



***Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center
Kearney, Nebraska
2006 - 2007 Annual Report***

Helping Youth Live Better Lives



Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center
2802 30th Avenue, Kearney NE 68845
Phone (308) 865-5313 Fax (308) 865-5323
AA/EOE/ADA
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PICTURES FROM THE COVER PAGE:

2. APPLE PRESS

3. HEAD START

4. MORTON LIVING UNIT

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FACT SHEET

Administrative Team

Tim O'Dea, Administrator
Vacant, Assistant Administrator
Deb Eirich, Business Manager
Lyle Drieling, Psychologist
Ron Cox, Psychologist Associate
Tom Smith, Youth Counselor Supervisor
Tony Kleidosty, Principal
Dan Theobald, Training Coordinator
Steve Reeves, Facility Maintenance Manager
Mary Wright, Food Service Director
Richard Wetjen, Recreation Manager
Marvin Valdois, Religious Coordinator
Kim Frink, R.N.
Rosalie McCurry, Administrative Assistant

YRTC-K Advisory Board

Donna Bamford - Business Owner, Neighbor
Don Kearney – Banker
Sue Placke - Business Owner
Ann Tvrdik - Business Owner, Neighbor
Lori Moore – Teacher
Greg Williams - Business Owner

Mailing Address

Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center
2802 30th Ave
Kearney NE 68845

Phone Number

(308) 865-5313

Fax Number

(308) 865-5323

Web Site

<http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/jus/yrtc/yrtcindex.htm>

Annual Budget

\$8,958,247

Number of Staff

148

Average Length of Stay

210 days

Average Daily Population

192- this includes youth at Hastings Juvenile Chemical
Dependency Program and Hastings Sex Offender
Program
153- on-campus youth only

Per Diem Costs

\$176.38

Mission and Affirmations



MISSION STATEMENT

We help people live better lives through effective Health and Human Services.

OFFICE OF JUVENILE SERVICES MISSION STATEMENT

The Nebraska Office of Juvenile Services' mission is to provide individualized supervision, care, accountability and treatment, in a manner consistent with public safety, to those youth committed or referred for evaluation. Furthermore, OJS promotes prevention efforts through the support of programs and services designed to meet the needs of youth identified as being at risk of violating the law or endangering themselves or others. To accomplish this, OJS will offer programs through a balanced delivery system which provides youth the opportunity to become law-abiding and productive citizens.

YOUTH REHABILITATION AND TREATMENT CENTER- KEARNEY MISSION STATEMENT

THE YOUTH REHABILITATION AND TREATMENT CENTER KEARNEY'S MISSION IS TO HELP YOUTH LIVE BETTER LIVES THROUGH EFFECTIVE SERVICES AFFORDING YOUTH THE OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME LAW-ABIDING AND PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS.

AFFIRMATIONS RELATED TO YOUTH

- ⌘ Youth can help others and himself.
- ⌘ Every youth needs to feel valued and cared about.
- ⌘ Youth are capable of change.
- ⌘ Youth are looking for structure. Lack of structure leads to anxiety.
- ⌘ Youth need accountability.
- ⌘ All youth can learn.
- ⌘ Each youth has a constitutional and moral right to be treated fairly.
- ⌘ Youth leaving YRTC-K will show positive value changes.

2006/2007 ANNUAL GOALS

1. To operate the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center-Kearney in a safe and secure manner that maintains an adequate quality of life for youth as indicated by Performance Based Standards data reports, HHS leadership visits, and other external & internal customers.
2. To provide for and maintain youth rights as determined by the United States and Nebraska Constitutions and Federal and State Laws as indicated by tort claims, lawsuits, or substantiated youth grievances.
3. To operate the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center-Kearney in an efficient and cost effective manner within the state budget allocation as indicated by monthly and annual budget reports.

Introduction and Administrator's Message

The Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center-Kearney (YRTC-K) was established by the Nebraska State Legislature in 1879 and began receiving young people, both male and female, in July 1881. In 1892, the then Nebraska State Reform School for Juvenile Offenders, became a male-only youth facility with the establishment of the female youth facility in Geneva, Nebraska. The original 320-acre Kearney campus was developed on land donated to the State of Nebraska by the City of Kearney. The State of Nebraska returned nearly 200 acres to the City of Kearney for the development of a city-operated golf course in 1991. On January 1, 1994, the institutional name was changed for the fifth time to the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center by the Nebraska Unicameral. YRTC-K also was placed legislatively under the Office of Juvenile Services within the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services. On January 1, 1997, the Unicameral merged the Office of Juvenile Services with four other State agencies to form the Health and Human Services System. DHHS is the parent agency under which YRTC-K is one of ten 24 hour care facilities including three Regional Centers, four Veterans' Homes, one Development Center, and the two YRTC's. YRTC-K is within the Office of Protection and Safety which was under the Department of Health and Human Services in 2006/2007.

YRTC-K youth treatment programming is provided in psychological / social services, problem solving, education, pre-vocational exposure and training, social skills, drug & alcohol assessment / education / treatment, trauma therapy, recreation and religion. Youth under the age of 18 at the time of adjudication are committed for an indeterminate stay and must be released on or before their 19th birthday.

YRTC-K programming promotes the restorative justice concept by actively involving youth in numerous community service projects. The youth experience of positively contributing to the community through service work hopefully becomes a viable facet of their adult life. Documentation of youth service is contained throughout the following YRTC-K Annual Program Report.

The YRTC-K received 401 youth this year with 326 youth being first time commitments. The daily campus youth count was 153 youth who had an average length of YRTC-K program stay of 210 days. YRTC-K paroled/discharged 393 youth during the fiscal year.

The YRTC-K continued to endorse the Family/Person Centered Practice throughout the youth program. Increased consultation points with the youth's family begins on initial youth call to parent upon YRTC-K arrival, personal calls from Youth Counselors to parents to consult on youth strengths and needs, regular calls about questions, program progress and for discussion of youth's monthly progress report and installation of and use of video conferencing for family team meetings and family visits with youth. All youth counseling and mental health treatment staff received continuous training in Family/Person Centered Practices and basic values, beliefs and principles.

The YRTC-K campus continued to be involved in major infrastructural renovation of the campus electrical and water distribution systems. The State Building Division provided leadership and oversight of these two projects. Upon completion in 2007/2008 fiscal year, these projects will result in a better control and flow system of the campus water supply with all new underground piping and new water hydrants. The renovated electrical infrastructure will have a loop electrical flow with new transformers above ground and also six natural gas fired generators for emergency situations. YRTC-K has never had a campus emergency system. These infrastructures/additions are growing the campus environment to better serve the needs of youth and the staff who lead them.

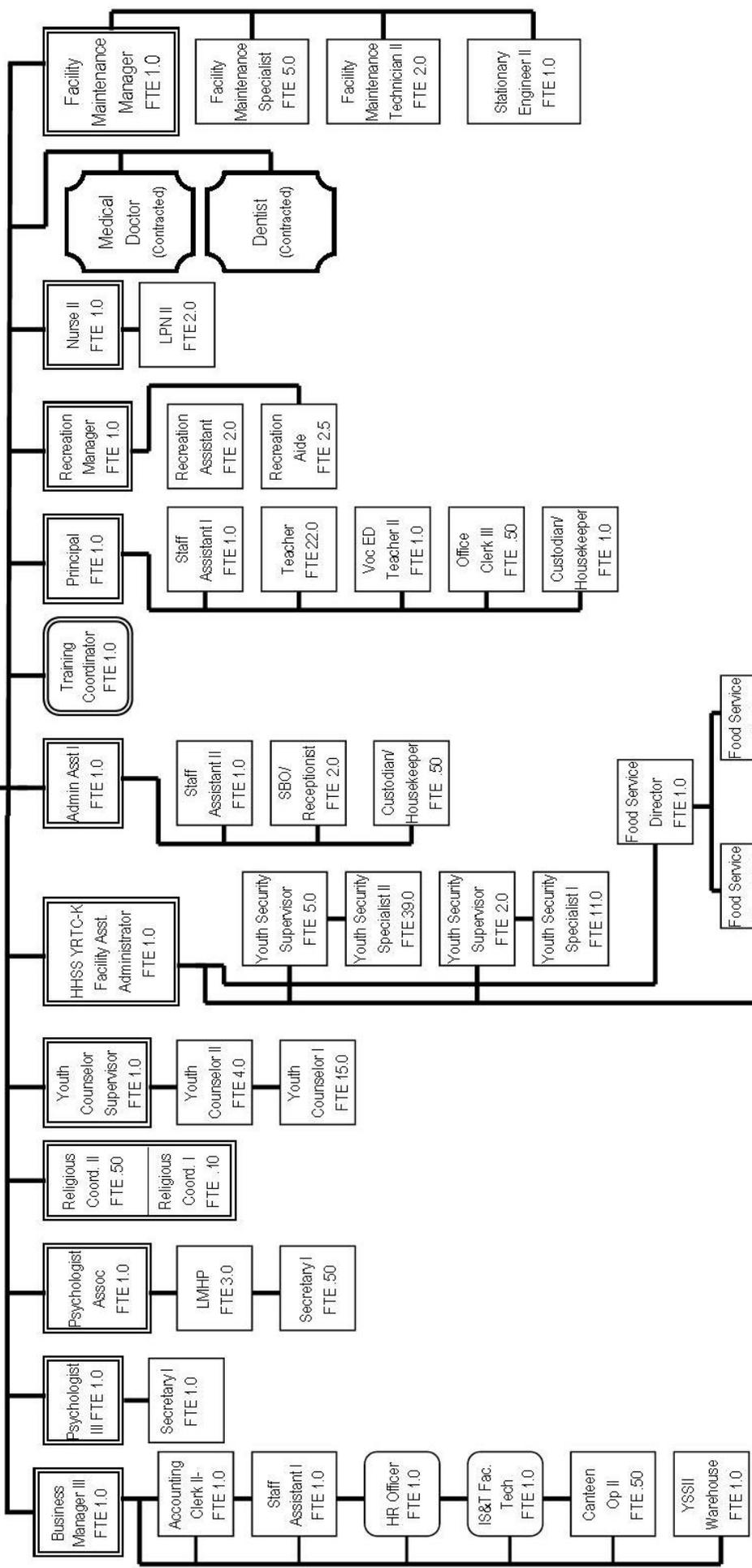
Emergency fire drills were conducted monthly and occurred at various time periods including a third shift fire drill. The annual statewide tornado emergency drill was conducted in the spring. All staff and youth receive annual tornado emergency procedures and training. All fire detection and warning systems are regularly tested and maintained by a private contractor. YRTC-K has no fire suppression/sprinkler system, but SBD is in the planning phase to be installed.

Two additional safety/security hardware systems were installed at the YRTC-K campus this year. Magnetic keypad door controls were installed on all youth living unit entrances/exits and some auxiliary areas. Twenty three stationary video cameras were installed in all youth living unit day rooms, youth meeting rooms and other auxiliary areas. Both of these systems are in phase one of a three phase project. The control system for this hardware is located in Dodge building communication center.

Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center-Kearney

2802 30th Ave.
Kearney, NE 68845

HHSS YRTC-K Administrator
FTE 1.0



YRTC-K Employees FTE 146.6

YRTC-K Contractual Services

HHSS Finance & Support FTE 6.0

Professional Affiliations and Licenses

West Kearney High School, YRTC-Kearney, is accredited by the Nebraska Department of Education as a Special Purpose School and has been for 33 years.

West Kearney High School, YRTC-Kearney, is accredited by the North Central Association of Schools & Colleges as an Optional School and has been accredited for 16 years.

YRTC-K is inspected and approved for occupancy by the Nebraska State Fire Marshall.

YRTC-K's boilers are inspected and licensed by the Nebraska Department of Labor.

YRTC-K's cafeteria facilities are inspected and approved by the DHHS Regulation & Licensure.

YRTC-K's swimming pool facility is inspected/approved to operate by DHHS Regulation & Licensure.

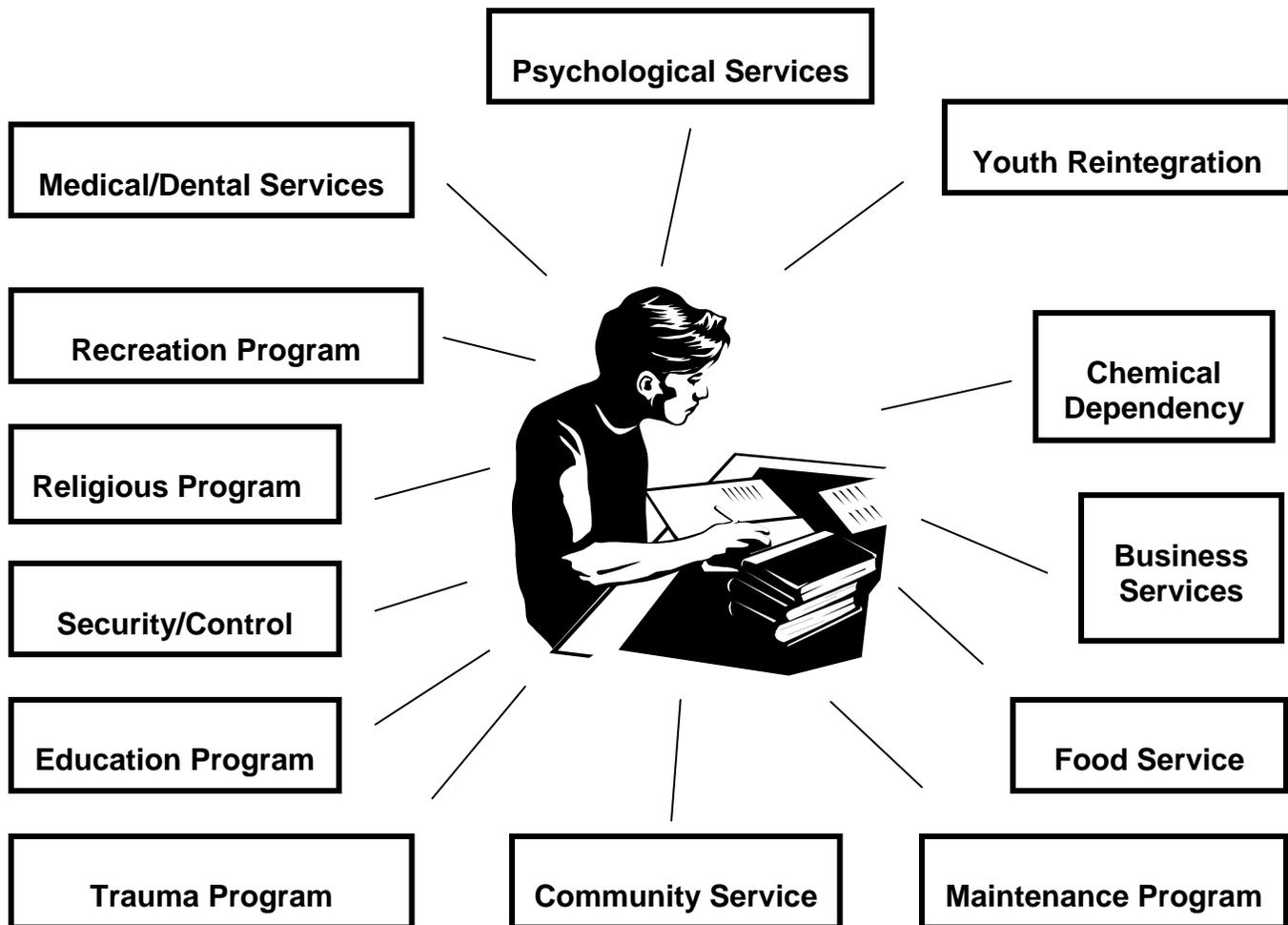
YRTC-K is accredited as a Juvenile Correctional Facility by the American Correctional Association (ACA) Commission on Accreditation (CAC).

YRTC-K is a member of:

- ◆ **American Correctional Association (ACA)**
- ◆ **Performance Based Standards Project for Juvenile Facilities sponsored by OJJDP and Council for Juvenile Correctional Administrators**
- ◆ **Western States Training Schools Association**
- ◆ **Correctional Education Association (CEA)**
- ◆ **National Association of Juvenile Correctional Agencies (NAJCA)**
- ◆ **Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce (KACC)**

Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center-Kearney

Youth Treatment Program Services



SECURITY AND CONTROL

The Mission of the YRTC-K Security and Control Department is to maintain custody of each youth while providing a safe and secure environment that enables the youth to make personal and positive behavior and attitude changes while achieving good communication, cooperation and collaboration among security staff supplying excellent customer service with confidence.

