

Standards Committee Meeting Minutes
151st Conference of Correction
Omni Hotel, Legends A, B, C
Nashville, Tennessee
August 12, 2021

Members Present

Chambers-Smith, Annette, Chair, Ohio
Armenta, Apolonio, Coahuila, Mexico
Aufderheide, Dean, Florida
Blessinger, Christine, Indiana
Cadreche, Marina, Florida
Clarke, Harold, Virginia
Collier, Bryan, Texas
Dauss, Kristen, Indiana
DeVoter, Michael, Florida
Frakes, Scott, Nebraska
Grande, Peter, Kansas
Green, Robert, Maryland
Koon, Ron, Georgia
Lengerich, Jason, Colorado
McFadden, Garry, North Carolina
Santa, Colette, Massachusetts
Shinn, David, District of Columbia
Stickrath, Thomas, Ohio

Members Absent

Wetzel, John, Vice Chair, Pennsylvania
Riggin, Viola, Kansas
Linthicum, Lannette, Texas

Staff

James A. Gondles, Jr, Executive Director
Jeff Washington, Deputy Executive Director
Dr. Elizabeth Gondles, ACA Office of Correctional Health
David Haasenritter, Director of Standards and Accreditation
Dehavilland Whitaker, Senior Accreditation Specialist
Delilah Tsipliareles, Accreditation Specialist
Eli Mendoza, Accreditation Specialist

Opening Remarks

Annette Chambers-Smith, chairperson of the committee, welcomed the committee members and guests. Ms. Chambers-Smith discussed the meeting agenda. A motion was made by Robert Green and was seconded to approve the January 2020 Standards Committee Meeting Minutes from the Winter 2020 Conference in San Diego, California. The motion was approved unanimously.

ACA President, Tony Parker welcomed the committee member and guests to Nashville. Mr. Parker spoke on the unprecedented times, and commended everyone on working together to complete the mission of corrections.

ACA Executive Director James A. Gondles, Jr. welcomed new committee members and ACA staff. Mr. Gondles encouraged everyone to attend the healthcare reception that afternoon.

Commission Chair, Mr. Thomas Stickrath recognized current and new commission members. Mr. Stickrath mentioned that 167 facilities were up for accreditation, 21 of which were initial audits, and 38 international audits from Mexico, and the first from Costa Rica.

David Haasenritter, Director of the Standards and Accreditation Department gave opening and welcoming remarks. He discussed the New Auditor Training held that morning with a great turnout, as well as upcoming trainings scheduled for Friday of the conference.

A motion was made for discussion of the proposed standards revisions.

Section 2

Old Business

Manual: Adult Correctional Institutions (ACI)
Edition: Fifth
Standard: 5-3A-4185
Agency/Facility: Colorado Department of Corrections
Facility Size: N/A
Accredited: No
Proposal Type: Revision

Existing Standard: Written policy, procedure, and practice require that between the warden/superintendent and assistant warden/superintendent(s), each institution's living and activity areas shall be visited weekly within a schedule that ensures the warden/superintendent personally conducts rounds in all areas no less than one time per month. In addition, designated department heads shall visit the institution's living

Proposal: Written policy, procedure and practice require that the assistant warden/superintendent(s) and designated department heads shall conduct rounds within a rotating schedule that ensures all living and activity areas are visited at least weekly to encourage informal contact with staff and inmates and to informally observe living and working conditions. The warden/superintendent shall personally conduct rounds in all living and activity areas at least once during the month. In the event of a prolonged absence of the warden/superintendent a designee may be appointed to conduct the required rounds.

Comments: Although the Colorado Department of Corrections is in agreement that the warden/superintendent should make rounds of all living and activity areas of their facilities; the current expected practice language of having the warden/superintendent and assistant warden/superintendent(s) visit all areas weekly is an unrealistic expectation for larger facilities or for wardens/superintendents and assistant wardens/superintendent(s) that oversee more than one facility. Smaller facilities don't always have both positions which further puts an unrealistic expectation on the one person who is fulfilling two roles. In facilities that have both positions. the expectation that the assistant wardens/superintendents are to visit all living and activity areas that the warden/superintendent didn't or couldn't visit during the week is also unrealistic and lends itself to the completion of cursory walk-throughs that don't allow for informal contact with staff and inmates and observation of living and working conditions which is what the Colorado Department of Corrections believes to be the desired intent of the expected practice.

Name: Shelby Pickerill
Title: Accreditation Administrator
Email: shelby.pickerill@state.co.us

COMMENTS: *“I disagree with changing the language of this standard to include "designated department heads" on a rotating schedule. It is important for ALL of them to maintain contact with staff and inmates on an informal basis. The Warden/Supt. has the authority to designate the weekly rounds to their staff. I do not believe the current expectations are unrealistic.”*

- Michelle Burrows, CCM
- Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections

COMMENTS:

Tabled- Director of Standards and Accreditation Department will coordinate a subcommittee consisting at a minimum committee members Todd Thomas, Robert Lambert, and Shelby Pickerill or Colorado DOC Representative.

Subcommittee was never formed.

