

Judge Riddel Boys Ranch Program Completion & Recidivism Report Calendar Years 2000 – 2007

Record Checks through 12/31/08

Judge James V. Riddel Boys Ranch (JRBR) is the most structured community-based residential program for juvenile offenders in the State of Kansas. The program is operated by the Sedgwick County Department of Corrections. All services are provided on-campus, including education. The average length of stay to successfully complete the program is 150 days, followed by a period of supervised release in the community by juvenile justice case managers. The program operates continuously at the licensed capacity of 49. Most admits come directly from juvenile detention. Program services include behavior management, education including GED instruction, life skills classes, job readiness training, recreation and individual, group and family counseling. Outpatient substance abuse counseling and sex offender treatment are provided onsite by outside contractors. The Ranch also provides a unique program of equine assisted growth and learning that utilizes horses to teach social skills to the juveniles on the 63-acre campus, 23 miles west of Wichita, Kansas.

JRBR serves male juvenile offenders with serious behavior problems from an urban setting, ages 14-20, that have been adjudicated in juvenile court and ordered into state's custody for placement outside their homes in a community-based residential program. The average age of the resident population is 16. It is usually their first out of home placement. Most of the juveniles have failed standard probation and/or intensive probation in the community and residential placement is a graduated sanction. The program is geared to serve youth who are assessed to be at moderate to high risk to continue violating the law without intensive interventions. JRBR youth are typically well behind in their education; many need specialized treatment for substance abuse and/or mental health issues and programming to address criminal thinking, anger control, empathy, grief and family issues.

A review of records for youth admitted to the program during calendar years 2000 through 2007 demonstrates the stability of the program to produce positive outcomes. Over the eight years youth successfully complete the program at an average of 75%, with a range of 60% to 87%. The percentage of youth who had not recidivated after successfully exiting the program averages 83% at 6 months, with a range of 62% to 95%. At 12 months the average was 66%, with a range of 47% to 78%. Overall the data shows most youth are experiencing success at completing the program and behaving lawfully when they return home to live in the community. In July 2007 programming was changed to an evidence-based cognitive behavioral curriculum (Aggression Replacement Training) to better address and change criminal thinking, values and attitudes of the youth. Initial feedback about the new skill-building curriculum has been positive. For 2006, the last full year of tracking all admissions, technical violations of supervision were 45% of recidivists.

Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
# Admissions	135	136	134	133	142	148	158	157
# Discharges	135	136	134	133	142	148	158	157
- Not Successful	34	24	18	24	33	43	42	63
- Successful	101	112	116	109	109	105	116	94
- Percent Successful	75	82	87	82	77	71	73	60
Post-Release Success Rate								
At: - 6 Months	95%	89%	89%	84%	80%	62%	79%	83%
At: - 12 Months	76%	72%	78%	73%	66%	47%	52%	NA

* A recidivist is a youth that was a successful program completion and engaged in new unlawful behavior post-release from the program, resulting in a guilty finding in the 18th Judicial District Courts (juvenile or adult), for either a new crime or technical violation of probation/supervision with facility placement or sanction house confinement in juvenile detention or jail as the sentence.