STAFF

The YRTC-K Security and Control Department includes fifty-seven employees. Seven Youth Security Supervisors (YSS or OD's). Thirty-eight Youth Security Specialist II's (YSS II's or Living Unit Staff). Twelve Youth Security Specialist I's (YSS I's or Nightwatch). Five of the YSS or OD's supervise the first (6:00am – 2:00pm) and second shift (2:00pm – 10:00pm) on an alternating basis. Two YSS or OD's supervise the third shift (10:00pm – 6:00am). The thirty-eight YSS II's work alternating first and second shifts determined by work schedules of each of the six living units. The twelve YSS I's work the third shift in the six youth living units. The YRTC-K Administrator, Assistant Administrator and Youth Counselor Supervisor carry a cell phone and are available for all emergency situations. All security staff are assigned Motorola HT radios each shift for communication and safety. All security staff are trained in Non-Violent Crisis Intervention techniques and procedures.

CUSTODY

The YRTC-K experienced 23 youth escapes during the 2006/07 fiscal year. Nineteen (19) were from the YRTC-K campus and four (4) were from an off-campus activity or while on family visits. Eight (8) of the escapes were completed by four (4) youth who all received adult sentences via Buffalo County. All escapees returning to the YRTC-K received a disciplinary stay in the YRTC-K Security Unit and a 90 day release deferment. The custody of youth is always top priority for all YRTC-K staff.

COUNT CHANGES

During the fiscal year 2006/07, the YRTC-K experienced 1,476 master count changes. Master count changes include: youth admissions/dismissals, furloughs, home visits, court appearances, medical leaves and placements in other programs. The YRTC-K averaged 4 youth count changes per day which indicated the high volume of youth intakes and dismissals needed to maintain a daily youth campus census of 150 youth.

DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS

The YRTC-K Disciplinary Committee is comprised of the Assistant Administrator, Youth Counselor Supervisor and Psychologist Associate. This committee held 501 youth disciplinary hearings during the 2006/07 fiscal year. The hearings were held to decide sanctions for youth who committed major rule violations. Each hearing was preceded by an investigation of the reported violation. Each youth is afforded the right to appeal the decision of the Disciplinary Committee to the YRTC-K Administrator. Sanctions include: confinement to security unit for specific number of days, restitution, program release deferment, verbal warnings and program change.

The YRTC-K experienced 218 staff physical interventions during 2006/07 fiscal year. A physical intervention report is made for any event in which staff would have to place hands on youth for safety and security reasons. The majority of interventions are short time periods. All staff are trained in Non-Violent Crisis Intervention and a staff physical intervention is the last stage of the protocol.

SAFETY, SECURITY AND SANITATION

Safety, Security and Sanitation inspections were conducted daily. Department heads completed weekly inspections of their assigned buildings. YSS, YSS II and YSS I's did their daily inspections of their work areas each shift. Maintenance personnel were assigned specific building upkeep and available for emergency needs. All deficiencies discovered during inspections were recorded and procedures to correct them pursued. The YRTC-K Safety, Security and Sanitation committee consists of the Assistant Administrator, Facility Maintenance Manager and YRTC-K Nurse Supervisor. This committee inspected the YRTC-K buildings on a monthly basis and reported their findings directly to the YRTC-K Administrator with follow up occurring.

The physical condition of the YRTC-K is considered high priority and good housekeeping procedures are stressed. These procedures enable YRTC-K to supply a positive living and working environment. The youth are responsible for housekeeping duties and grounds duties for which they earn a \$15.00 a month allowance.



**YSS II Adams participating in the
Kearney Community Olympics**

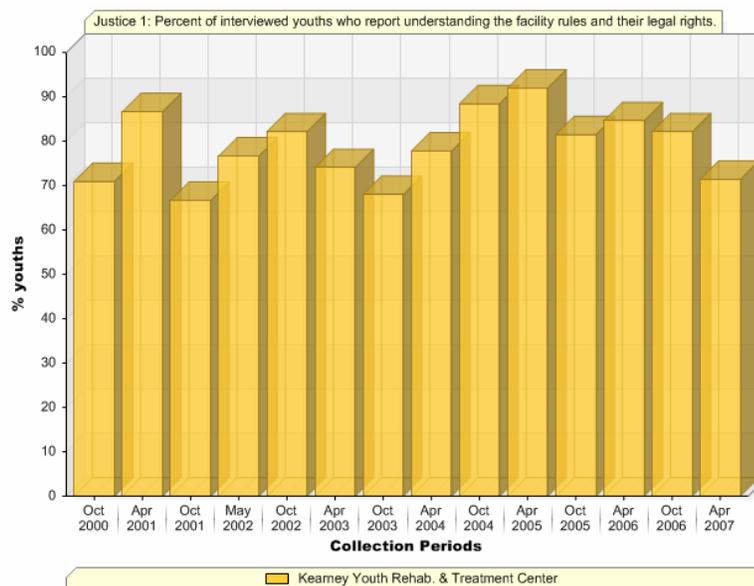
PERFORMANCE BASED STANDARDS

Performance-based Standards (PbS) for Youth Correction and Detention Facilities is a self-improvement and accountability system used in 28 states to better the quality of life for youth in custody. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) of the US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, called for the development of performance standards in 1995 to improve conditions of confinement at juvenile facilities. Developed and directed by the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJCA), PbS sets national standards for the safety, education, health/mental health services, security, justice and order within facilities and gives agencies the tools to collect data, analyze the results to design improvements, implement change then measure effectiveness with subsequent data collections. The PBS system of continuous learning and improvement provides:

- A set of goals and standards that individual facilities and agencies should strive to meet.
- Tools to help facilities achieve these standards through regular self-assessment and self-improvement.
- Reports that allow facilities to evaluate performance over time and in comparison to similar facilities.
- Promotion and sharing of effective practices and support among facilities.

The benefits to YRTC-Kearney have been the ability to measure and track key indicators of our facility performance, comparison with similar participating facilities across the country, and defining measurable goals and developing strategies to achieve them. In comparing YRTC-Kearney in 56 outcomes within Safety, Order, Security, Health, Programming and Justice areas, we meet or exceed the national average in 40 outcomes or 71%.

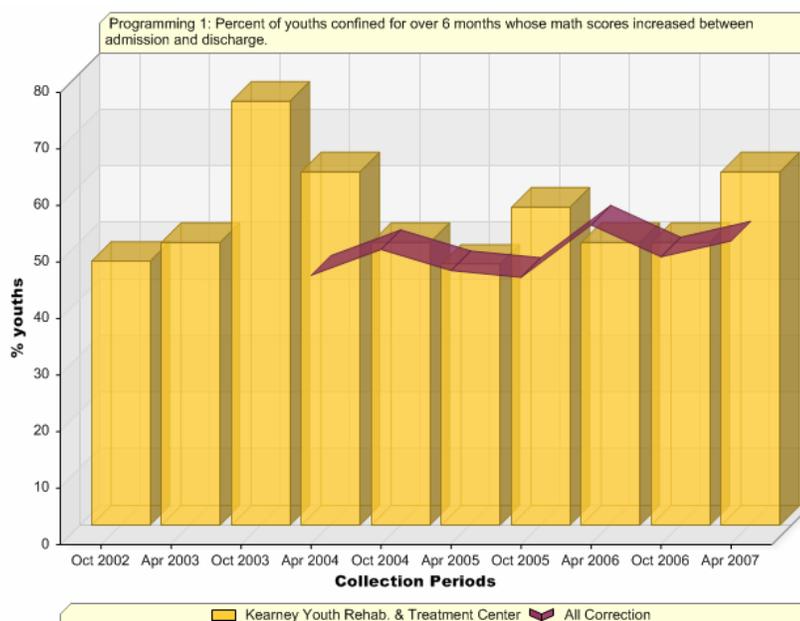
Our facility this fiscal year has two Forward Improvement Plans (FIP) open. The first was to increase the percent of interviewed youth who report understanding the facility rules and their legal rights.



We began the improvement plan on 07/18/2006 with a revision to the Youth Orientation Manual to emphasize the facilities rules and the youth legal rights. Orientation staff was advised to focus discussion and leadership on youth's legal rights. We have developed a Orientation Manual in Spanish and posted signs in all living units to advise youth of their legal rights. We continue to strive to reach our goal of 85%.

“The basis for PbS focus on youth rights and responsibilities and their understanding of both rights and responsibilities relates to measures of behavior and the legal implications the center has to protect youth in their custody. It is important not only to provide youth with a comprehensive review of rules, regulations, processes and a clear understanding of expectations but to both document and measure their understanding via a test or another record. Providing assistance when there is evidence that a youth does not comprehend is also a requirement. I commend your effort and suggest the ACA Standards can also offer guidance on content. The more comprehensive the better.” John Platt, PbS Consultant, 2/24/07

The second FIP we began on 01/18/2007. It involves the percent of youth confined for over 6 months whose math scores increased between admission and discharge. We felt that we needed to develop a better system to evaluate both math and reading levels for youth entering our facility and implement a system that would ensure the youth were being evaluated at predefined intervals. We purchased computer based testing programs and conducted training sessions with all teachers and will be implementing the testing system facility wide in August of 2007.



TREATMENT AND CLASSIFICATION

TREATMENT PROGRAM

The Mission of the YRTC-K group treatment program is to empower each youth to make a value change through a structured process of giving and receiving help where he learns to care for others.

The following indicates the 4,080 group meetings held last fiscal year. (See Chart A) It also reflects 404 youth assigned to treatment groups by YC II's. (See Chart A). YC I's interviewed and completed 68 Parole Violators and Recommitment reports. (See Chart A).

There were 231 youth released during the last fiscal year. These figures reflect youth released via YRTC-K treatment program procedures. (See Chart B).

CHART A

Fiscal Year 06/07	Number of Group Meetings	Youth Assigned to Groups	PV & REC Reports
July 06	386	34	7
Aug 06	361	23	5
Sep 06	347	27	6
Oct 06	346	30	7
Nov 06	352	30	1
Dec 06	256	31	6
Jan 07	347	29	6
Feb 07	331	32	4
Mar 07	342	55	7
Apr 07	316	31	4
May 07	357	50	9
Jun 07	339	32	6
TOTAL	4,080	404	68

CHART B

FISCAL YEAR 06/07	# of Youth Administratively Released due to Overpopulation	# of Youth Released Through Guidelines
July 06	9	8
Aug 06	6	10
Sep 06	2	12
Oct 06	7	9
Nov 06	6	11
Dec 06	5	11
Jan 07	6	11
Feb 07	11	4
Mar 07	17	13
Apr 07	25	5
May 07	10	6
Jun 07	21	6
TOTALS	125**	106

**Does not include OJS Classification "3" releases or HJCD

YCI & II's CONTACTS

YCI & II's made 4,466 contacts with parents by telephone, mail and face to face. They made 5,385 contacts with JSO's and ICCU workers. There were 35 contacts with the Foster Care Review Board and 24 contacts with Guardians Ad Litem. YCI & II's conducted 14,774 individual counseling sessions.

GRIEVANCES

YCII Jorgensen investigated eleven grievances. Eight were withdrawn, one was resolved and two were substantiated.

OTHER

Eleven trips were made to the Grand Island Veterans' Home to help with various work projects.

L3 and YCI Tassemeyer completed several sessions of orienteering.

W3 helped with the Mid Nebraska Food Program.

W3 helped set up for the Relay for Life fund raiser.

L3 and staff helped with the Thanksgiving community meal at the Knights of Columbus.

Did yard work at the Kearney Professional Women's Club.

HOLIDAY FURLOUGH

Sixty five (65) youth had a holiday furlough. Fifty eight (58) youth had successful furloughs. Four failed to return, three tested positive for drugs. Eighty one (81) youth remained on campus for the holidays. All youth received gifts from home or from staff and Santa. Many activities were planned by YRTC-K staff, which help youth get through the holiday season.



**YC I Carr dressed up to
Trick or Treat the youth.**

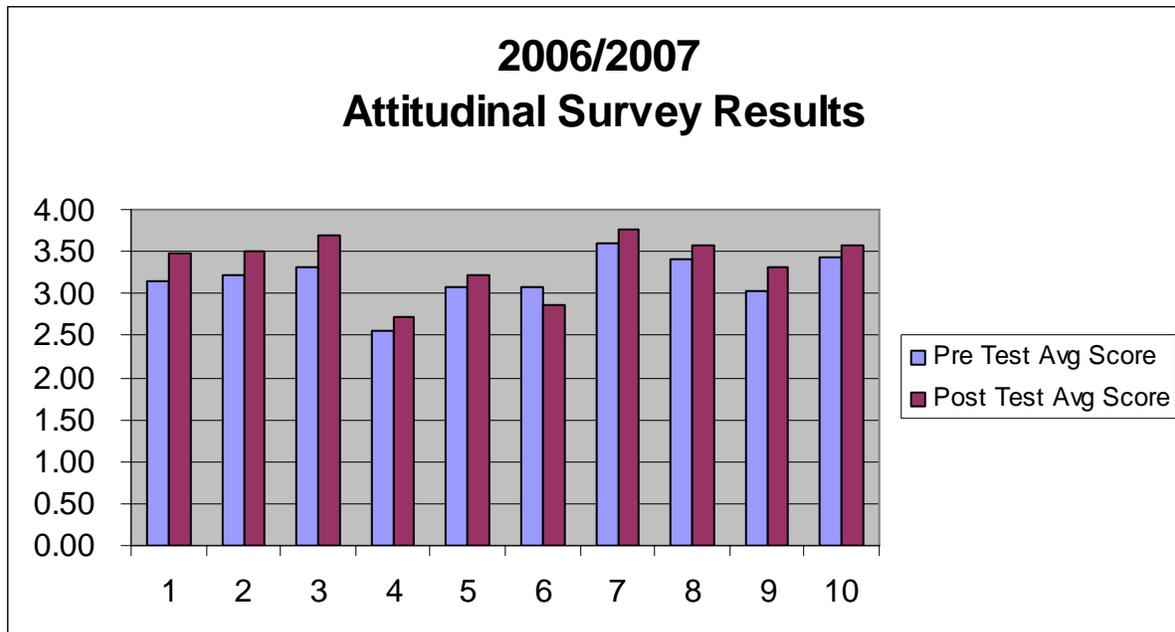
**Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center
Kearney, Nebraska
2006/2007 Attitudinal Survey Results**

QUESTION	IDEAL ANSWER	PRE-TEST AVERAGE SCORE	POST-TEST AVERAGE SCORE	ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT
1. I have important things to say to others.	Strongly Agree = 4	3.14	3.48	0.34
2. I can tell people how I feel.	Strongly Agree = 4	3.21	3.50	0.29
3. I have control over what problems I show.	Strongly Agree = 4	3.31	3.70	0.39
4. I sometimes wonder if my friends are really my friends.	Strongly Agree = 4	2.56	2.72	0.16
5. I feel things would go better in my life if people would stop picking on me.	Strongly Disagree = 4	3.07	3.23	0.16
6. I feel safe when I'm locked up.	Strongly Disagree = 4	3.07	2.87	-0.20
7. I feel I can be honest with my family.	Strongly Agree = 4	3.60	3.76	0.16
8. If I want something, all I need to do is take it.	Strongly Disagree = 4	3.40	3.58	0.18
9. What I do has little effect on others.	Strongly Disagree = 4	3.04	3.31	0.27
10. When I get home things will be the same for me as they always were.	Strongly Disagree = 4	3.44	3.57	0.13

Total Average Scores and Net Average Attitude Adjustment **31.84** **33.72** **1.9**

149 youth completed the pre and post tests

Average time between pre and post tests = 209 days



TREATMENT AND CLASSIFICATION ORIENTATION AND CLASSIFICATION

The Mission of the YRTC-K Orientation and Classification program is to facilitate each new youth's successful entry into the YRTC-K Youth Treatment Program and provide accurate, valid, and timely information to properly classify each youth to enable them to live better lives.

Psychologist Associate Cox completed 326 classification studies on new YRTC commitments during the 06-07 fiscal year.

The Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory continues to be used as the risk/needs assessment tool. Consultation with Juvenile Services Officers and Supervisors as to scoring and ongoing use of the YLS continues.

Access to OJS evaluations, predisposition investigations, placement histories and other information has improved. Most JSOs have provided the information either before or the day the new commitment arrives. Having an OJS evaluation conducted during the year of the youth's commitment remains a problem especially in Douglas County.

Transferring youth to the Hastings Juvenile Chemical Dependency program remains a key factor in managing the YRTC campus population.

Orientation staff continue to teach the No Physical Contact Policy to new commitments.

TREATMENT AND CLASSIFICATION PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

The Mission of the YRTC-K Psychological Services program is to communicate information pertaining to each youth's cognitive and emotional functioning which has implications for his treatment and placement planning enabling each youth to become a law-abiding and productive citizen.

The YRTC-K Psychological Services program completed individual clinical interviews/evaluations and file reviews with written Psychological Update reports for 296 youth prior to classification during the 2006/2007 service year. This included extended reports with DSM-IV supplements for 99 youth being considered for transfer to the Hastings Juvenile Chemical Dependency Program.

The YRTC-K Psychological Services program provided comprehensive reports including clinical interviews, mental status updates and formal/informal assessments with DSM diagnostic supplements for 11 youth being considered for placement in follow-up residential treatment or other parole services. Magellan applications were completed for 6 youth and reviews/conferences related to youth eligibility were accomplished as necessary.

