

Sedgwick County Department of Corrections

Juvenile Services

Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center



What is the Juvenile Intake and Assessment System (JIAS)?

The Kansas Department of Corrections – Division of Juvenile Services provides the Juvenile Intake and Assessment System in Kansas. Juvenile intake and assessment programs operate in all judicial districts. There are 31 centers across the State of Kansas providing intake services for alleged juvenile offenders and children in need of care who are taken into custody by law enforcement agencies.

What is the Sedgwick County Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center (JIAC)?

The Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center that operates within the Sedgwick County Department of Corrections is a program located at 700 S. Hydraulic in Wichita, Kansas and is co-located with the Juvenile Detention Facility. JIAC provides intake, assessment and referral services 24 hours per day, 365 days a year; this ensures continuous access for law enforcement and families. Youth referred to JIAC either receive a complete intake and assessment or are “booked.” Youth are released, released with conditions or admitted to the Juvenile Detention Facility. The average length of stay for youth at JIAC is two hours. JIAC assists law enforcement by allowing officers to return to patrol while intake staff assess the youth's needs. This assessment helps determine what community based services may be appropriate for the youth and family as well as to determine if the youth can be returned home or if placement is appropriate pending a subsequent court hearing.

What is the Mission of JIAC?

The Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center strives to prevent youth from becoming more deeply involved in the juvenile justice system by providing effective intake, assessment and referral services 24-hours a day. Youth identified as having one or more risk factors for reoffending typically receive referral recommendations by staff.

Who does JIAC serve?

JIAC serves youth in Sedgwick County ages 10 to 17 years who have been arrested for juvenile or status offenses. JIAC averages 1,850 intakes per year, with the majority (52%) of youth released to their caregivers. Approximately 30% of youth are detained; 15.5% are returned to their foster family, contracted foster care provider, other residential facility, etc.; and, 2.5% are placed in emergency shelter.

How is the Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center accessed?

Youth are either brought in by law enforcement because they are suspected of illegal behaviors or an assessment is scheduled in response to a Notice to Appear or an Agreement to Appear. JIAC also offers voluntary, pre-scheduled assessment for any youth (age 10 – 17) in the community.

How frequent is use of force at JIAC?

The Sedgwick County Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center was developed in 1997 as a result of statewide and local planning and established by K.S.A. 75-7023. In over 20 years of operation in Sedgwick County and serving thousands of youth and families, JIAC has never experienced an incident of this nature. Corrections staff rarely physically restrain youth while they are at JIAC. The use of mechanical restraints is particularly low. Since January 2020, only two occasions involving JIAC staff using mechanical restraints (handcuffs and/or leg restraints) with a youth has occurred. No youth have sustained injury while at JIAC. JIAC staff shall use force only when all other less restrictive methods of behavior control have been attempted and failed, to protect the youth from injury, to prevent injury to others or to prevent escape.

The Sedgwick County Department of Corrections is dedicated to fully cooperating with the law enforcement investigation; conducting an internal investigation with review of policies and training; and, continuing with transparency of operations through Team Justice (our Juvenile Corrections Advisory Board), the Kansas Department of Corrections – Juvenile Services and the Department for Children and Families.

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Sedgwick County...
working for you

Jiac History of Intakes per year:

2016	2,506
2017	1,832
2018	1,874
2019	1,765
2020	1,274