

WARE YOUTH CENTER

3565 HWY. 71
COUSHATTA, LOUISIANA 71019

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March 5, 2019

Department of Children and Family Services
Division of Programs
Licensing Section
P.O. Box 260036
Baton Rouge, LA 70826

Re: Corrective Action Plan

To Whom It May Concern:

Ware Youth Center Detention, License Number 15596, is submitting the following Corrective Action Plan regarding the noted deficiencies:

7511G.5: Staffing Requirements – The facility will retrain all staff on the proper procedures for logbook entries specifically relating to documentation of room checks. The facility will also retrain staff on proper visual checks as required by policy and procedure. The facility has also purchased a new system called the Guardian RFID. The Guardian RFID System uses Hard Tags that will be mounted to the outside of each room (beside the window). Staff will use a handheld Android device to scan each hard tag. This scan collects data in real time and uses Cloud based reporting that can be accessed from any computer or smart device. The system will alert staff when a room check is due or when a room check is missed. The system will also send an email alert to a Manager if a room check has been missed. It also generates reports that can be filtered by date, time, staff, shift, location, juvenile name, and activity monitored while making the room check. This system was purchased in an effort to help ensure staff are conducting room checks consistently and in a timely manner.

7513.E.1: Mental Health Assessment – The facility has hired a full time Masters Level Case Manager for Detention and will no longer be relying on Case Managers from other programs to conduct Intake Assessments on Detention youth.

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7517.B.3: Clothing and Bedding – The facility is aware of this requirement however, both suicides involved youth tying sheets around their necks. In an effort to keep all youth safe and to prevent a copycat incident, all sheets and pillowcases were removed and all youth were placed on suicide watch with staff making five minute room checks.

7519.D.5: Sleeping Area – Natural Lighting – The facility is not currently using either Holding Cell for housing youth, however both holding cells do have natural lighting that comes from the outside windows in the Intake Office that is located directly across from the Holding Cells and also the Sally Port area. Please see attached photos.

7519.D.6: Sleeping Area – Protrusions/Tie-Off Points – These rooms have been in use since 1993. The facility is in the process of making adjustments to the space in the window. DCFS will be contacted for review and approval once the modification has been made.

7519.D.7: Sleeping Area – Doors – These Holding Cells have been in use since the facility opened in 1993. The facility is not currently using either Holding Cell for housing youth however, when the Department of Children and Family Services Licensing Division began licensing Detention facilities again, we believe that existing room and layout would be permitted to be used (grandfathered in) as long as they were maintained and in working order.

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Yours very truly,



Joey L. Cox
Executive Director

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Enclosure