YRTC-K Psychologist Drieling conducted interviews/evaluations, observations, status reviews and reports for 20 youth referred due to threats/gestures of self-endangerment or other crisis issues.

The YRTC-K Psychological Services program provided pertinent records, current Psychological Updates and consultation for 63 youth and completed follow-up mental health evaluations with reports for 4 youth at the request of YRTC-K Health or Treatment Services.

YRTC-K Psychological Services completed individual psychological testing using the Wechsler series for 46 youth with results summarized via charts &/or reports. This includes cognitive appraisal of youth without testing in the past three years and youth with inadequate or inconsistent assessment results in support of the WKHS educational and YRTC-K treatment programs. Supplemental assessments were also accomplished as necessary using other instruments and methods.

The YRTC-K Psychological Services program completed a total of 331 clinical evaluations with reports and 46 cognitive evaluations during the 2006/2007 service year.

EAP referral information was provided upon request and EAP information was periodically disseminated to staff. There were 2 formal requests for EAP referral information and other informal inquiries. Dr. Drieling compiled and disseminated information regarding smoking cessation resources via BestCare, EAP and other organizations in preparation for a smoke-free campus

YRTC-K Psychological Services provided ongoing formal/informal clinical and technical consultation regarding youth treatment and educational programming to YRTC-K staff and administration throughout the year.

Dr. Drieling participated in professional development activities addressing YRTC-K program needs. Dr. Drieling completed continuing education requirements for 1/07 HHS Psychology licensure renewal including 9.6 CEU hours related to the 8/4/06 NABHO conference, 5.5 CEU hours related to a 11/3/06 workshop regarding Evidence Based Practice and 3 CEU hours online regarding mental health issues in confined settings, Juvenile Self-concept and Disabilities Services.

TREATMENT AND CLASSIFICATION

CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY PROGRAM

The Mission of the YRTC-K Chemical Dependency Program is to provide each youth with effective assessment, education, and treatment for substance abuse services to assist youth to live better lives.

ASSESSMENTS

A total of 401 youth were committed to YRTC-K with the Chemical Dependency Program staff completing 252 youth assessments for substance abuse issues during 2006/2007. The remaining 149 youth were assessed at other facilities. The level of risk determined by staff for the youth committed to YRTC-K is as follows:

Level of Risk	Youth Number
High	353 (88%)
Medium	41 (8%)
Low	7 (4%)

The C/D staff also had a 36.8% response rate for the family survey sent in regard to the youth's use of chemicals.

GROUPS AND CLASSES

The Chemical Dependency (C/D) Program staff completed 428 group therapy sessions in 2006/2007. This allowed 51 youth to receive chemical dependency assistance, which would be on the stabilization level of care. These sessions assisted youth in preparing for continued community treatment either at inpatient or outpatient levels. All of the youth that completed the Chemical Dependency groups were referred to receive follow-up services upon their YRTC-K release.

The C/D education component provided 404 classes with an average of 9 youth per class. The pre/post test data showed a 16.7% average increase in positive knowledge gained within these classes.

FOLLOW-UP TREATMENT

There were 192 youth referred for follow-up care by CD staff to outpatient treatment throughout the state. These services included long-term and short-term treatment, residential treatment, halfway homes, intensive outpatient care, community support groups, drug/alcohol U/A screening instruments, and Treatment Group Homes.

HASTINGS JUVENILE CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY PROGRAM (HJCD)

The purpose of the HJCD program is to provide YRTC-K youth with a long-term residential level of care. The youth must meet the following guidelines to qualify to transfer to HJCD. This included: (1) Must be committed to YRTC-K (2) Must have a diagnosis of dependency as a primary diagnosis (3) Must be above the age of 13 (4) Must have attempted previous treatment interventions.

The number of YRTC-K youth actually transferred to HJCD was:

Fiscal Year	Youth Transfers
1999/2000	41
2000/2001	68
2001/2002	59
2002/2003	73
2003/2004	115
2004/2005	124
2005/2006	126
2006/2007	94

SUMMARY

Our statistics continue to reflect the seriousness of drug and alcohol use among youth committed to YRTC-K. Chemical Dependency Staff continually look for updated materials for the educational component. Staff also provide training to YRTC-K staff to keep them informed. Chemical Dependency Staff continue to receive the necessary training required by the YRTC-K, as well as attending workshops and seminars in order to achieve CEU's necessary to maintain their LMHP and LADC certificates.

TREATMENT AND CLASSIFICATION TRAUMA

The Mission of the YRTC-K Trauma Program is to provide therapy services which will assist youth with developing a set of personal beliefs, thoughts and actions that will enhance their ability to effectively manage their trauma experience, to reduce their risk for re-offending and/or for being re-victimized and to ultimately improve the quality of their lives.

YRTC-K TRAUMA PROGRAM STAFF:

The Trauma Program is staffed by a Licensed Mental Health Practitioner.

YRTC-K TRAUMA PROGRAM REFERRALS FOR 2006/07:

Trauma Program Referrals originate from various sources within the facility. Fifty-eight percent (**58%**) of all referrals originated from the Associate Psychologist and were generated within the first week or two of the youth's arrival. Twenty-five percent (**25%**) of referrals were generated by the facility Administrator & Youth Counselors, **2%** from Psychiatrist, Dr. Susan Howard, and the remaining **15%** were automatically screened out by Trauma Staff and re-interviewed, due to their previous involvement in the YRTC-K Trauma Program. A referral is initiated for any youth,

at any point in time during their stay, whenever a potential need for Trauma Therapy Services is suspected or revealed.

Referral Statistics

Victims	20
Perpetrators	4
Victim/Perpetrators	6
PTSD, Active & Disruptive	25
Trauma Program Criteria not met (also Includes Youth to HJCD & Discharged)	<u>36</u>
Total	91

PROGRAMMING:

Trauma Program Services are individualized to meet the specific needs of each identified youth. An in-depth interview with the youth, as well as a thorough review of the youth’s history through research of available file information, provides a guideline for determining what services will best serve this youth.

Additional information, as it becomes available, is also utilized for the purpose of this ongoing assessment of needs. Goals and interventions are individualized for each youth and integrated into the youth’s Individual Treatment Plan (ITP).

The following Treatment Program options are available to meet the needs of identified youth:

Individual Therapy

This consists of one hour weekly counseling sessions for those individuals who need to address issues related to unresolved physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, trauma, sexual perpetration and poor boundaries, unresolved grief, and unstable mental health conditions.

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Individual Therapy

This consists of one hour weekly sessions for youth who are experiencing symptoms of PTSD secondary to childhood experiences of significant and debilitating abuse, causing considerable impairment and interference with their ability to adapt successfully to their social environment and responsibilities.

Sexual Offender Risk Assessments

A comprehensive assessment is completed to determine a youth’s current level of risk for sexual re-offending. This determination is most often a vital and key component relevant to issues of placement for a youth who has a history of sexually offending upon others.

Trauma Psycho-Educational Therapy

There is a variety of educational resource material that is utilized with youth in both group and individual therapy, for the purpose of enhancing the learning process by accommodating all of the various learning styles that these youth engage in. Learning materials in the form of videos, books/ booklets, pamphlets, handouts, and packets are available. Experiential learning processes occur with expressive drawing, role-playing, and family sculpturing.

The following Treatment Program Options that are available for Youth include:

The Boys & Girls Juvenile Sex Offender Treatment Program at HRC in Hastings (B&G HJSOP)

This is a 10-15 bed long-term sex offender treatment program for youth who are identified as high-risk sex offenders. These youth are first committed to YRTC-K and then screened and identified for this program. A sexual risk assessment is then completed by the HJSOP Therapist and the youth is transferred to the program once they have completed the Classification Process. The program first opened and began accepting youth on April 10, 2006, with 7 youth having been transferred into this program.

***NOTE: PROGRAM CLOSURE EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 30, 2006.**

Due to non-renewal of grant funds and the absence of a Magellan Service Provider Contract, this program was closed on 11/30/06. The 6 youth in the program at the time of closure were all transferred to other existing treatment facilities that would provide for their ongoing needs.

Mental Health Consultations per Psychiatrist Dr. Susan Howard:

This service has been provided since February 27th, 2006. Youth who are identified with mental health conditions that require assessment for treatment, intervention, and/or stabilization are referred to Dr. Howard, who will complete an individual medical psychiatric consultation/evaluation for each identified youth. These consultations take place on the YRTC-K Campus during an all-day clinic that occurs on the second Wednesday and fourth Tuesday of every month. Youth that are seen are provided with ongoing care through regular follow-up visits/checks by Dr. Howard to monitor their response to treatment and to assess for further treatment needs. Youth will continue to be seen at regular intervals until either their needs have been sufficiently met or they have earned release and are paroled or discharged. Written recommendations and instructions for follow-up care are provided and reviewed with each youth prior to their departure. A total of 49 youth received these services during the 2006-2007 fiscal year.

Youth Program Involvement Statistics for 2006 - 2007:

Individual Therapy	60
Mental Health Status Evaluations	4
Sex Offender High-Risk Assessments	7 (Youth who had participated in the HJSOP Program)
Magellan Applications for SO Treatment	4
New Abuse Reports called to Abuse Hotline	8
Psychiatric Consults done per Dr. S. Howard	<u>49</u>
Total	132

Trauma Program Treatment Hours Completed:

➤ Total Individual Therapy Hours:	844.00
➤ Average Individual Therapy Hours per Youth:	17.57

Adolescent Sexual Information Scale Pre and Post Test Tool:

This is a therapeutic tool utilized with youth sex offenders that receive Trauma Program Services. A pretest score is obtained on each youth to determine level and severity of sexual thinking errors. This information is also utilized in determining specific educational needs for each youth, related to sexual boundaries and behaviors. A post test score is then obtained from each youth as they near completion of the program. This score is obtained by administering the same test that was utilized for pretest purposes. A comparison of the pre and posttest score is then conducted to determine whether or not (and to what degree) the youth's sexual thinking

errors were decreased. A decrease in score, means improvement with the youth's thinking (healthier sexual attitudes and beliefs). This information is also an important consideration factor when determining the youth's aftercare needs and recommendations. The following scores were obtained:

Pre and Post Test Score Averages:	<u>Pretest Scores</u>	<u>Post test Scores</u>	<u>Overall Decrease</u>
➤ Perpetrator	44.50	30.50	14.00
➤ Victim/Perpetrator	43.00	30.66	12.34

Trauma Program Recidivism:

- Fourteen (14) youth that had previously participated in the Trauma Program were recommitted to YRTC-K. Four (4) of these youth had been previously identified as a perpetrator/victim, four (4) youth had been victims, and six (6) youth had worked on PTSD issues. **None** of these recommitted youth had received any new legal charges or parole violations that related to a sexual offense.

CONCLUSION:

Significant numbers of youth continue to be positively served through YRTC-K's Trauma Program Services. The Trauma Program continues to provide a vital service for youth that have been negatively affected by traumatic events that they have experienced. These events have impacted their lives in ways that have encouraged maladaptive methods of coping, thinking, and acting. Values, beliefs, and attitudes become distorted and propel youth down a life path filled with pain and destruction. Trauma Program Services, in conjunction with YRTC-K's Youth Treatment Program, serves to provide each youth with the ability to alter this path and to lead themselves toward a new destination that will provide them with new opportunities to experience personal and social success.

COMMENTS FROM YRTC-K YOUTH:

- **"I did not want to face my feelings about being sexually abused because of my shame and intense anger, until I was helped to realize that it was not my fault."**
- **"I had been able to avoid my past until I learned how to talk about it and resolve it through Trauma Therapy. Now my perspective is guided by much better attitudes and beliefs."**
- **"I didn't care about anyone but myself and justified my offending without any problem since I had learned to shut off my feelings and my conscience. Trauma helped me to understand that dealing with my feelings, learning to like and to accept myself, and having empathy for others were all my rights and responsibilities. It helped me to stop fearing/avoiding my feelings and my conscience."**

EDUCATION

The Mission of YRTC-K's West Kearney High School is to provide each youth an environment to promote improved self-concept and awareness of himself and his surroundings, allowing him to develop academic and social skills strengthened through communication, cooperation, collaboration, customer service, and confidence that help youth have a better life.

The 2006-2007 West Kearney High School (WKHS) academic year was productive for students and staff. WKHS continued as an accredited Special Purpose School through the Nebraska State Board of Education and an accredited Optional School through the North Central Association of Schools and Colleges. WKHS is also an institutional member of the Correctional Education Association. The school's staff, 23 teachers and school principal, all hold professional certificates from the Nebraska Department of Education. This school year the staff authored over 393 Individualized Educational Plans (IEP) and Education Plans. Our average daily student membership was 153 students.

GED/GRADUATES

Thirty-five (35) students earned their General Equivalency Diplomas (GED) through a cooperative effort with Central Community College (CCC).

There were ten (10) GED graduations and one (1) high school graduation. Parents of the graduates were invited and 104 were in attendance. YRTC-K staff were also present.



Ms. Emrick and Ms. Thompson serving cake at GED graduation.

BASIC EDUCATION

WKHS Basic Education teachers administered 339 Woodcock-Johnson achievement pre-tests to students. The Basic Ed teachers use the Woodcock-Johnson Psycho-Educational Battery-Revised. One hundred seven (107) post Woodcock-Johnson tests were administered by the WKHS staff. These post-tests were added to our on-going longitudinal student database. The 1,913 student scores in the study indicate an 8.5 grade equivalency in reading and a 9.1 grade equivalency in math. The students in this post study average length of stay is 8.5 months. The students were enrolled more than four months and had not earned a high school degree or GED during their commitment.

TITLE I

The WKHS Title I Neglected/Delinquent (N/D) project continued as a strong program component and served 252 students. These students demonstrated an average gain of 1.1 years in reading and 1.3 years in math. The students also earned an average of 5.9 high school credits toward their high school diplomas. More importantly, the student's self concept and attitude toward school showed an improvement of 14.27 (SCAL) and 13.89 points (ATTS). Ms. Lyon, Title I teacher, and Mr. Kleidosty, Principal, continued to serve on the NDE Title N/D State Practitioners Committee.

The West Kearney High School Title I Parent Advisory meeting was held May 4, 2006. Twenty-two parents of 11 students attended the meeting. Six (6) telephone conferences were held. The students were able to visit with their parents on the day of the conference. Parent/teacher conferences were held in the afternoon.

Overall, the Basic Education component continues as the core of the academic program. The Basic Ed program/staff received excellent support from: Title I, Art, Math lab, Reading lab, Speech Path lab, Media Center, Family/Life Skills, Career Education, Health and Industrial Technology. The academic IEP is a component of each student's Individual Treatment Plan (ITP). The Basic Ed teachers serve as the lead staff on all student academic planning. Basic Ed teachers conducted five MDT/IEP conferences with parents this past year.

SPEECH LANGUAGE PROGRAM

The Speech and Language program was not offered to the students this past school year due to not being able to locate and hire a full-time speech pathologist.

SCHOOL PROJECTS/SERVICES

WKHS students and staff developed and participated in many fine projects throughout the year.

Mr. Witte's class participated in a monthly collecting/recycling of paper throughout the YRTC-K campus.

There were 392 individual student vocational interviews and 375 Ansel Caseys were completed by the students during their interviews. These were given by the Career Education teacher, Mrs. Smith. Sixty students were administered the ASVAB test. The results were shared with the students at a later date.

Art projects included Norris Chee, Navajo painter, as Artist in Residency. Students painted with Norris Chee and used the technology to scan and photograph their art work to make prints. Other projects the students completed were attending MONA tours and the storytelling workshops. Student art is regularly displayed in the school hall.

A variety of guest speakers presented information to the students on the opportunities available to them for their future goals. Among the speakers was Caryl McHaney from New Mexico and his topic was the mingling of art, education and a career. Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Thompson, and Mrs. Sullivan took youth on field trips to observe first hand some of the employment that would be obtainable, i.e.: Central Community College, Southeast Community College in Milford, Vocational Rehabilitation, Graphic Art Careers, Glass Blowing at UNK and NTV.

Mr. Schmidt's students restored 27 bicycles for the Kearney Jubilee Center.

Youth groups, under the direction of Mrs. Divan and Mrs. Lyon, were involved in card making. Cards were made for Christmas, Valentine's Day and Mother's Day. Some of the cards were sent to local care homes and others were for personal use.



Youth making Valentine's Day cards

D1 students made decorations and displayed a Christmas tree at Trails and Rails Museum led by Mr. Myers, Mrs. Jorgensen and Mrs. Bokenkamp.

Sixteen youth groups attended workshops and work projects at Rowe Sanctuary.

On seven occasions, youth groups spent time at care homes and the Senior Center participating in recreation activities, work projects and holiday activities. These were led by Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Jorgensen, Mrs. Lyon, Mrs. Bokenkamp, and Ms. Jameson. One youth group spent the day at the Stuhr Museum for a Living History Day. Various food items, for lunch, were cooked on a wood-burning cook stove. Water for cleaning was hand-pumped. One student remarked, **“I had a fun day, but I’m tired.”**



Youth at Stuhr Museum

Fifty-five students were exposed to theater by attending four plays this past year. This was coordinated by Mrs. Thompson and Ms. Jameson.

