

TITLE: PROTECTION FROM HARM/ABUSE	POLICY #: 65
Department: Program/Services	Effective Date: 06/25/01
	Applicable Standards:
	3-JCRF-3D-04, 05
Revisions: 7-30-03; 8-18-03; 10-30-03; 12-28-07; 7-3-08; 12-9-13	

Policy: The residents of McCrossan Boys Ranch will not be neglected, harmed or abused by staff, volunteers, or visitors. McCrossan Boys Ranch staff will report all instances of child abuse and/or neglect consistent with South Dakota Codified Law.

Definitions: N/A

Procedures:

1. The following forms of corrections are prohibited from practice:
 - A. Corporal punishment and methods that cause physical discomfort, including, but not limited to: rough handling, shoving ear or hair pulling, shaking, slapping, kicking, biting, pinching, hitting, throwing objects or spanking;
 - B. Verbal abuse, including, but not limited to: sarcasm, name calling, derogatory statements about the resident or resident's family, race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, political views or disability; or statements intended to shame, ridicule, threaten, humiliate or frighten the resident;
 - C. Punishment for lapses in toilet habits, including bed wetting and soiling;
 - D. Impingements on the basic rights of residents to care, protection, safety and security;
 - E. Withholding of basic needs, including, but not limited to: a nutritious diet, drinking water, clothing, hygiene facilities, normal sleeping conditions, proper lighting, educational services, exercise activities, ventilation and proper temperature, positive reinforcement, nurturing or medical care. However, a resident who destroys bedding or clothing, or uses these or other items to hurt the resident or others, may be deprived of such articles according to the resident's case plan;
 - F. Assigning work that is dangerous or not consistent with the resident's case plan;
 - G. Disciplining one resident for the unrelated behavior or action of another, except for the imposition of restrictions on the resident's peer group as part of a recognized treatment program;
 - H. Use of restrictive techniques or procedures including chemical, mechanical or peer restraint as punishment, for convenience of staff, to compensate for not having an adequate number of staff, or to substitute for program services;
 - I. Restrictions on a resident's communications beyond the restrictions specified in the resident's treatment plan or case plan. However, resident's phone calls and family visits off campus may be restricted based on the resident's behavior; and
 - J. Methods that cause physical discomfort such as requirements to assume uncomfortable or fixed positions for an extended length of time, or to march, stand or kneel as punishment.

1. Any staff at McCrossan Boys Ranch who observes instances or indicators of child abuse and/or neglect are required to follow the protocol for critical incidents. This also involves

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reports which residents may make to staff about incidents of abuse or neglect that may have occurred prior to their admission to McCrossan Boys Ranch. Residents are encouraged to report to Ranch staff incidents which they observe perpetrated by other residents or Ranch staff. For reports of alleged or known sexual abuse, staff, contract staff, and volunteers will follow the procedures in the policy regarding sexual misconduct.

2. External Reporting
 - A. Supervisory or administrative staff will report the incident to the State’s Attorney, law enforcement, or the State Department of Social Services to determine if an investigation needs to be conducted.
 - B. Staff will notify the placing agents of the resident immediately after ensuring that residents in care are safe unless specific requests are given not to call immediately.
 - C. If the incident occurs during waking hours, staff will notify parents/guardians as soon as possible. If the incident occurs during sleeping hours, staff will notify parents/guardians the next morning.

3. Incident Report

Staff will complete an incident report before the end of their shift.

4. Violation of Policy

Violation of this policy by staff will be grounds for disciplinary action.