Director of Standards and Accreditation Department will coordinate a subcommittee from new Performance-Based Standards Committee and will have a proposal by the 2022 Winter Conference.

FOR ACA STAFF USE ONLY- ACA File No. 2020-002

The above proposed revision, addition, or deletion would also affect the following manuals:
4-ALDF-2A-12; 1-CORE-5C-03

Action taken by the standards committee:

Approved Denied Tabled Referred to: Subcommittee to be formed by David Haasenritter

Section 3

Reports from ACA Committees

American Correctional Association Committee on Performance-Based Standards

No Committee Reports Submitted.

Section 4

Proposals for Standards Revision

Submissions for Standards Revisions
2020 Winter Conference
San Diego, California
January 9, 2020

KEY

ACA File Number (*Order in which the submissions were received*)

Manual: *Manual in which the change is being proposed*

Standard No: *Standard to which the change is being proposed*

Agency /Facility: *Agency or facility submitting the proposed change*

Facility Size: *Size of the agency/facility proposing the change*

Accredited: *Whether or not the submitting agency/facility is accredited*

Proposal Type: *Type of proposal (addition of a new standard, deletion of the current standard, revision of the current standard, or clarification of the existing standard or comment)*

Existing Standard: *The standard printed in the manual or Supplement as it currently stands. For example:*

Blacked-out text indicates text in the existing standard that has been removed in the proposal.

Proposal: *The proposed change to the existing standard. For example:*

Highlighted Text indicated new or revised wording to the existing standard in the proposal.

Comments: *Comments from the field regarding the proposed revision. These comments generally indicate whether the commenting entity agrees or disagrees with the revision.*

Name: *Name of person submitting the revision*

Title: *Title of person submitting the revision*

Email: *email address of person submitting the revision*

Contents:

ACA File Number	Standard	Type	Page
ACA File No. 2021-001	NEW	Addition	11
ACA File No. 2021-002	NEW	Addition	12
ACA File No. 2021-003	NEW	Addition	14
ACA File No. 2021-004	5-ACI-6A-38	Revision	15
ACA File No. 2021-005	5-ACI-6A-39	Revision	17
ACA File No. 2021-006	5-ACI-7F-01	Revision	19

Manual: Administration of Correctional Agencies (ACA)

Edition: 2nd

Standard: New

Agency/Facility: N/A

Facility Size: N/A

Accredited: N/A

Proposal Type: Addition

Proposal: Where a canine unit exists and is under the supervision of the agency or regional office instead of a facility, policy, procedure, and practice provide for the following:

- A mission statement, including goals and objectives
- Emergency plans that are integrated into the overall emergency plans of the facility

Comments: Some agencies directly oversee canine units even if they reside near a facility. Facility staff state the canine unit is not theirs and the ACI standards do not apply. There are no canine unit standards in the ACA manual. Agencies should be held to the same standard when they are responsible for the canine units.

Name: Theresa Grenier, CCS

Title: Correctional Consultant

Email: tag5552014@gmail.com

COMMENTS: No comments from field to report.

FOR ACA STAFF USE ONLY- ACA File No. 2021-001

The above proposed revision, addition, or deletion would also affect the following manuals:
None.

Action taken by the standards committee:

Approved Denied Tabled Referred to: _____

Manual: Administration of Correctional Agencies (ACA)

Edition: 2nd

Standard: New

Agency/Facility: N/A

Facility Size: N/A

Accredited: N/A

Proposal Type: Addition

Proposal: Where a canine unit exists and is under the supervision of the agency or regional office instead of a facility, policy, procedure, and practice for training of handlers/dog teams and upkeep and care of animals provide for the following:

- Criteria for selection, training, and care of animals
- Criteria for selection and training requirements of handlers
- An approved sanitation plan which covers inspection, housing, transportation, and daily grooming for dogs

Each handler/dog team should be trained, certified, and recertified annually by a nationally recognized accrediting body or a comparable internal training and proficiency testing program.

Comments: Some agencies directly oversee canine units even if they reside near a facility. Facility staff state the canine unit is not theirs and the ACI standards do not apply. There are no canine unit standards in the ACA manual. Agencies should be held to the same standard when they are responsible for the canine units.

Name: Theresa Grenier, CCS

Title: Correctional Consultant

Email: tag5552014@gmail.com

COMMENTS: No comments from field to report.

FOR ACA STAFF USE ONLY- ACA File No. 2021-002

The above proposed revision, addition, or deletion would also affect the following manuals:
None.

Action taken by the standards committee:

Approved Denied Tabled Referred to: _____

Manual: Administration of Correctional Agencies (ACA)

Edition: 2nd

Standard: New

Agency/Facility: N/A

Facility Size: N/A

Accredited: N/A

Proposal Type: Addition

Proposal: Where a canine unit exists and is under the supervision of the agency or regional office instead of a facility, policy, procedure, and practice provide daily and current records on training, care of dogs, and significant events.

Comments: Some agencies directly oversee canine units even if they reside near a facility. Facility staff state the canine unit is not theirs and the ACI standards do not apply. There are no canine unit standards in the ACA manual. Agencies should be held to the same standard when they are responsible for the canine units.