These are just a few projects/activities led by WKHS students/staff in addition to their regular duties.

One UNL teacher intern had this to say about her experiences at WKHS. **“It is very rewarding as a teacher to be able to observe a student making behavioral changes as he prepares to leave.”**

AWARDS

On October 10th, three teachers were recognized during the Employees Service Awards ceremony in Grand Island. Mrs. Sullivan was recognized for 25 years of service. Mrs. Bokenkamp and Mr. Gress were recognized for 20 years of service.

STAFF TRAINING

WKHS staff participated in on/off campus staff development training totaling over 1,000 hours. In addition to HHSS/OJS mandatory training (First Aid, CPR, CPI, HIPPA, AIDS) some of the conferences/topics were: Nebraska Education Tech Conference; Nebraska Education Media Association; Nebraska Library Commission training; technology education; language impaired youth; special education updates and student strengths; GED math and writing, Foundations for Literacy, Reading Comprehension, HIV workshop, Career Cruising, No Child Left Behind and State-Wide Assessments.

When asked what they like best at WKHS, a teacher stated, **“It is very beneficial to the student when the teacher can give their full attention to an individual compared to a whole class”.**

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

The Nebraska Department of Education school accreditation process continued this year. WKHS' single target goal is, “All students will demonstrate improvement in social skills”. These basic interpersonal social competencies allow students to initiate and maintain positive relationships with others. Mastering basic social skills give WKHS students a better chance of

success in society (family, school, work and the community) and result in an improved self-concept.

Social skill topics enable the most basic of social behavioral expectations (respectful verbal and non-verbal communication as opposed to cussing, yelling, poor hygiene or offensive use of body space, etc.); simple conversational skills (greeting or introducing people, conducting a conversation, listening skill, etc.); application of skills to relationships (family, friends, on the job, etc.); and application to problem solving (including decision making, anger control and conflict resolution). WKHS administered over 2841 Social Skills pre/post tests to students since program inception.

The average gains are as follows:

- Basic Social Behavior Expectations
+1.28
- Simple Conversations Skills
+ 1.49
- Application of Skills to Relationships
+1.69
- Application of Skills to Problem Solving
+1.55

The goal of the Steering Committee is to have students show a gain of .75 or better with this calculation indicating a far greater improvement in the area of social skills for WKHS students.

Our current step in the school improvement process is the continuous training of staff in the areas of modeling through verbal and non-verbal communication. Also included in this phase, is the implementation of these skills into the Individual Treatment Plans of the youth.

State-of-the-art wireless technology equipment valued around \$65,000 came to West Kearney High School through a competitive grant from the Beaumont Foundation of America. Staff members responsible for the success of the project included: Mrs. Sullivan, Mrs. Divan, Ms. Jarecki, Mr. O’Dea, Mrs. Eirich, Mrs. Murrish and Ms. Eads.

In meeting the goals and objectives, students and staff have used the equipment to document student education and service projects at WKHS and in the community. Projects were implemented in Career Ed, Family Life, Title I and Art classes.

RETIREMENTS

June 1st Mr. Burton retired as school custodian after 8 years of service. June 8th Mrs. Sullivan retired after 26 years of service. June 8th Mr. Myers retired after 13 years of service. August 10th Mr. Schmidt retired after 35 years of service.

When asked what they would remember about their experience at YRTC, they replied: *“Mr. Burton would remember the staff and how they took care of him and helped him when it was needed.”*



Staff enjoying the teachers’ retirement party

Mr. Schmidt would remember the young man that became a very successful employee for the railroad in Texas. This young man attempted over 30 escapes. He told Mr. Schmidt that he had been treated with respect while working in the service station and because of that he didn't want to run away ever again.

Mrs. Sullivan would remember a student telling her that she was a "true believer". In order for her to be successful at YRTC, she would have to be a true believer in the youth she would be working with. As she looked around she noticed the staff at YRTC all being "true believers".

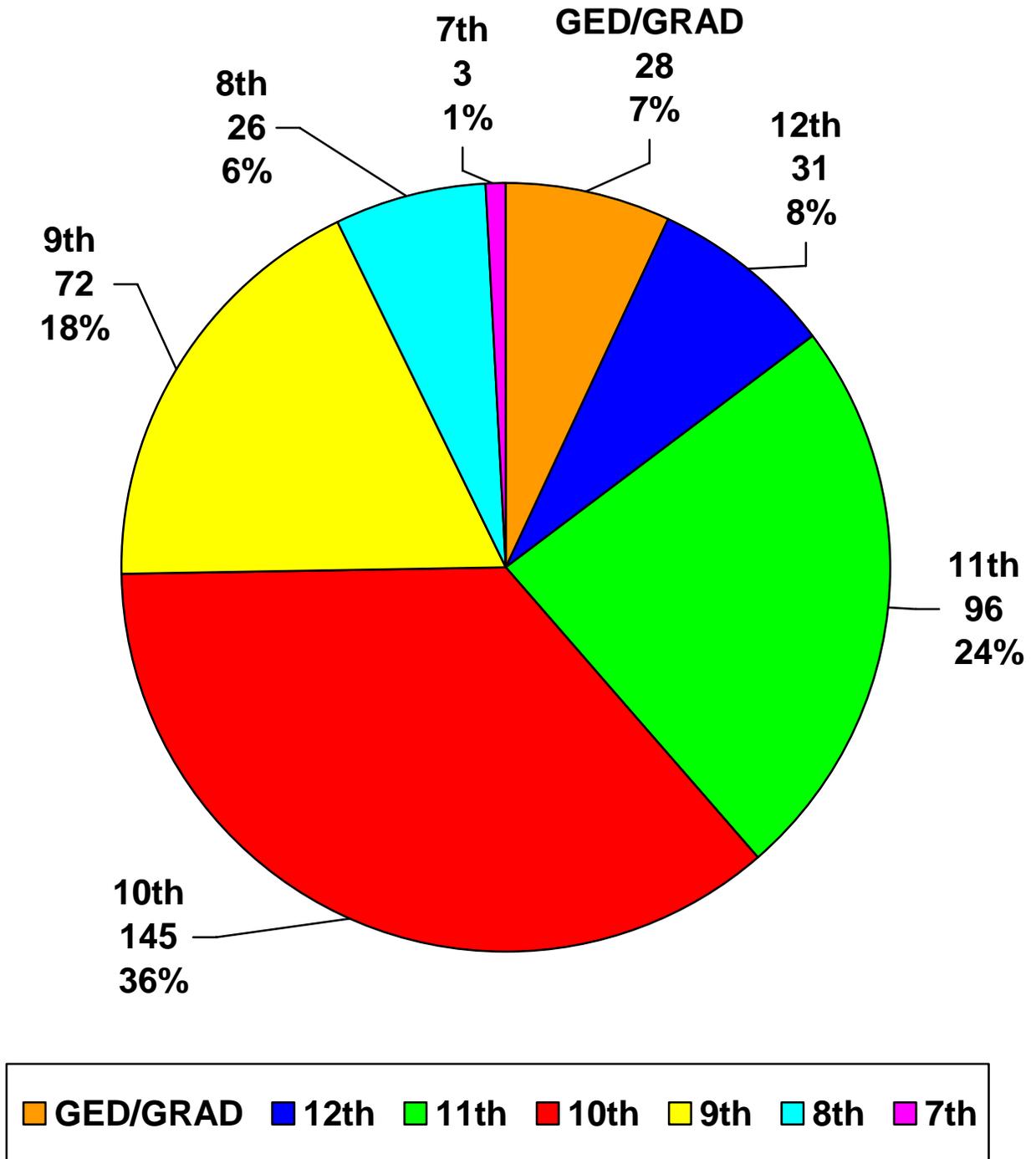
Mr. Myers recalled a young man coming to YRTC having accomplished very little in his life. With the help of his group and staff the young man increased his academic skills and improved his self confidence. The end result was the youth earning his GED, making release and not returning.

SUMMARY

Overall, WKHS has continued to meet the students' needs and to provide a unique and productive educational environment.

We feel we have enabled our students to either return to their home school districts, enter post-secondary education, or join the labor force as confident readers, mathematicians, problem solvers; but more importantly, as productive and confident citizens. We have seen our students continue to enter WKHS-YRTC with a myriad of academic and emotional problems. We continue to see our rate of educational handicapped students maintain at the 35-37% level. The staff continues to promote dedication, courage, and positive attitudes that enable over 70% of the students to "make it" in their personal lives. The staff worked well together to provide a good, quality education.

2006/07 Commitments by Grade Level 401 Total Commitments



RECREATION

The Mission of the YRTC-K Recreation Department is to help youth live better lives through mental and physical growth through a wide range of physical activities and educational programs.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ◆ The Maintenance staff helped re-crown the softball infield for proper drainage and aesthetic purposes.
- ◆ A new Orienteering/GeoCaching program began with a 3 way partnership between YRTC-K, UNK, and the Boy Scouts. UNK provided an intern to guide the introduction of the program to Lincoln group 3 with the Boy Scout's Eric Karre utilized as a resource of orienteering and GPS systems.

INTRAMURAL SEASONS

2006 YRTC-K SOFTBALL Champions – Bryant 3 (Back to Back 2005-06 Champs)

- ◆ 27th Annual All-Star Softball game
- ◆ 96 games played

2006 FOOTBALL Champions – Washington 1

- ◆ 68 games played
- ◆ Returned to original football field north of Bryant/Creighton.

2006 VOLLEYBALL Champions – Morton 3

- ◆ 140 matches played

2007 BASKETBALL Champions – Washington 1

- ◆ 29th Annual All-Star game
- ◆ 118 games played
- ◆ 1st season played on new floor.

2007 SOCCER Champions – Morton 1

- ◆ 50 games played.
- ◆ To minimize field use- Soccer only sport played on North field.

2007 BEACH VOLLEYBALL Champions – Creighton 1

- ◆ 71 matches played

OPEN RECREATION PARTICIPATION

Open Recreation Participation

- ◆ 2006-07 total – 2,516 groups
- ◆ Monthly group average – 210 groups.

- ◆ Daily group average – 6.89

Release Youth Participation

- ◆ 2006-07 total – 433 youth
- ◆ Monthly average – 36
- ◆ Daily average – 1

Total Program participation including P.E. classes

- ◆ 2006-07 total – 47,850 youth
- ◆ Monthly average – 3,987 youth
- ◆ Daily average – 131 youth

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

President's Challenge fitness test

- ◆ 9 Presidential winners
- ◆ 28 National winners

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Throughout the 2006/07 fiscal year 1,380 YRTC-K youth provided 44 local organizations with 4,140 labor hours of service. If the current minimum wage is used, the youth volunteered \$24,219 to community organizations.

- ◆ The YRTC's partnership with the Rowe Sanctuary continued for a fourth consecutive year in helping upgrade their facilities. Two YRTC-K groups helped with projects on 14 days throughout the sanctuary.
- ◆ YRTC-K groups fulfilled their obligation by walking the YRTC road "Adopt-A-Road" on four separate occasions. Other area roads were walked 4 times by YRTC-K youth groups.
- ◆ The local Salvation Army again provided gifts for parents of YRTC-K youth at Christmas time. Volunteers helped youth choose and wrap gifts to be sent home. This is the 32nd year for this activity.
- ◆ YRTC again provided staff to ring the bell for the Salvation Army kettles at K-Mart. This was the 36th year for this effort.



3rd annual YRTC-K track meet

COMMUNITY SERVICE/COLLABORATION/ACTIVITIES

The primary goal of the YRTC-K youth community service/activities program is to enable youth to return volunteer service as a part of the restorative justice concept. All YRTC-K youth are led by staff in service projects throughout the year. The second goal of the YRTC-K service program is to collaborate with the Kearney community whenever possible to strengthen long standing partnership, i.e., UNK, KVFD, City of Kearney. Thirdly, our staff has a long running commitment of service to the Kearney community, which continues to expand. The following are examples of youth and staff service:

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT KEARNEY

The relationship between UNK and YRTC-K was again productive for both institutions. The UNK Student Activities Staff actively pursued YRTC-K youth to include them in UNK campus activities. YRTC youth assist in each event's preparation when possible, but many times are invited to enjoy themselves as spectators.

Following are more examples of the partnership's benefits.

- ◆ 10 YRTC youth groups attended UNK wrestling meets and football, basketball, & volleyball games as well as concerts held at the Health and Fitness Center. Groups cleaned up following twenty two of the events.
- ◆ For the eleventh year YRTC groups have been involved in the set up and tear down of the UNK Blue-Gold Day at the beginning of the fall semester. Three YRTC groups participated in this celebration by working and then taking part in the food and activities offered.
- ◆ Eleven YRTC groups provided 33 hours of work helping with wrestling camps sponsored by the UNK Wrestling Team.
- ◆ One YRTC group helped with the Power Drive electric auto competition sponsored by UNK at Kearney's Raceway Park.

GRAND ISLAND VETERAN'S HOME

- ◆ The YRTC-K - Grand Island Veterans' Home partnership in 2006-07 on five days provided labor in light maintenance and grounds work.
- ◆ One YRTC group put out flags at the Vet's Home Cemetery.



Morton group volunteering at the Grand Island Veterans' Home

BOY SCOUTS AND CAMP AUGUSTINE

The YRTC-K has been providing work for the Boy Scouts at Camp Augustine as the partnership is in its fifth year. This year a joint effort between three organizations, (YRTC, UNK, and the Boy Scouts) resulted in a new Orienteering/GeoCaching program at YRTC-K. A YRTC-K group also helped set up tents for the year at the camp.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

New Partnerships for 2006-07

- ◆ Although not a new partnership but a new project for an old partnership, YRTC-K helped the Kearney Volunteer Fire Department prepare the Nebraska Volunteer Fire Fighters Museum for use. This was in addition to helping with their annual pancake feed as well as cleaning and repairing their training ground.
- ◆ The YRTC-K renewed an old partnership with the local historical Frank House Museum. Three groups provided help with projects inside and out including landscaping.
- ◆ One YRTC-K group helped the local Women's Club rake leaves at their residential headquarters.
- ◆ One YRTC-K group helped clean a local theater and in return was able to view a newly released movie with refreshments.
- ◆ Two YRTC-K groups helped out at the Archway Monument for the first time doing cleaning and landscaping in return for Educational tours.

Continuing Partnerships

- ◆ For the second year the (RYDE) transportation service provided transportation for the entire campus to the KHS track for the annual track meet. We have valued this partnership over the past couple of years and foresee more possibilities.
- ◆ 12 YRTC groups visited and helped at area care centers and assisted living settings as well as the Area Agency on Aging.
- ◆ 3 YRTC-K groups helped bake cookies and unwrap Christmas gifts with the residents at Mosiac Mission in Axtell, NE.
- ◆ 3 YRTC-K groups set up for concerts held at MONA in downtown Kearney. This is the 2nd year for Creighton Living Unit to complete this project.
- ◆ 2 YRTC-K groups helped set up and tear down for the Prince of Peace Catholic Church's Fall Festival.
- ◆ 1 YRTC-K group helped wrap gifts at the local Wal-Mart Store 8 days over the holidays. The store provided many baskets of holiday food for our youth to consume.



Youth visiting an area care home.

- ◆ 1 YRTC-K group cleaned the approach road and area around the Kearney City Landfill.
- ◆ 2 YRTC-K groups helped move furniture at the Kearney YMCA and were rewarded in return by being invited to utilize the YMCA's facility.
- ◆ Two groups helped set up for a health fair for the United Way and Blood Drive for the Red Cross. Both events were held at the Kearney YMCA.
- ◆ 2 groups helped with the Jubilee Center's annual can drive on two occasions.
- ◆ 10 truckloads of clothing bales were loaded by 10 YRTC groups for the Salvation Army.
- ◆ 1 YRTC group spent 8 hours helping the Trails and Rails Museum decorate for the Christmas holiday. One other group helped with landscaping.
- ◆ Lincoln group 3 helped with the Kearney Community Thanksgiving dinner at the Knights of Columbus. This was the ninth year for Lincoln Living Unit to donate their assistance.
- ◆ 14 YRTC groups helped clean up the fairgrounds after such events as the Cattleman's Classic, Kiwanis pancake feed, Gateway Farm Expo and the HeadStart Craft Fair.
- ◆ 4 YRTC-K groups helped with the Elks Hoop Shoot held in December. This was the 12th year YRTC helped with this event. One youth group helped with the Elks Soccer Shootout held in September. This was the fourth year for helping with this event.
- ◆ One YRTC group helped clean up the exhibition building at the Buffalo County Fairgrounds following the Kearney Goodfellows Holiday gift wrapping extravaganza on December 25th. This is the 11th year of YRTC's involvement.
- ◆ The YRTC-K provided help for a local hunting dog association by helping with their field trial competitions on two separate days. This was the second year for YRTC-K groups to help with this event.
- ◆ Morton Living Unit continued to provide help with caring for the animals at the Kearney Humane Society which included everything from walking pets to cleaning kennels.
- ◆ One YRTC-K group set up for the Pheasants Forever banquet held at the Buffalo County Fairgrounds. This is the second year for YRTC-K to help with this banquet.



