- Crisis services
 - Mental health staff members provide crisis services throughout the jails 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
 - They perform various duties, including providing mental health assessments at intake, providing suicide risk assessments, initiating suicide risk precautions (e.g., observation of inmate), and triaging and responding to referrals from DOC staff.
- Medication management
 - Psychiatrists and psychiatric nurse practitioners provide medication management services for inmates throughout the County jails.
- 8A
 - 8A is an inpatient unit that serves inmates with the most acute psychiatric needs – for example, because their mental illness causes them to be a danger to themselves or others.
 - Psychiatrists work on the unit to manage medications.
 - A behavioral health team works on the unit to provide proactive services.
 - DOC and CHS partner to provide programs and activities.
 - Nursing services are provided 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in 8A.

Dental Care

- Dental services are available to all inmates.
 - Elmwood Men’s Facility has two dental chairs.
 - The Correctional Center for Women has two dental chairs.
 - Main Jail has one dental chair.
- A contract oral surgeon comes onsite to the County jails approximately every 4 to 6 weeks to provide services.
- Dental services focus on inmates’ pain-related needs.

Ongoing Improvements to Health Care in the Jails

- CHS is working with EPIC to implement the HealthLink electronic medical record system, which will provide CHS with state of the art technology to manage the health care needs of its inmates and continue the process of integrating health records across the County’s Health and Hospital System.
- CHS is hiring for and considering the placement of the next behavioral health team.
- DOC is adding multi-support deputies to support the next behavioral health team.
- The County’s Behavioral Health Services Department (BHSD) – Substance Use Treatment Division is adding substance use counselors to the behavioral health teams.
- DOC, the County’s Facilities and Fleet Department (FAF), and CHS are working together to add dental chairs at Main Jail.
- DOC, FAF and CHS have identified housing cells that will be modified to be suicide-resistant by minimizing protrusions that could be used to commit suicide.

- CHS and DOC have been collaborating more with BHSD, the Mental Health/Drug Treatment Court, and community-based providers for discharge planning, transitions back into the community, and “warm handoffs” to community-based providers.
- FAF, DOC, and CHS are working together to ensure that the new jail facility is built in a way that ensures that the wide range of inmates’ health care needs are met.

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