Name: Theresa Grenier, CCS

Title: Correctional Consultant

Email: tag5552014@gmail.com

COMMENTS: No comments from field to report.

FOR ACA STAFF USE ONLY- ACA File No. 2021-003

The above proposed revision, addition, or deletion would also affect the following manuals:
None.

Action taken by the standards committee:

Approved Denied Tabled Referred to: _____

Manual: Adult Correctional Institutions (ACI)

Edition: 5th

Standard: 5-ACI-6A-38

Agency/Facility: Naval Consolidated Brig – Charleston

Facility Size: 175

Accredited: Yes

Proposal Type: Revision

Existing Text: A mental health residential treatment unit is available for those inmates with impairment in behavioral functioning associated with a serious mental illness and/or impairment in cognitive functioning. The severity of the impairment does not require inpatient level of care, but the inmate demonstrates a historical and current inability to function adequately in the general population. There should be a specific mission/goal of the program, sufficient qualified staff to meet needs of program, screening process for the program, individual treatment plans for inmates in the program, safe housing to meet the therapeutic needs of the inmate and transition plan upon discharge from the residential treatment unit.

Proposed Text: Where a mental health residential unit exists, it is available for those inmates with impairment in behavioral functioning associated with a serious mental illness and/or impairment in cognitive functioning. The severity of the impairment does not require inpatient level of care, but the inmate demonstrates a historical and current inability to function adequately in the general population. There should be a specific mission/goal of the program, sufficient qualified staff to meet needs of program, screening process for the program, individual treatment plans for inmates in the program, safe housing to meet the therapeutic needs of the inmate and transition plan upon discharge from the residential treatment unit.

Comments: The wording of the standard requires a Mental Health Residential Unit. Not all ACI facilities have the space or manning to provide these services.

Name: Steven Laird

Title: Technical Director

Email: steven.p.laird1@navy.mil

COMMENTS: No comments from field to report.

FOR ACA STAFF USE ONLY- ACA File No. 2021-004

The above proposed revision, addition, or deletion would also affect the following manuals:
None.

Action taken by the standards committee:

Approved Denied Tabled Referred to: Mental Health Committee

Manual: Adult Correctional Institutions (ACI)

Edition: 5th

Standard: 5-ACI-6A-39

Agency/Facility: Naval Consolidated Brig – Charleston

Facility Size: 175

Accredited: Yes

Proposal Type: Revision

Existing Text: Inpatient Care Unit is for those who are in need of inpatient mental health treatment. These units should have 24 hour services such as nursing and availability of a QMHP, behavioral health trained correctional officers, and clinical programming. Individual Treatment Plans which will define the types and frequency of contacts with mental health staff for inmates in the program, housing to meet the therapeutic needs of the inmate and transition plan upon discharge from the inpatient care unit.

Proposed Text: Inpatient Care Unit is **available** for those who are in need of inpatient mental health treatment. **Where a facility has an inpatient care unit**, these units should have 24 hour services such as nursing and availability of a QMHP, behavioral health trained correctional officers, and clinical programming. Individual Treatment Plans which will define the types and frequency of contacts with mental health staff for inmates in the program, housing to meet the therapeutic needs of the inmate and transition plan upon discharge from the inpatient care unit.

Comments: The wording of the standard requires the facility to have an Inpatient Care Unit. There are ACI facilities that do not have the space or manning available to provide this service. The standard should be that these services are made available, however, if the facility has an Inpatient Care Unit then these standard need to be met.

Name: Steven Laird
Title: Technical Director
Email: steven.p.laird1@navy.mil

COMMENTS: No comments from field to report.

FOR ACA STAFF USE ONLY- ACA File No. 2021-005

The above proposed revision, addition, or deletion would also affect the following manuals:
None.

Action taken by the standards committee:

Approved Denied **Tabled** Referred to: Mental Health Committee

Manual: Adult Correctional Institutions (ACI)
Edition: 5th
Standard: 5-ACI-7F-01
Agency/Facility: Kentucky Department of Corrections
Facility Size: 621
Accredited: No
Proposal Type: Revision

Proposal: There is a qualified chaplain (or chaplains) with minimum qualifications of (1) one unit of clinical pastoral education or equivalent specialized training and (2) endorsement by the Denominational Endorsing Agent/officer. The chaplain assures equal status and protection for all religions.

Comments: There is a qualified chaplain (or chaplains) with minimum qualifications of (1) one unit of clinical pastoral education or equivalent specialized training and (2) endorsement **or ordination** by the Denominational Endorsing Agent/officer. The chaplain assures equal status and protection for all religions.

Name: Winston Taylor
Title: Chaplain
Email: winston.taylor@ky.gov

COMMENTS: No comments from field to report.

FOR ACA STAFF USE ONLY- ACA File No. 2021-006

The above proposed revision, addition, or deletion would also affect the following manuals:
4-ALDF-5C-19

Action taken by the standards committee:

Approved Denied **Tabled** Referred to: **_Chaplains Committee_**