Youth loading a sling shot for the local hunting dog association.

ENTERTAINMENT AND RECREATION IN THE COMMUNITY

- ◆ 17 YRTC groups attended activities at the Museum of Nebraska Art (MONA).
- ◆ 1 YRTC group went on an over night camping trip to Ft. Kearny State Recreation Area.
- ◆ 136 barbecues and/or meals prepared by living units were held on the YRTC campus.
- ◆ 77 groups went on one-day outings such as fishing, bird watching, etc.

- ◆ 9 YRTC groups attended concerts at KHS sponsored by the Kearney Community Concert Association.
- ◆ 17 YRTC-K groups went on nature walks in the Kearney area.
- ◆ For the eighth year, a local businessperson donated YRTC youth admission to the Rotary Travel and Adventure series held at Kearney High School. Four groups were able to take advantage of this generosity.

VOLUNTEERISM

- ◆ Daylight Donuts donated 364 trays of donuts during the year.
- ◆ The Gideons provided Bibles for YRTC youth on two occasions.

YOUTH/STAFF QUOTES

"It was nice to be able to have Football close to the Living Units again."

"I enjoy playing basketball at noon with the rest of the staff."

"The new gym floor makes a big difference in how fast I can run, and it looks good too."

"I did better in my President's Fitness Test than I ever have before."

MEDICAL

The Mission of the YRTC-K Medical department is to provide effective, comprehensive professional health care services for every youth by qualified medical personnel to help youth live better lives.

Medical personnel met HHS Licensure requirements and are governed by written job descriptions approved by the contracted physician and HHS Medical Director.

The medical personnel includes one full-time RN and two full-time LPNs. Daily sick calls are held so youth can report any problems. Comprehensive health care services are provided from admission through discharge.

Access to health care is explained to all youth. All youth are screened on an individual basis. An intake screening form is used by orientation unit staff at the time of commitment. Information from this form alerts staff to any immediate problems. A nurse completes a comprehensive nursing assessment with each youth within seven days of arrival. A physical is done for each youth within fourteen days unless records show one was done within 90 days. The contracted physician comes one day per week and if treatment is needed between physician visits, arrangements are made and the youth is transported to his or her local office.

Medical information is also requested through a questionnaire sent to all parents/guardians. Immunizations are updated according to state law.

The training officer or medical personnel give training to all staff. Special medical needs training is done as needed.

Medical staff arrange for all levels of health care to ensure comprehensive quality care for each youth.

The contracted part-time dentist or hygienist also sees each new youth within seven to fourteen days and as needed. Outside referrals are made as needed.



Dental Care Services	Fiscal Year 05/06	Fiscal Year 06/07
Youth Seen	778	813
Procedures Done	2,774	2,818

Nursing/Medical Care Services	05/06	06/07
Youth Exams	4,498	4,211
Staff Exams	98	176
Adult Inmate Exams	4	0
Immunizations	236	390
STD Testing	58	23
HIV Testing	17	7
Miscellaneous Lab	94	78
Nursing Assessments	426	417
X-ray	52	38
Urine Drug Screens	95	86

Physician Medical Care Services	05/06	06/07
Youth Physicals	394	398
Exams	303	228
Surgeries	7	4
Ophthalmology Referrals	103	92
Orthopedic Referrals	37	32
Emergency Room	18	17
Psychiatry Referrals (Dr. Howard)		146
Miscellaneous Referrals*	130	153

*Includes X-ray, dermatology, podiatry, oral surgeries, private physicians, etc.



FOOD SERVICE

The Mission of the YRTC-K Food Service department is to provide each youth a high quality and nutritionally well balanced meal which is attractively served in a safe, pleasant and clean environment.

The Food Service Department served 182,533 meals; 167,678 youth meals and 14,689 staff meals for an average cost of \$1.24 per meal or \$3.72 per day. On Thanksgiving we served 121 family members of youth and on Christmas Day 45 family members were able to enjoy the holiday dinners together. Twenty-three GED cakes were sent to the living units for youth that earned their GED. One hundred and ninety-five birthday cakes sent to youth and their group to celebrate the youth's birthday. One hundred and sixty-seven special activities requested by the living units were received and sent out from the Food Service Department. These would include picnics, camp outs, sack lunches or other special cooking activities. Forty-eight thousand three hundred and twelve (48,312) pounds of meat were consumed for an average portion of 4.23 ounces per meal. USDA commodity assistance was \$21,349.65 or an average assistance level of \$.11 per meal.

The Food Service Department consists of 7 full-time cooks, one 20 hour cook; two food specialists and 1 food service director. Two and 1/2 food service cooks positions are for supervising youth washing dishes at meals. They are a very dedicated and hard working group making most of the menu items from scratch. The youth at YRTC enjoy wholesome and nutritious food served at the Boys Dining Room (BDR). The five-week cycle menu is annually reviewed and approved by a licensed dietician. The menu is designed for meals which teenage youth would enjoy.

The HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point) procedures and Wellness Policy was established and implemented as mandated by the Federal Government.

Quotes from staff:

"We appreciate how the BDR staff work with the living unit staff with special requests and picnic lunches." Mr. Chamberlain

"You do a great job of juggling meal request, etc. for all of the living units." Mr. Reynolds

Quotes from youth:

"I really do appreciate how BDR staff work and put their quality time into cooking our meals. I really appreciate it!" C3 Youth



Mrs. Hilty's retirement party

MINISTERIAL

The Mission of the YRTC-K Ministerial program is to provide information, programming and counseling for all youth who request services to assist them in strengthening their spiritual lives to encourage them to lead better lives.

In carrying out this mission, the first step is to interview each new YRTC-K youth to determine where they are religiously and to see how we may be of assistance to them. This year 323 new youth were interviewed.

There was a total of 2,308 youth that attended the church services throughout the year. This is an average of 46.16 per Sunday. There were a total of 44 family members who came at 8 o'clock on Sunday morning to attend church with their sons, brothers, etc.

Two Bible studies are available to the youth each week. Adult volunteers lead the evening Bible Studies. The total number of youth attending the Bible studies was 661. This is an average of 13.8 youth attending each week.

At the youth's request, the Chaplain is available for personal counseling. During the year 144 youth requested and received personal spiritual counseling.

There are volunteers who assist in the spiritual ministry. There is presently one volunteer who participates on a regular basis and others who are available to assist on special occasions. There were 295.75 hours of volunteer time donated during the year.

There were a total of 55 youth baptized by the Chaplain from July of 2006 through June of 2007, and 32 family members and friends came to attend the baptism services.

During this past year there were 12 special chapel and church services.

- 1 The 1733 Barbershop Chorus presented Gospel Music in Barbershop Style in the Sunday morning church service, and was warmly received by the youths. 7-16-06
- 2 The men of C.O.R.N (*Christian Outreach to Rural Nebraska*) came four times, for a special Sunday afternoon chapel with a Christian Rock Band, & Bible Study, etc... There were a total of 131 youth who attended the four sessions, and a total of 54 volunteers who assisted. 7-23-06 10-15-06 1-14-07 6-10-07
3. The Christian Outreach for Rural Nebraska, (CORN), brought recreational equipment and conducted an all afternoon recreational activity in the gym, and followed it up with a gospel message in the Chapel. All of the youth participated. 4-14-07
4. Jim Wilson, the director of the "Press-on Youth Ministries", lead the Sunday morning Church Services 3 times during the year. 8-6-06 4-8-07 6-10-07
5. The Tracy Dartt Trio presented a Musical Concert for all the youth on 8-8-07

4. The Covenant Players came for an all campus assembly. They presented moral and spiritual lesson through drama. 10-5-06
6. Mike Kelly, the former city attorney, shared his testimony in church services of how God redeemed him from being an angry, vindictive prosecuting attorney to become a man who has dedicated his life to the spread of God's Word. 10-22-06
7. Father Michael McDonald of Prince of Peace Catholic Church, conducted a special Christmas Eve Service on the afternoon of the 24th of December, and the Chaplain led in a Sing-along and presentation of the Christmas Story on Christmas Eve. 12-24-06

2006/07 Religious Preference

Total Youth Commitments: 401

Baptist	11
Catholic	69
Christian	120
Evangelical	1
Jehovah Witness	1
Lutheran	16
Methodist	8
Mormon	1
Muslim	1
Native American	6
No Preference	155
Pentacostal	3
Presbyterian	1
Protestant	7
Wicca	1
TOTAL	401

“Pastor Valdois taught me that no matter what I do, I can still be accepted by confessing that I am a sinner. Also, that who I am does not matter to Christ.”

“The Pastor has helped me realize that God was always with me, even in the bad times when I though I was alone. He taught me that he is someone I can talk to at any time and for any situation. God doesn't judge you by your actions, but by your intentions (motives). Because he loves you.”

“I feel that coming to this chapel gave me someone to believe in other than myself. It helped me open my heart and get to know Jesus more. I also feel by allowing Jesus to come into my life, my life feels happier.”

PHYSICAL PLANT/MAINTENANCE

The Mission of the YRTC-K Maintenance Department is to maintain a safe and sanitary campus environment for the YRTC-K youth and staff to allow the YRTC-K Youth Treatment Program to meet youth needs in order to live better lives.

YRTC-K FUNDED PROJECTS

Conference Rooms Project: two conference rooms were constructed in the west hallway area of the administration building. This involved wall removal and wall replacement, electrical for lighting and receptacles, steam line installation for heating, duct work and venting for A/C, door and window install, trim etc.

Ice Storm: This involved an ongoing tree trimming and clean-up from late December 2006 ice storm to present date. Also due to 3 day power outage, staff worked extra hours to keep boiler plant and generator for communications running.

Chapel: Replace heat/cooling unit in chapel office by maintenance staff

Laundry Washing Machine Pad: This involved removing old concrete digging 4' deep x 4' square hole poured with concrete for new machine base and re-doing of under floor drain lines.

Dodge Windows: Window A/C units were replaced with central cooling system. Old A/C panels were removed and replaced with thermal glass.

BDR Steam Condensate Line Remodel: This project changed condensate flow from open floor trough to sealed pipe which eliminated contamination and water hammer problems.

Restroom Partition: This provided toilet stalls and doors for Morton, Lincoln and Washington Living Units which give youth privacy.

309 FUNDED PROJECTS

Door Project: New doors and frames were furnished by 309, labor and some materials were furnished by maintenance. This included 4 for Vocational, 1 for BDR, 1 for Laundry and 1 for Morton.

School and Gym Roof Project: Remove old gravel covered roof and replace with totally adhered rubber roof, this also involved removal of sky-lights on gym and pool areas.

Water Distribution Project: All new 8" water mains, new fire hydrants, new building connections, booster pumps for added pressure for future fire sprinkler protection and new backflow protection. This project will continue through 2007.

Electrical Distribution System: This will eliminate overhead power poles and lines on west side of campus. Included will be new underground primary and secondary supply lines, generators



Trees in the December 2006 ice storm.

and switch gear, new transformers, new panels in buildings. This project will continue through 2007.

Chapel Fire Alarm System: Installed and connected to existing for alarm systems, monitored at Dickson Living Unit.

YRTC-K AND STATE BUILDING DIVISION FUNDED PROJECTS

Street Design: This project included land survey, geotechnical service, civil design, landscape design, detailed cost estimates, drawings and prints. Included in the design is new fire lane layout for school, chapel and loading dock at warehouse.

TRAINING

- Class 6 backflow training for recertification (15 hours/three years).
- Adult CPR all staff
- Boiler controls
- Best Lock at Omaha
- Boiler Combustion at Lincoln
- Heat Pump and A/C
- All Staff Tornado Training & Drill
- Tree Care by Nebraska Forest Service
- All Staff Cam and PMI
- Burnham Boiler Training, Tulsa, OK.
- Haz-Mat
- A/C & EPA Certification
- Mandatory Training Hours - All Staff

TOTAL WORKING HOURS

Total working hours for the fiscal year 2006/2007 as follows:

Miscellaneous project hours	14,779.25 hours
PMI hours	178.00 hours
Work Order hours	348.00 hours
Total Hours	15,305.25 hours

UTILITIES FOR 2006/2007

Electricity	\$72,847.66
Natural Gas	\$155,873.52
Water & Sewer	\$17,430.06

COMMUNITY SERVICE

This year YRTC-K maintenance staff donated platelets and 24 pints of blood to the American Red Cross

FINANCE AND SUPPORT

BUSINESS OFFICE

The mission of the YRTC-Kearney Finance & Support Office is to provide effective financial and support services for YRTC-K staff and youth.

BUDGET & FINANCIAL OPERATIONS ACCOUNTING:

The budget unit of Finance and Support is responsible for working with Administrators in allocating appropriations into departmental budgets and assist in monitoring operations, projecting revenues, maintaining budget status reports and reconciling to appropriations, allocating and monitoring Personal Services Limitations to budget.

YRTC-K's annual budget for the 2006-2007 year was \$8,958,247. Our carryover amount from FY '05-06 was \$328,768 in addition we were given \$209,591 from OJS funds for the camera and door security system and \$11,113 for restroom partitions to bring our total allotment for the fiscal year to \$9,497,719. The annual allotment status break down by fund was as follows:

Fund	FY 05-06	FY 06-07
General	\$8,167,378	\$8,693,144
Cash	\$ 390,197	\$ 393,826
Federal	\$ 585,762	\$ 410,749
Total	\$9,143,337	\$9,497,719

Funds were distributed in the following categories:

	FY 05-06	FY 06-07
Personal Services	\$7,315,860	\$7,575,021
Operations	\$1,767,389	\$1,889,181
Travel	\$11,481	\$12,466
Capital Outlay	\$48,607	\$21,051

YRTC-K recorded 1322 receipts totaling \$78,367. Significant sources of income for the fiscal year were:

Restitution & Child Support:	\$ 1,496
Donations	\$ 1,347
Meal ticket sales:	\$ 2,585
Canteen Profit to Welfare	\$ 6,888
Land Use - UNK:	\$12,509
Canteen sales	\$52,334

Expenditures of funds, as per the June '07 budget status reports, included:

	FY 05-06	FY 06-07
Personal Services	\$6,779,707	\$7,105,382
Operations	\$1,752,297	\$1,901,953
Travel	\$13,625	\$11,971
Equipment	\$48,499	\$21,044

Average per diem costs for 2006-07 were \$176.38 per youth

Financial operations accounting performs the following functions: payments to vendors, contractors, employee reimbursements and other state agencies, depositing agency monies, answering inquiries from various payees, and managing facility cash balances. During fiscal year 06-07, financial operations prepared a total of 1,945 payment documents this past year.

FEDERAL GRANTS

YRTC-K is responsible for the processing of quarterly and annual reporting of federal grants for YRTC-K as well as budgeting and reporting information for the Title I Grant for YRTC-Kearney, YRTC-Geneva and Lincoln Regional Center's Morton School.

Applications were processed, submitted and approved for funding for 11 federal grants.

- ◆ Title I Grant \$99,106 (through 9/06)
- ◆ Title I Grant \$136,254 new funds and \$36,230 carryover funds (through 9/07)
- ◆ Vocational Education Grant \$40,000 (through 6/07)
- ◆ Title V – NCLB - \$1,029 (through 9/06)
- ◆ Title V – NCLB - \$ 661 (through 9/07)
- ◆ Title II A – NCLB - \$1149 (through 9/06)
- ◆ Title II A – NCLB - \$1170 (through 9/07)
- ◆ NE Arts Grant – Painting with Norris Chee - \$2,200 (through 10/06)
- ◆ NE Arts Grant – Exploring with Norris Chee - \$5,523 (through 5/07)

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY – TRUST & WELFARE FUND

YRTC-Kearney Trust Fund:

YOUTH TRUST FUND	FY 05-06	FY 06-07
Beginning Balance	\$4,977	\$9,809
Total Revenue Received	\$63,659	\$112,693
Disbursements	\$63,789	\$107,720
Checks Written	2165	833
Ending Balance	\$4,847	\$9,820
Interest Earned	\$11	\$16
Reimbursed Damages	\$1,962	\$1,934
Checks to Canteen	\$37,872	\$38,587

Welfare fund:

WELFARE FUND	FY 05-06	FY 06-07
Beginning Balance	\$9,727	\$7,854
Revenue	\$1,863	\$1,265
Donations	\$700	\$1,307
Transfer of Canteen Profits	\$16,655	\$6,888
Disbursements	\$18,590	\$11,683
Ending Balance	\$7,854	\$5,631

The welfare account funded youth holiday gifts, Artist in Residence programs, admission fees to local community programs, i.e. Community concert, Dancing Leaf Lodge, Champion Sports, I-Max theater, membership and usage fee for the Overland Trails Boy Scout Camp at Camp Augustine in Grand Island, NE, video rentals, and miscellaneous pet supplies.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Support Services encompasses a wide variety of areas to include purchasing, maintaining inventory supplies, fixed asset management – non computer, transportation – state vehicles, and risk management.

