



Arkansas Juvenile Assessment and Treatment Center

Presented by Rite of Passage, Inc. | August 2016



About Rite of Passage

1984: ROP
Established

1987: Academic
Model Program
Created

2000: First secure
program opened; work
with at-risk females
begins

2007: ROP
begins
operations in
Eastern US

ROP Today:



- 30+ years of experience
- Work with male and female youth
- National leader in residential programming
- Programs in 14 states; operations in 20 states
- 1,500 staff
- Collaboration with juvenile advocates and researchers (Annie E. Casey Foundation, UCCI, etc.)
- Serving 2,000 students and families daily
- Experience with Design Build Operate projects
- Socially responsible organization

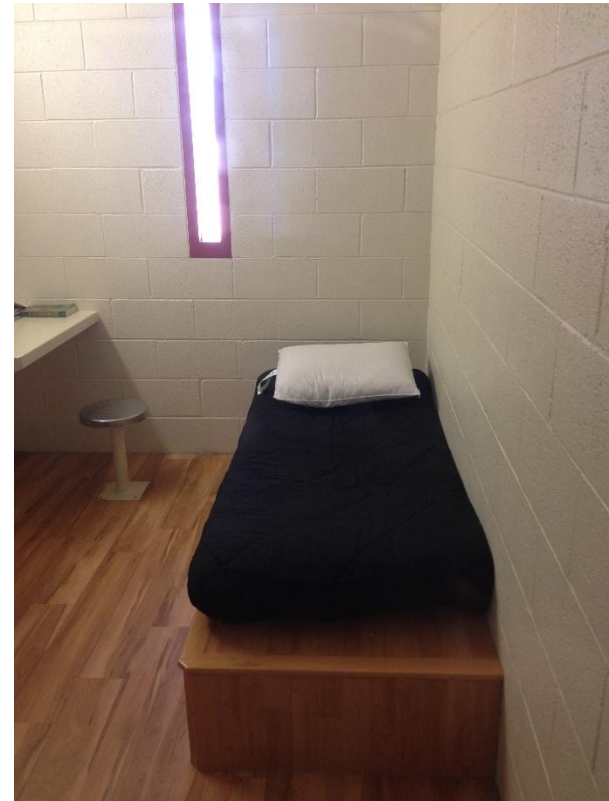
Core Tenets

Dedicated to Improving the Lives of Youth

- All kids are our kids; we operate our programs as if they were for our own children
- Our programs are structured, safe, compliant and hold youth accountable for their behavior
- Our program's normalized environment promotes opportunities, strengths and skills
- We are a company of child care workers; if you are not with kids, you are in the wrong place
- We are a continuous learning organization that adapts to what works, to help children the most
- We value our staff who are driven by our mission to improve lives



Implementing Changes



August 1, 2016

- Assumed operations with 100 students
- On-boarded 120 staff
- No down-time of programming or school



AJATC Upon Opening



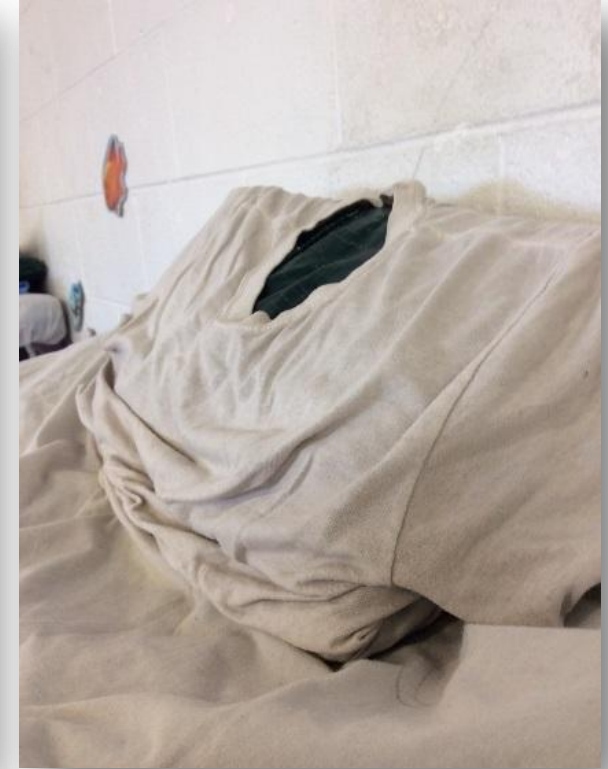
State officials toured facility and investigated door locks