PURCHASING

All orders for supplies and equipment are tracked through support services. Contracts, requisitions and purchase orders for both services and commodities are processed through the NIS system. During the fiscal year 06-07 we processed a total of 1,210 requests for purchase and 79 purchase orders over the \$500 limit during this fiscal year.

SUPPLY INVENTORY AND FIXED ASSET NON-COMPUTER MANAGEMENT

Inventory control records are maintained on all stock items in the warehouse and food service operations. Records are updated and adjusted monthly throughout the fiscal year. The inventory module of NIS which will record issues, transfers and adjust stock quantities, reverse transactions, and inquire on “real time” stock availability is in the beginning phases for YRTC-Kearney. All current inventory items were loaded into the NIS warehouses during this fiscal year. Implementation of using the warehouses include training in early August of 2007, once this training is completed we will begin utilizing this function of NIS on a daily basis.

Fixed asset – non-computer management is also maintained by the Support area personnel. Tags are issued for items that are to be capitalized, acquisitions are entered on the NIS system, and an annual inventory is completed. Destruct orders and /or surplus lists are continually updated to destroy or sell used equipment.

Warehouse Inventory	FY 05-06	FY 06-07
Items on Inventory	317	318
Value of Ending Inventory	\$48,499	\$47,161

Food Service Inventory	FY 05-06	FY 06-07
Items on Inventory	417	370
Value of Ending Inventory	\$33,218	\$28,088

Equipment Inventory	FY 05-06	FY 06-07
Items on Inventory	72	73
Value of Ending Inventory	\$467,884	\$470,759

VEHICLE COORDINATION

Vehicle transportation is essential to YRTC-K for the transportation of youth and staff to activities, meetings and appointments. YRTC-K employees traveled 28,166 miles this fiscal year. There was one accident reported with approximately \$20 damage done to a side mirror. The Finance and Support staff work with the Transportation Service Bureau and Health & Human Services vehicle coordinators to ensure the facility has enough vehicles to meet our needs.

YRTC-Kearney continued to maintain the Transportation Service Bureau motor vehicle pool for Kearney and surrounding areas. Responsibility for the maintenance and daily co-ordination of travel plans for the vehicles in the motor pool was transferred from the YRTC-K maintenance department to the laundry area / personnel.

TORT CLAIMS

There were two tort claims filed by YRTC-Kearney employees this year. One was for a pair of pants that were damaged in a youth intervention between two youth in the security unit. This claim was approved and restitution was made to the employee for \$44.50. The second claim also came while de-escalating aggressive behavior in the Security Unit. This claim is for damage done to an employee's glasses. As of this time the outcome is still pending on this claim.

YOUTH CALLING SYSTEM (YCS)

The Youth Calling System service is supplied by AT& T. There were 1055 completed phone calls during fiscal year 2006-2007. The system continues to work well for YRTC-K youth only a few minor repairs were needed this fiscal year.



YC I Rodriguez, Rec Assistant Morse & YSS II Christiancy
enjoying the Employee Appreciation ice cream social

FINANCE AND SUPPORT

HUMAN RESOURCES

The mission of the YRTC-Kearney Human Resource & Development area is to promote a diverse, skilled productive workforce and provide support to YRTC-K staff where everyone is valued and respected and treated fairly.

FTE Authorized 146.60 positions - 148 employees
(As of 6/30/07 – per NIS)

PROFILE of an average YRTC-K employee:

- **71% Male - 29% Female**
- **95.9% White, 2.7% Hispanic, 1.4% Black**
- **40 years of age**
- **12 years of service**
- **Average Salary \$31,354**

During the 2006 – 2007 we had the following movement in employment

YRTC-Kearney	FY 05-06	FY 06-07
Hired	24	32
Temps Hired	3	0
Retirement	1	3
Resigned	26	35
Terminated	2	4
Promoted/ Transferred	5	4
Demoted/ voluntary & involuntary	0	1
Staff Turnover	23%	35%

All new employees were trained on campus from Health and Human Services, Human Resources and Development, Training Coordinator. The Human Resource Officer provided pre-service orientation training on human resources rules and regulations, payroll and benefits to each new employee.

The Human Resource area focused on recruitment this year by enrolling in 3 different job fairs, creating new newspaper advertisements, working directly with the University of Nebraska-Kearney and the local Nebraska Work Force Development office. Employment applications and security checks were accepted and processed on potential employees, interns and volunteers.

	FY 05-06	FY 06-07
Applications Received	242	319
NCIC Security Checks Completed	65	82
Drug Testing	43	42

In addition Child / Adult abuse neglect registries, Sex Offender Registry, Justice System and Federal Bureau of Prisons, NE Dept of Correctional Services and DMV records reviewed on each potential employee.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY COMMITMENT

The Nebraska Health and Human Services (HHS) System is dedicated to creating and sustaining a unified, accessible, caring, and competent health and human service entity. This dedication translates into an understanding that all persons are entitled to work and advance on the basis of qualifications and competence, to be treated with dignity and respect, and to be free from discrimination on the basis of race, religion, national origin, disability, color, sex, age, or marital status. Equal employment opportunity and affirmative action are integral parts of our daily operations.

BENEFITS

The annual Open Enrollment for Insurance Benefit changes was held from October 30 – November 20, 2006 with the effective date for coverage January 1, 2007. A new High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) was introduced this year, higher deductibles, higher co-pays and coinsurance with lower premiums for the employees. In addition the current PPO plans were offered again this year to our employees. The Employee Self Service (ESS) was utilized to enroll employee and dependents for all benefits selected during open enrollment.

TUITION ASSISTANCE

Tuition Assistance was available for all Health and Human Services System employees during FY 2006-2007. We had a total of four employees apply for tuition assistance during this year. Tuition reimbursements received this year totaled \$3,292.

EMPLOYEE ACCIDENT REPORTS

There were 20 reported employee accidents during the fiscal year 06-07 compared to 12 the previous year.

Accidents include:

Security Department_– 10 reports: 2 lower back, 4 knees, a foot, broken nose, broken tooth and a shoulder injury. 5 injuries occurred during physical interventions with youth, 4 while recreating with youth and 1 slipped on the ice. One security staff remained on and off of light duty from an injury incurred in April of 2005. This injury has required 6 surgeries.

Food Service Department - 1 report of a back injury from picking up a box.

Teaching Department - 2 reports, 1 hand injury from replacing a blade and 1 knee injury from stacking wood.

Counseling Department- 2 reports, 1 knee and 1 shoulder from physical interventions with youth.

Administrative - 1 report of a foot injury from tripping.

Administrative Support - 1 report of a head injury from slipping on the ice.

Maintenance Department. - 3 reports, 1 hand injury from using a tool, 1 knee injury from slipping on the ice and 1 broken tooth from slipping on a ladder.

2006 SERVICE AWARDS

YRTC-K staff completing 10 years or more of service with the State of Nebraska were recognized for service at the Nebraska State Employee Recognition Ceremony in Grand Island in October 2006. Additionally, staff completing 5 years or more of service with YRTC-K were recognized at the annual YRTC-K Christmas party in December 2006.

❖ Years of Service

- ❖ 40 years - Tom Smith – Youth Counselor Supervisor

- ❖ 35 Years - Robert Schmidt – Teacher

- ❖ 25 Years - Don Purvis – Stationery Engineer I

- ❖ 20 Years - Sue Divan – Media Specialist
Dan Leffler - Youth Counselor II
Karla Smith – Career Teacher
Kerry Thompson – Basic Ed Teacher
Dave White – Youth Counselor I
Clint Witte – Basic Ed Teacher
Mick Woodside – Youth Security Supervisor

- ❖ 15 Years - Deb Davis – Basic Ed Teacher

- ❖ 10 Years - Rob Jones – Basic Ed Teacher
Mary Balcom – Secretary I
Janet Irlmeier – Food Service Cook
Doug Rose – Youth Security Specialist II

- ❖ 5 Years - Brandon Pierce – Youth Security Specialist II
Doug Chamberlain – Youth Security Specialist II
Chris Talavat – Youth Security Specialist II
Cass Larson – Youth Security Specialist I

EMPLOYEE / MANAGER OF THE YEAR

Matt Christiancy – Youth Security Specialist II - YRTC-K Employee of the Year. Also selected as HHS Employee of the Year

Mary Wright – Food Service Director – Manager of the Year.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION:

YRTC-K also recognizes employees for their service throughout the year in accordance with HHS employee recognition program

- ◆ **Pine Wood Derby** – Matt Christiancy – \$30.00 Buffalo Bucks
- ◆ **Pine Wood Derby / Above & Beyond (Vet's Home)** – Rey Rodriguez - \$30.00 Buffalo Bucks
- ◆ **Above & Beyond (Vet's Home)** – Bill Stroud –\$30.00 Buffalo Bucks
- ◆ **Blood Drive** – Shawna Erbsen–\$30.00 Buffalo Bucks
- ◆ **Community Olympics** – Lindsey Eads, Clint Witte –\$30.00 Buffalo Bucks
- ◆ **Beaumont Grant** - Kris Ann Sullivan –\$30.00 Buffalo Bucks
- ◆ **Trails & Rails** - Dan Myers –\$30.00 Buffalo Bucks
- ◆ **PbS** -Sid Haarberg - \$30.00 Buffalo Bucks
- ◆ **Special Youth Computerized Assessment** - Jolene Jarecki, Sue Divan - \$30.00 Buffalo Bucks
- ◆ **Employee Recognition Activities** - Deb Eirich –\$30.00 Buffalo Bucks
- ◆ **ACA Preparation** – Ron Cox, Dan Theobald, Rosalie McCurry – \$30.00 Buffalo Bucks
- ◆ **Team of the Year** - Lincoln Living Unit team: Kelly Murr, Jeff Tassemeier, Scott Casper, Matt Christiancy, Deb Davis, Sean Evans, Jennifer Harden, Arron Adams, Jeremy Chizek, Robert Henke, Sarah Jameson, Nathan Schwanebeck and Jeff Walbrun - \$30.00 Buffalo Bucks each

FINANCE AND SUPPORT STAFF DEVELOPMENT

The purpose of Human Resources and Development is to provide an on-going single delivery system of staff development, in order to bring about staff behavioral changes and to allow staff to acquire new knowledge in the area of delinquency control, prevention and treatment with the ultimate goal of enabling every youth the opportunity to succeed upon their release.

The Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center in Kearney training department prepares new employees by classroom instruction and job site observation on YRTC-K programs. The objective of Pre-service training is to familiarize new employees with programs available to the youth on campus. The department also allows current employees to sharpen acquired skills

and to review facility policies. The department uses several employees to aid in classroom training. IT Support Technician Jarecki teaches Computer Basics and the new Computerized Driver Improvement Course that was introduced on July 1, 2006 to new employees. Maintenance Technician Nichols, Youth Security Supervisor Krueger and Youth Counselor Scheidies aid in CPR/AED and First Aid training. LPN Reed teaches the monthly Communicable Disease Course that is mandatory for all YRTC-K staff. LPN Abels teaches Medical Procedures during Pre-Service training. This course was developed by the medical department. Teacher Swarm, Youth Counselor I White, Youth Counselor II Vollmer and Youth Security Specialist II Lyon handle all the In-service Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Training for the facility.

During fiscal year 2006-2007, YRTC-K employees accumulated 9,875 hours of training. This was accomplished by staff attending Pre-service, In-service and specialized training at off campus sites. Twenty six (26) new employees attended Pre-service training that is offered the first two weeks of every month. Several examples of specialized training staff attended: the Nebraska Juvenile Justice Association Conference in Grand Island, Heartland Conference in Omaha, Wellness for Women and several different computer courses at the Grand Island Veteran's Home and the Hastings Regional Center. The maintenance department attended many different training sessions throughout the state on a wide variety of topics such as Refrigeration and Cooling, Heat Pumps and Locksmith Training.

Training Coordinator Theobald attended 25.5 hours of training on Family/Person Centered Practice in Grand Island. This instructional training will be utilized to continue to train all YRTC-K staff in Family/Person Centered Practice during 2007-2008. Mr. Theobald also attended 26 hours of Career Development Training at the Hastings Regional Center. The Nebraska Juvenile Justice Association Conference in Grand Island was attended by Mr. Theobald to obtain new knowledge that will be used in 2007-2008 Critical Behavior Training.

During February members of the Training Advisory Board distributed the YRTC-K Staff Development Evaluations and Needs Assessment. Over 50 percent were returned. The assessment indicated that training is delivered in a professional manner; the Coordinator is knowledgeable about training topics and is open to new training ideas. The assessment showed that staff are concerned about the training area as far as lighting and seating. They do think training is relevant to the facility.

Training Coordinator Theobald will offer a new Communication course for fiscal year 2007-2008. Treatment Work Primacy will be stressed through other training methods. The Nonviolent Crisis Intervention trainers will also be emphasizing the physical application of the training this year.

Training Coordinator Theobald trained four interns for the facility in 2006-2007. Mr. Williams did a 400 hour internship and later on accepted a position of Youth Security Specialist II. Mr. Albright completed a 270 hour internship through the recreation program. Ms. Yost started her 270 hour internship in June 2007. Ms. Torres completed her 120 hour internship in June 2006. Mr. Williams, Mr. Albright & Ms. Yost were UNK interns and Ms. Torres was a CCC intern.

YRTC-K was 100 percent compliant with the number of training hours to meet the accreditation standards for the American Correctional Association. This was accomplished by staff and supervisors working to complete their required training.

FINANCE AND SUPPORT

CANTEEN

The mission of the YRTC-K Canteen is to provide effective commissary services for YRTC-K youth, staff and visitors in a clean and safe environment with timely and friendly customer service.

The Canteen continues to be a favorite spot for the youth and their families. The Canteen is open 5 days / 20 hours per week to provide personal hygiene and snack items for sale to youth, families, staff and guests. In 2006-2007 the .50 FTE was divided into two .25 FTE, although this worked good for scheduling conflicts, the continuity of the daily operation suffered because of the two different positions, so when one .25 FTE resigned in December 2006, we moved this position back to .50 FTE.

	FY 05-06	FY 06-07
Days Open	248	258
Total Sales	\$52,732	\$51,512
Average Daily Sales	\$212	\$199
Ending Inventory	\$5,420	\$6,840
Gross Profit	\$6,887	\$10,280

MISCELLANEOUS

The Finance & Support staff spearheaded or participated in many functions outside the scope for our normal day to day duties.

- ✓ YRTC-Kearney held two blood drives for the Red Cross during 06-07. This project was lead by HR Officer, Shawna Erbsen and IS & T Jolene Jarecki. Both times were considered successful.
- ✓ Staff Assistant Lindsey Eads and Basic Ed Teacher Clint Witte, co-chaired YRTC-K Community Olympics participation.
- ✓ Organized and/or participated in the annual gift wrapping night for youth, the annual golf tournament, and the haunted house for the youth.
- ✓ Business Manager Deb Eirich and IS & T Jolene Jarecki, led the Employee Recognition week in October 2006.

FINANCE AND SUPPORT

WAREHOUSE

The mission of the YRTC-K warehouse is to provide YRTC-K youth and staff with effective and quality supplies to meet customer needs.

The YRTC-K Warehouse is in charge of all receiving and issuing of all institutional supplies, materials, clothing and equipment. Monthly physical inventories are taken to insure accuracy.

	FY 05-06	FY 06-07
Requisitions Processed	1070	1087
Youth Served	1331	1129

**The decrease in youth served was due to youth supervision at all times, warehouse personnel and living unit staff are able to better discuss the youth needs and it has been found that we are not replacing as many items as we were previously due to improved supervision and consultation.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & SUPPORT (IS&T)

Mission: To provide technical assistance to YRTC-Kearney staff and youth. To train all new staff and help existing staff regarding the DHHS computer system.

YRTC-Kearney currently has 94 production or staff computers and 96 youth computers on campus serving 167 employees and approximately 150 youth. IS & T provides support for the computers on campus as well as providing training to new employees and assisting staff with any computer application issues. YRTC-Kearney received 17 new computer systems to replace out-dated equipment based on the quarterly replacement plan. Additionally the facility purchased 15 computer systems to replace aging equipment. Fifty-five youth computer systems were replaced with used equipment to meet the current system requirements. Twenty-six new employees received computer training.

YRTC-Kearney has also installed a security camera and magnetic lock door system. YRTC-K IS & T personnel has been administering the system and has been working directly with the contractor on several issues since the system has been implemented. Phase one has been completed with 23 security cameras and 32 magnetic locked doors. The cameras record on motion and footage has been utilized in reviewing various incidents.

ADMINISTRATIVE/CLERICAL SUPPORT

SWITCHBOARD OPERATOR/RECEPTIONISTS

The Mission of the YRTC-K SBO/Reception Office is to provide administrative support services for YRTC-K youth, staff and visitors through timely and friendly customer service.

The Switchboard Operator (SBO)/Receptionist department consists of four, .50 FTE. The SBO/Receptionists are scheduled from 0700 to 2000 Monday through Friday and 0800 to 1600 Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. All SBO/Receptionists completed 100% of their training requirements, which include mandatory training hours in CPR, First Aid and CPI.

SBO/Receptionists perform numerous duties during their shift which include: greeting all visitors to YRTC-K campus, answer and transfer incoming phone calls, place long distance phone calls, sort/distribute mail, return and forward mail, prepare certified mail and UPS packages, distribute faxes, maintain filing, sell meal tickets, as well as complete various projects for the Business Office.

VISITOR DATA

Month	Number Youth Visits	Number ON Campus Visits	Number OFF Campus Visits
Jul '06	243	71	172
Aug '06	165	64	101
Sep '06	198	60	138
Oct '06	206	79	127
Nov '06	211	64	147
Dec '06	154	77	77
Jan '07	117	48	69
Feb '07	139	53	86
Mar '07	197	93	104
Apr '07	219	82	137
May '07	229	104	125
Jun '07	222	95	127
TOTAL	2300	890	1410

Another duty is to retrieve and disseminate Pre Disposition Investigation (PDI) information requested by courts, probation/parole officers, etc.

<i>PDI</i>	REQUESTS
JUL '06	8
AUG '06	19
SEP '06	14
OCT '06	15
NOV '06	16
DEC '06	13
JAN '07	20
FEB '07	12
MAR '07	9
APR '0	13
MAY '07	20
JUN '07	10
TOTAL	169

The total number of PDI requests for fiscal year 04/05 was 193 and 05/06 was 140.

ADMINISTRATIVE/CLERICAL SUPPORT STAFF ASSISTANT II

The Mission of the YRTC-K Staff Assistant Program is to provide timely support services for YRTC-K youth and staff to communicate and collaborate with Protection and Safety field staff.

JSO/YOUTH COUNSELOR/YRTC-K LIAISON

Ms. Carpenter coordinates Juvenile Service Officer (JSO) campus visits. The goal of OJS/YRTC-K is that all YRTC-K youth receive visits from their JSO to facilitate placement planning, parole expectations, and communication with Youth Counselors (YC's) on youth's progress and expectation of youth's needs once he leaves YRTC-K. Ms. Carpenter generated a report sent to YRTC-K Administrator and OJS on the JSO's participating in visits and the number of youth seen.

FISCAL YEAR 2006/2007	Number of Visiting JSOs	Number of Youth Interviewed
July 06	35	122
Aug 06	33	115
Sep 06	35	130
Oct 06	42	134
Nov 06	25	123
Dec 06	32	124
Jan 07	33	130
Feb 07	24	99
Mar 07	25	137
Apr 07	44	131
May 07	48	137
Jun 07	53	141
TOTALS	429	1523

The Staff Assistant II coordinates and attends all youth parole revocation hearings and insures allegation information is passed on to the YC I's and paperwork is placed in youth files. There were three youth reinstated to parole as a result of their parole revocation hearings. Thirty (30) youth either waived their revocation hearing or their parole was revoked in 2006/07.

The Staff Assistant II coordinates youth travel plans for releases on parole, furloughs, placement visits and discharges from YRTC-K/OJS/HHS. Travel plans were completed for 393 paroled or discharged youth this year.

The Staff Assistant II completed reservations for youth's families to attend Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners with their sons. Ms. Carpenter arranged travel plans for youth approved for Holiday furloughs. This involved formulating travel plans both to and from YRTC-K and the youth's home. Following are some parental comments regarding their son's home furloughs:

- **"Keep up what you're doing - it seems to be working!"**
- **"I just wanted to thank you for all you do and have done for him. I really appreciate it."**
- **"I want to thank the staff there for helping Steven & giving him the tools he needs to succeed in life. His outlook on life has changed for the better & I don't feel afraid for him anymore. Thank you."**

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

On the following pages, statistical information is provided on youth that were admitted to the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center - Kearney in 2006/07.

The statistics are gleaned from the Office of Juvenile Services Management Information System. It should be noted that some data are the result of youth self-reporting and are subject to validity problems. Demographic information is based upon committed youth, not total admitted youth. Below are the distinctions between committed and admitted youth:

Admissions include commitments, parole violators, recommitments and parole safekeepers.

Commitments are considered to be only committed youth, parole violators and recommitments.

- ***Commitments*** are youth who are committed to YRTC-K by a Nebraska Court where the youth is adjudicated delinquent by Nebraska State Statute 43-247. Youth sent here for misdemeanor offenses are adjudicated under statute 43-247 (1). Youth committed for felony offenses are adjudicated under 43-247 (2). Youth committed for motor vehicle offenses are adjudicated under 43-247 (4). Federal and Nebraska law does not allow youth who are considered status offenders to be committed to a YRTC.
- ***Parole Violators*** are youth who had been committed to YRTC-K and were released on parole status. The youth violate parole by not adhering to parole requirements such as school attendance, curfew, etc. Generally a youth does not return to YRTC-K unless he has violated the law.
- ***Recommitments*** are youth who were originally committed to YRTC-K and then paroled or discharged. The youth then commits a new offense and the Court commits him to YRTC-K.
- ***Parole Safekeepers*** are youth who are returned to YRTC-K until a hearing can be held to determine if parole should be revoked.

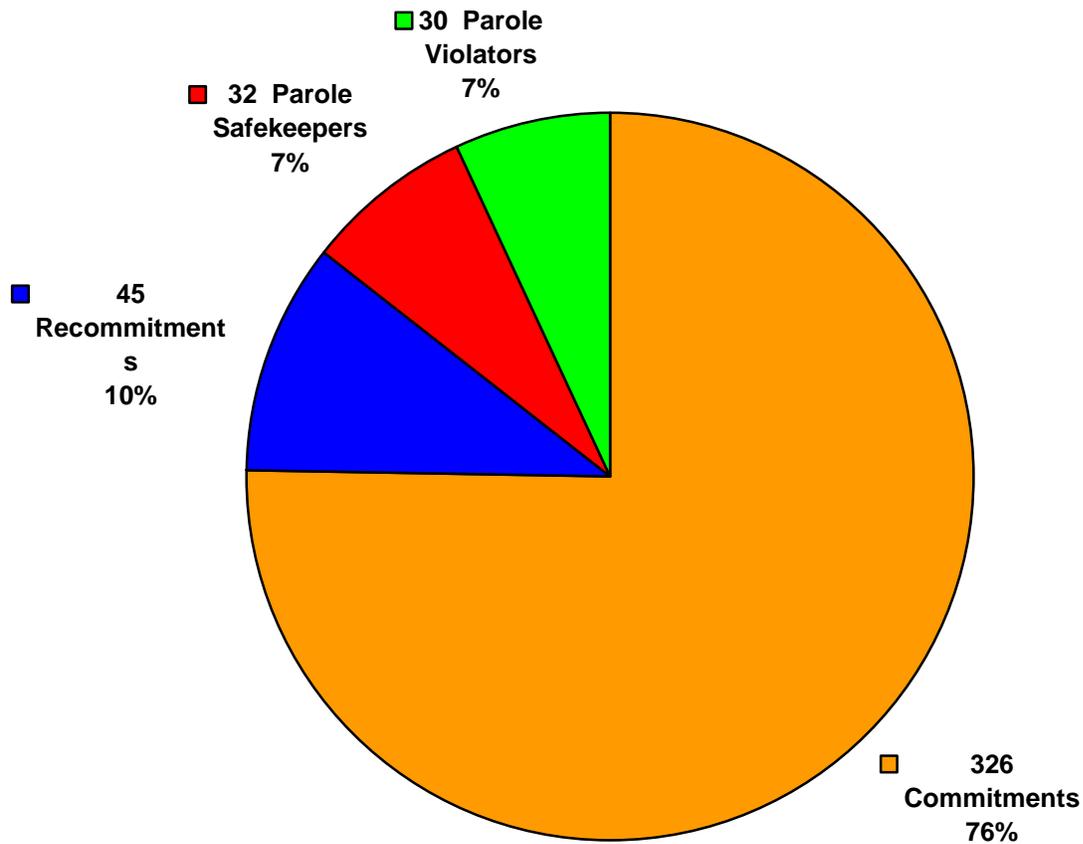
Releases include administrative parole, parole, classification 3 parole, institutional discharge, administrative discharge, classification 3 discharge, reinstatement and revocation.

- ***Administrative Paroled*** youth are those who are released from YRTC-K due to population management or an opening in a treatment facility. The youth is under the supervision of an HHS/OJS Juvenile Service Officer.
- ***Paroled*** youth are those who are released from YRTC-K by completing the Youth Treatment Program and are nominated for release and approved by the Treatment Team and Administration. The youth is under the supervision of an HHS/OJS Juvenile Service Officer.
- ***Classification 3 Paroled*** youth are those who were classified as lower risk youth by the Classification Committee. The youth is under the supervision of an HHS/OJS Juvenile Service Officer.
- ***Institutional Discharge*** youth are those who have been released from YRTC-K with no

parole supervision. They have completed the youth treatment program and were nominated for release and approved by their Treatment Team and Administration. Generally these youth have reached their 18th birthday and earned their high school diploma or the GED.

- **Administrative Discharge** are youth who have been released from YRTC-K due to population management with no parole supervision. Generally these youth have reached their 18th birthday and earned their high school diploma or the GED.
- **Classification 3 Discharged** youth are those who were classified by the Classification Committee as lower risk youth having reached their 18th birthday and/or have earned their high school diploma or GED prior to their YRTC-K commitment. These youth are released from YRTC-K with no supervision.
- **Revoke (Revocation)** are youth who have violated their parole agreement and their parole is revoked.
- **Reinstated** youth are those who are returned to parole supervision.

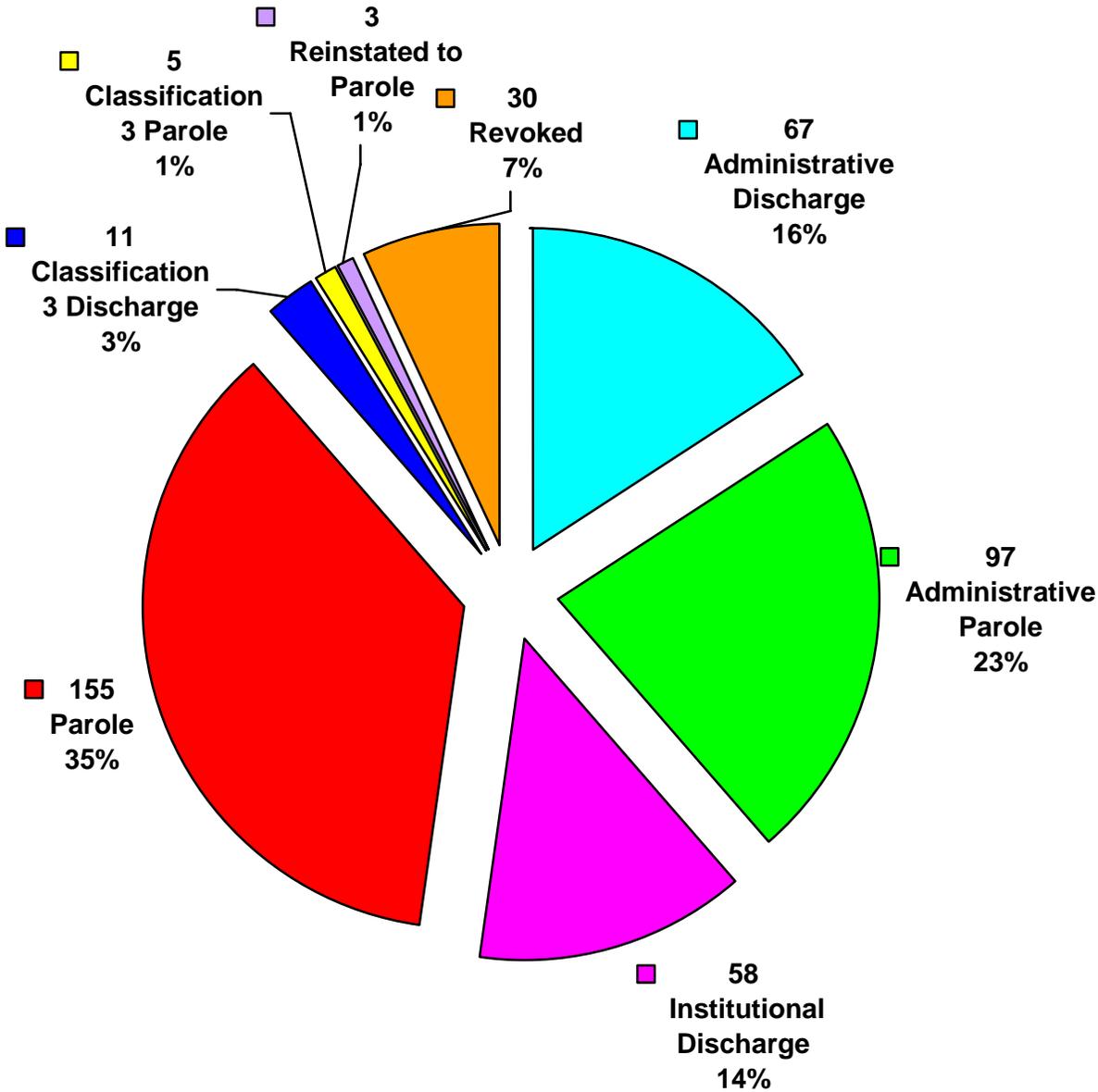
06/07 Total Admissions 433 Total Youth



326 Commitments	45 Reccommitments
32 Parole Safekeepers	30 Parole Violators

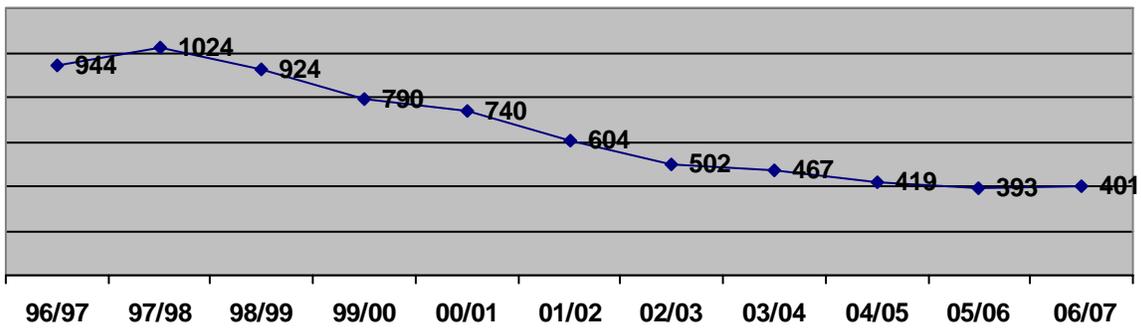
06/07 Total Releases

426 Total Youth

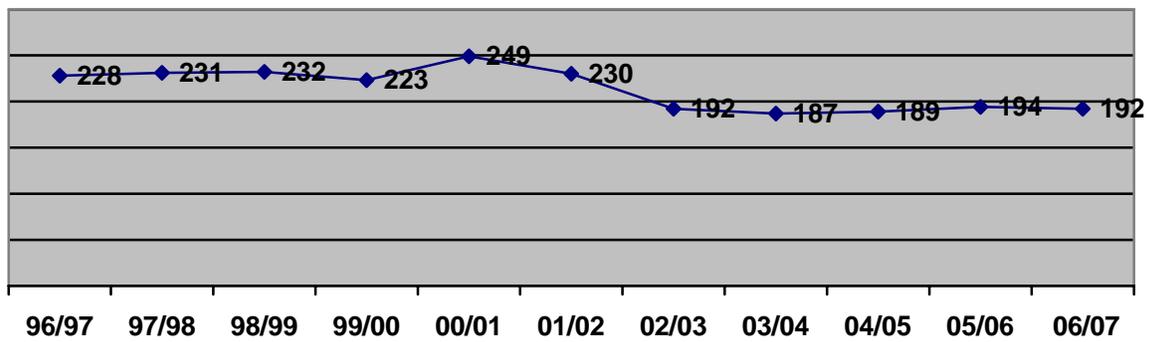


■ 67 Administrative Discharge	■ 97 Administrative Parole
■ 58 Institutional Discharge	■ 155 Parole
■ 11 Classification 3 Discharge	■ 5 Classification 3 Parole
■ 3 Reinstated to Parole	■ 30 Revoked