Students wore orange correctional clothing



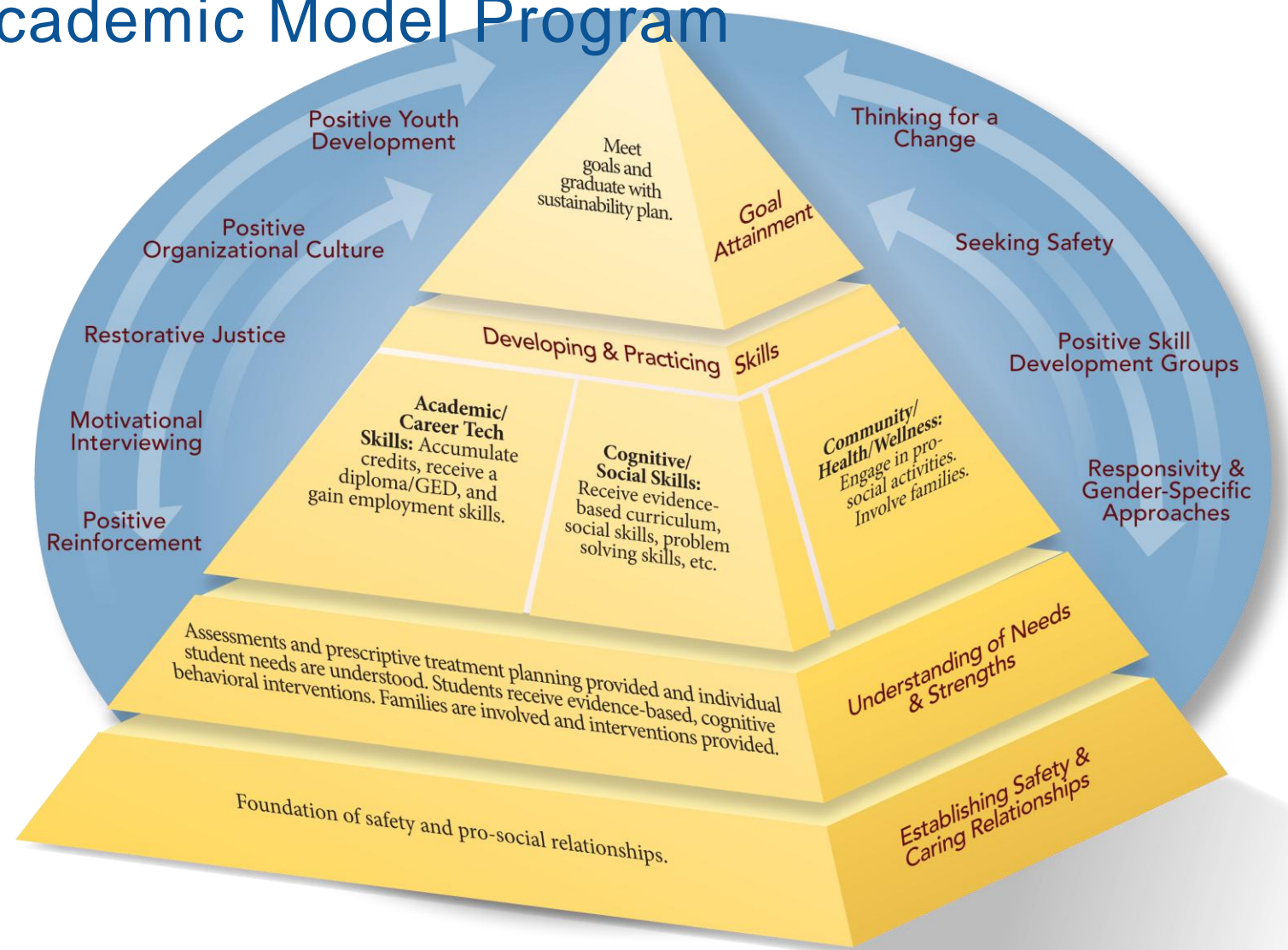
Meals were eaten in youth cells



Mattresses, linens and blankets inadequate

First 30 Days: Implementing a Secure Academic Model Program

Providing a School
House – Not a Jail
House



First 30 Days:

Creating a School Within a School

Young Delinquent	Male Secure Academy	Female Secure Academy	Sex Offenders
10-14 years; male	14 to 19	14 to 19	14 to 19; male
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct disorder, oppositional defiant or disruptive behavior• Mild behavioral health issues• Substance abuse• ADD/ADHD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct disorder, oppositional defiant or disruptive behavior• Chronic, aggravated, violent offenses• Mild behavioral health issues• Substance abuse• ADD/ADHD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct disorder, oppositional defiant or disruptive behavior• Chronic, aggravated, violent offenses• Mild behavioral health issues• Substance abuse• ADD/ADHD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Level 3 and 4 sex offenders• Conduct disorder, oppositional defiant or disruptive behavior• Chronic, aggravated, violent offenses• Mild behavioral health issues• Substance abuse• ADD/ADHD

First 30 Days: Other Accomplishments

- Cleaned physical plant
- Issued new uniforms for students and staff
- Upgraded food service for students - staff eating with students
- Ordered new mattresses/linens
- Conducted security analysis - identified vulnerable areas in fence and door look issues



First 30 Days: Other Accomplishments

- Implemented 2 additional periods in school; increased rigor
- Vocational training re-launched
- Students participating in soccer and exercise
- Embedded on-site ROP leadership and management staff
- Provided staff training and established interactive supervision
- Preparing Chapel for Sunday service



Next Steps at AJATC

Strengths-based, cognitive-behavioral and trauma-responsive environment guided by evidence-based and positive youth development principles.

- Evidence-based treatment groups
- Family Involvement and services
- Gender-specific services for females
- Implementation of evidence-based sex offender curriculum (University of Cincinnati)
- Updates/renovation to physical plant including locks, fence repair, painting, carpet (received quote)
- 3 CTE programs; 4 in Year 2
- Recreation, athletics, clubs and daily exercise
- Well-trained staff providing interactive supervision
- Issue additional student clothing (“alpha” and “bravo”)



Best Value in Juvenile Care:

Investing in Positive Outcomes and Solutions

Maintaining lower costs while improving services:

- ROP pays a higher wage for staff and has more FTE
- Direct student care costs are higher (e.g, food and clothing)
- Administrative overhead is low (10%)
- Investment in improving the physical plant
- Additional programmatic, educational and vocational offers



Questions & Discussion