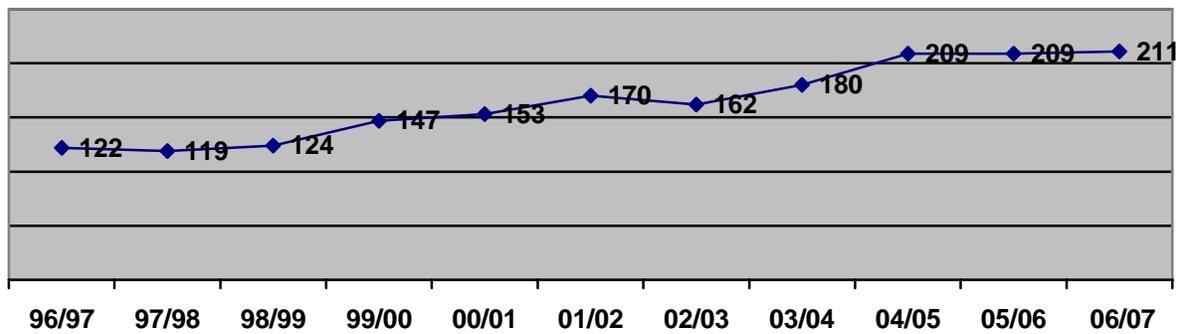
YRTC-Kearney Total Admissions by Fiscal Year



YRTC-Kearney Average Daily Population by Fiscal Year



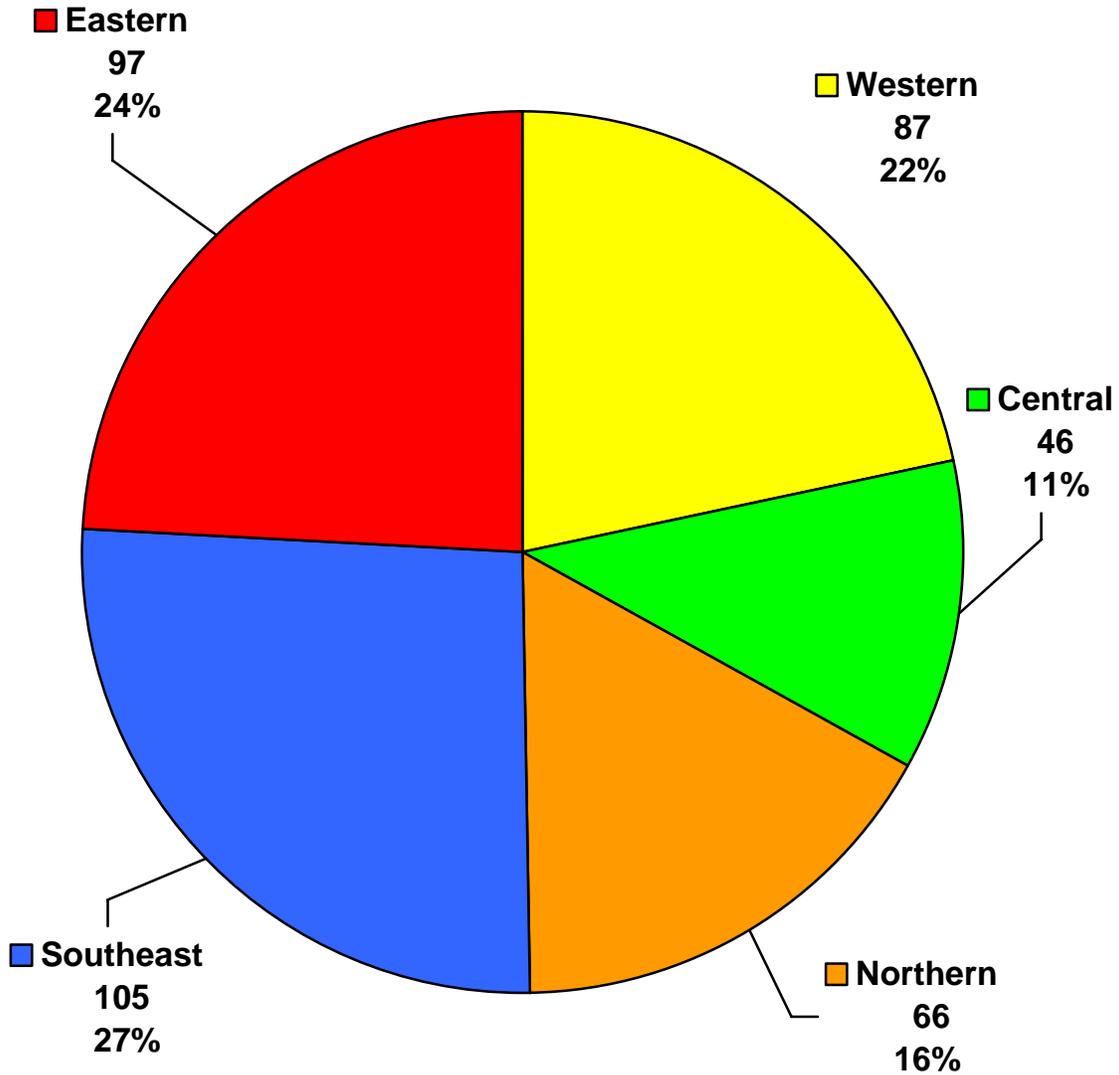
YRTC-Kearney Average Length of Stay by Fiscal Year



2006/07 Commitments by County

COUNTY	SERVICE AREA	NUMBER OF COMMITMENTS	PERCENTAGE
Adams	Central	3	0.75 %
Box Butte	Western	7	1.75 %
Buffalo	Central	16	3.99 %
Burt	Northern	1	0.25 %
Cheyenne	Western	1	0.25 %
Colfax	Northern	2	0.5 %
Dakota	Northern	8	2 %
Dawes	Western	9	2.24 %
Dawson	Western	14	3.49 %
Deuel	Western	1	0.25 %
Dixon	Northern	1	0.25 %
Dodge	Northern	15	3.74 %
Douglas	Eastern	87	21.7 %
Furnas	Western	2	0.5 %
Gage	Southeast	3	0.75 %
Hall	Central	22	5.49 %
Hamilton	Central	1	0.25 %
Hitchcock	Western	1	0.25%
Holt	Northern	1	0.25%
Jefferson	Southeast	2	0.50%
Kimball	Western	2	0.50%
Knox	Northern	1	0.25%
Lancaster	Southeast	86	21.45 %
Lincoln	Western	19	4.74 %
Madison	Northern	21	5.24 %
Merrick	Central	1	0.25%
Morrill	Western	3	0.75 %
Nance	Northern	2	0.5 %
Phelps	Central	3	0.75 %
Pierce	Northern	1	0.25%
Platte	Northern	9	2.24 %
Polk	Southeast	1	0.25%
Red Willow	Western	1	0.25 %
Richardson	Southeast	1	0.25 %
Saline	Southeast	4	1 %
Sarpy	Eastern	10	2.49 %
Saunders	Southeast	1	0.25 %
Scotts Bluff	Western	22	5.49 %
Seward	Southeast	2	0.5 %
Sheridan	Western	5	1.25 %
Stanton	Northern	1	0.25 %
Thayer	Southeast	2	0.5%
Thurston	Northern	2	0.5 %
Washington	Northern	1	0.25 %
York	Southeast	3	0.75 %
TOTALS:		401	100%

2006/07 Commitments by Service Area



Western	87	Central	46
Northern	66	Southeast	105
Eastern	97		

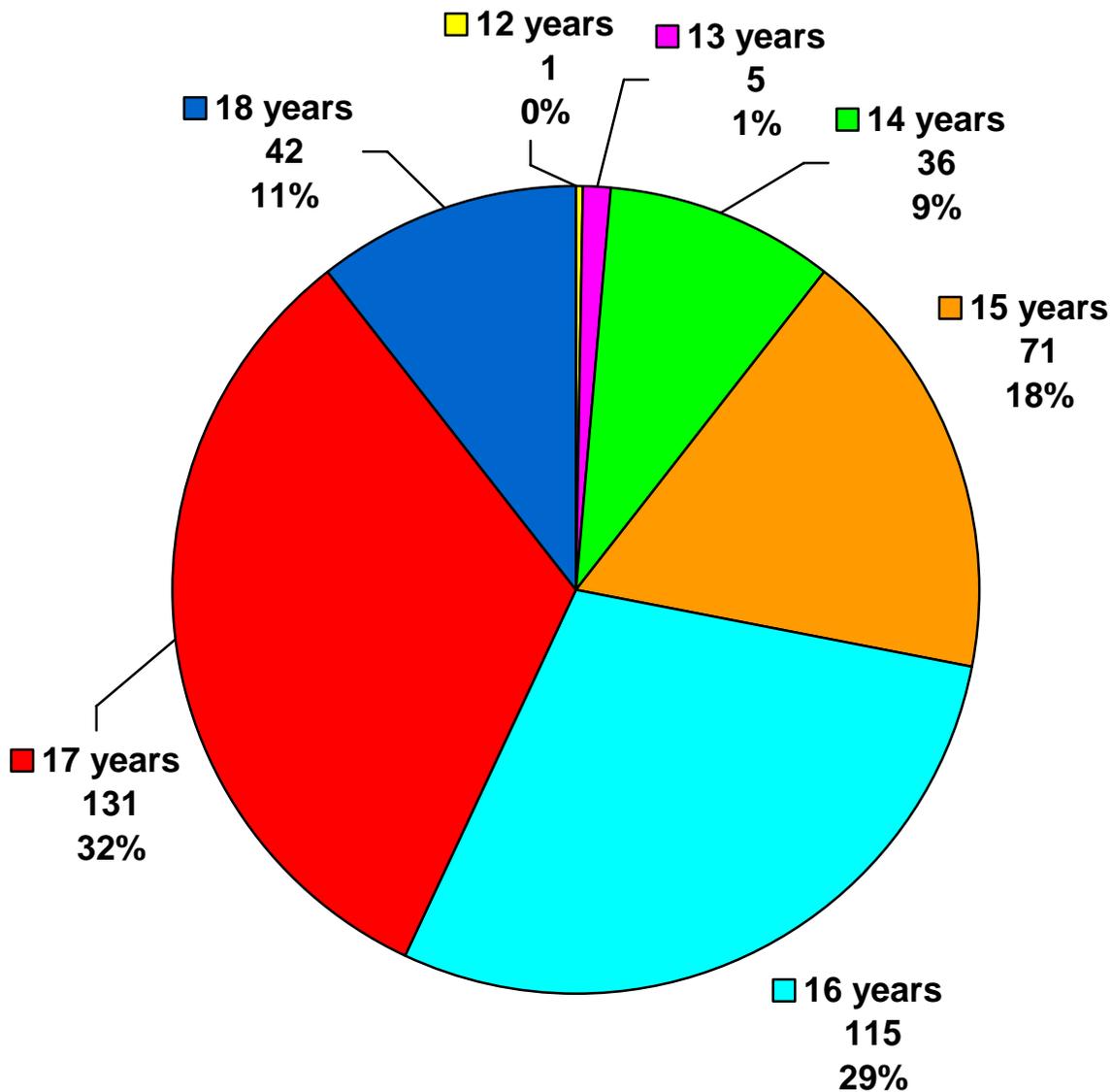
Total Admissions from Fiscal Year 1996/97 to 2006/07

Fiscal Year	Committed Youth	Parole Violators	Recommitted Youth	Parole Safekeepers	Court Safekeepers	Evaluators	Total
96/97	451	134	84	249	22	4	944
97/98	495	160	77	271	20	1	1024
98/99	468	155	86	203	12	0	924
99/00	383	144	73	187	3	0	790
00/01	365	151	51	171	2	0	740
01/02	355	96	45	108	0	0	604
02/03	352	43	61	46	0	0	502
03/04	345	33	54	35	0	0	467
04/05	352	30	37	34	0	0	453
05/06	321	37	35	44	0	0	437
06/07	326	30	45	32	0	0	433

2006/07 Reason for Commitment

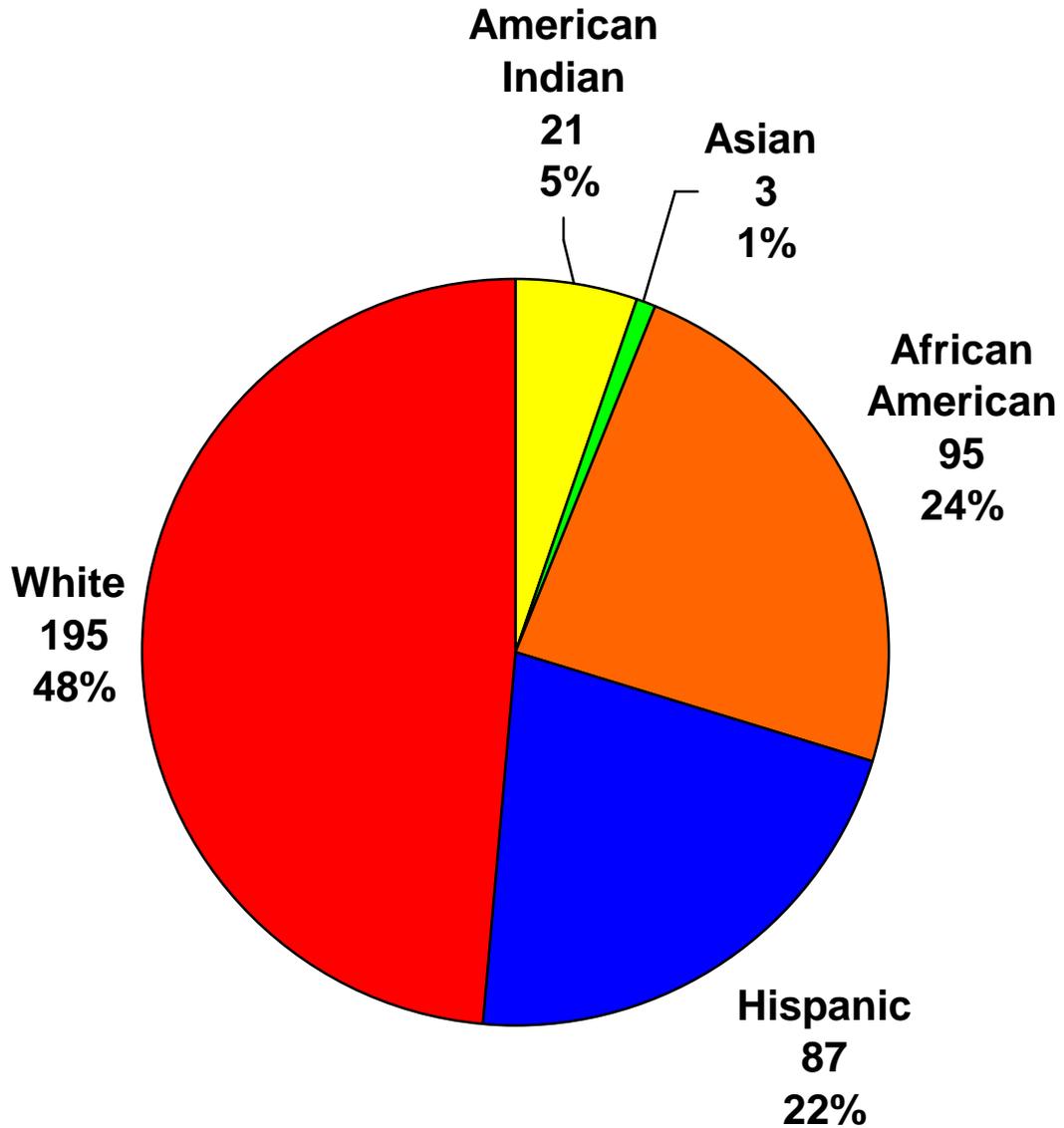
Arson	2
Assault	74
Auto Theft	31
Burglary	43
Concealed Weapon	17
Criminal Mischief	24
Disorderly Conduct	1
Disturbing the Peace	5
Escape	3
False Imprisonment	1
False Info	6
Possession of Drugs	52
Possession of a Firearm	1
Probation Violation	25
Resisting Arrest	8
Robbery	6
Sexual Assault	8
Shoplifting	1
Theft	83
Terroristic Threats	3
Trespass	6
Willful Reckless Driving	1
TOTAL	401

06/07 YRTC-K Population by Age Group at Time of Reception



12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years
16 years	17 years	18 years	

06/07 Commitments by Race/Ethnicity



American Indian 21	Asian 3
African American 95	Hispanic 87
White 195	

Nebraska Statutes require a youth can only be committed to YRTC-K under the following subdivisions:

43-247 (1) - Any juvenile who has committed an act other than a traffic offense which would constitute a ***misdemeanor*** or an infraction under the laws of this state . . .

43-247 (2) - Any juvenile who has committed an act which would constitute a ***felony*** under the laws of this state . . .

43-247 (4) - Any juvenile who has committed an act which involves a ***motor vehicle*** under the laws of this state . . .

28-206 – A person who aids, abets, procures or causes another to commit any offense may be prosecuted and punished as if he were the principal offender.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE DISPLAYS THE TYPE OF COMMITMENTS THE NEBRASKA COURT SYSTEM COMMITTED TO YRTC-K IN 2006/07:

2006/07 Commitment Adjudication

43-247 (1)	295
43-247 (2)	60
43-247 (4)	1
43-247 (1,2)	41
43-247 (1,4)	1
43-247 (2,4)	1
43-247 (1,2,4)	1
28-206	1
TOTAL	401