FACT SHEET

Administrative Team

Daniel L. Scarborough  Facility Administrator
Shawn Maloley       Assistant Facility Administrator
Richard Wehland     Director of Education
Donald P. Belau      Psychologist
Sandi Renken        Business Manager
Mary Stofer         Administrative Assistant
Candace Davis       Mental Health Practitioner Supervisor
Cindy Betka         Chemical Dependency Supervisor
Francis Hurst       Maintenance Supervisor
Jan Myers           Nursing Supervisor
Marie Pope          Training Coordinator

Mailing Address: Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center
                 855 North 1st Street
                 Geneva, NE  68361

Phone Number:    (402) 759-3164
FAX Number:      (402) 759-4804
Web Site:        www.hhs.state.ne.us/jus/yrtc/YRTCIndex.htm
Rated Capacity:  106
                 (94 Treatment Beds)
                 (12 Security Rooms)

Average Length of Stay: 10 months
Average Daily Population: 90
2003/04 Admissions: 123
Per Diem Costs: $156.76
On March 4, 1891, the Girls Industrial School was established on a 70-acre plot of land near Geneva, Nebraska. On March 14, 1892, a group of 57 girls was transferred from the Industrial School at Kearney to Geneva. In 1923, the official name, "Girls Industrial School" was changed to "Girls Training School." Again by legislative act in 1970, the name was changed to the "Youth Development Center - Geneva." With the passage of LB988 in 1994, the facility became the “Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center.”

On January 13, 1967, the facility became partially co-educational as 8-12 year-old boys from the YRTC-Kearney were moved to the YRTC-Geneva. This program was terminated in 1973 due to a decreasing number of boys. YRTC-Geneva again became co-educational during 1980 by admitting all youth referred for evaluation by the various courts in the state of Nebraska. The YRTC-Geneva discontinued doing evaluations in 1999.

On July 1, 1994, the Office of Juvenile Services was created under the Department of Correctional Services. On January 1, 1997, the Nebraska Partnership for Health and Human Services was created. The Office of Juvenile Services, including the Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center – Geneva, was transferred to the newly created Nebraska Partnership for Health and Human Services on January 1, 1997. During the 1998 Legislative session, LB1073 was passed by the ninety-fifth legislative session. This bill established the Office of Juvenile Services as having a separate identity and budget within the Health and Human Services--Services Division.

Academic schooling has always played an important part in the programming at the Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center - Geneva. Past records indicate that the first graduating class was held on June 30, 1915, with 11 girls graduating from the 8th grade. A few years later, the 9th and 10th grade classes were added, and in 1928, the 11th and 12th grade classes were included. In May of 1929, the first high school diplomas were issued. Past history also indicates that a full farming operation was carried on at the institution, apparently up until some time in the late 1940's. During that period of time, the girls were expected to do much of the farm work, including the gardening, dairy, and poultry work. In the mid-1950's, the primary farm ground was leased to local farmers and the livestock sold. Since that period of time, a continued emphasis has been placed on upgrading the academic and vocational training and treatment programming for each youth.
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES SYSTEM

We help people live better lives through effective health and human services.

OFFICE OF JUVENILE SERVICES

To provide individualized supervision, care, accountability, and treatment in a manner consistent with public safety to those youth committed to a Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center.

YOUTH REHABILITATION & TREATMENT CENTER – GENEVA

The mission of the Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center – Geneva is to protect society by providing a safe, secure, and nurturing environment in which the young women who come to us may learn, develop a sense of self, and return to the community as productive and law-abiding citizens.

To accomplish this, the Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center – Geneva will provide diverse programming that responds to each individual’s unique needs.
**GOALS**

- To protect public safety and to provide a safe environment for youth and staff, an essential condition for learning and treatment to be effective.

- To establish clear expectations of behavior and an accompanying system of accountability for youth and staff that promotes mutual respect, self-discipline, and order.

- To engage in management practices that promote the safety and well being of staff and youth.

- To provide meaningful opportunities and services for youth to improve their education and vocational competence, to effectively address underlying behavioral problems, and to prepare them for responsible lives in the community.

- To identify and effectively respond to youths’ health, mental health, and related behavioral problems throughout the course of confinement through the use of professionally appropriate diagnostic, treatment, and prevention protocols.

- To operate the facility in a manner consistent with principles of fairness and that provide the means of ensuring and protecting each youth and family’s legal rights.
Ten positions were approved in order to open the secure side of LaFlesche Cottage—one Youth Security Supervisor, seven youth Security Specialist II’s, and two Youth Security Specialist I’s. On October 29, 2003, the first youth were moved into the cottage.

Several new positions have been added. These include one full-time Nurse, one part-time Recreation Specialist, one part-time Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner, and one part-time Human Resources Personnel Officer.

There have been numerous construction projects at the facility. These projects include a 70-car parking lot, major renovations to the Food Service Building, significant landscaping and reconstruction of sidewalks and several inclines to the living units. These inclines replace old stairways and are consistent with the Americans with Disability Act guidelines. An egress sidewalk was built west of the swimming pool that also complies with ADA guidelines. The Chapel received a new heating/air conditioning system.

On December 30, 2003, YRTC youth presented 41 afghans to the Heritage Crossings Retirement Home in Geneva. Facility youth crocheted the afghans and were able to do so because of donations of yarn from the Federated Women’s Clubs of Nebraska.

All six treatment groups again attended the Ropes/Confidence Course at the Timberlake Ranch near Polk, Nebraska. The activity proved to be a confidence builder and helped build team unity among the treatment groups.

On April 3, 2004, the Spring Banquet/Volunteer Recognition event was held. Eighty youth, 20 volunteers, and 20 staff members were in attendance. This year’s event had a western theme, with a roping contest, stick horse races, and line dancing performed by the YRTC Girl Scout Troop. The newly formed YRTC Choir performed, as well. Prior to the event, youth were given the opportunity to view an animal exhibition that included lambs and horses. Volunteers Curt Coddington and Mary Lu and LeRoy Swails were honored for their service to facility youth.
The Nebraska Crime Commission assisted the YRTC-Geneva in obtaining funding from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention for the purpose of moving the YRTC-Geneva toward more gender responsive programming. As a result, in June 2004, a consultant from Minnesota trained 34 YRTC staff on gender responsive programming for females. Additional training will be held in August. Facility staff also traveled to Colorado, South Dakota, and Iowa to gain more insight into gender responsive programming.

YRTC-Geneva completed over 10,000 hours of in-service training during the past year. This was an increase of approximately 2,000 hours from the previous year.

Francis Hurst, Maintenance Supervisor, was selected as the YRTC-Geneva Supervisor of the Year and also as a HHSS Supervisor of the Year. Diane Jansky, Youth Security Specialist II, was selected as the YRTC-Geneva Employee of the Year.

The YRTC-G Employee Wellness Committee continues to provide excellent information and activities for staff. During the past year, they have organized and presented sessions on Depression, Cancer Awareness, and Diabetes. They also conducted a Weight Challenge for employees at the beginning of the year. The 2nd Annual Health Fair was held and featured booths on Reading Food Labels, Measuring Lung Capacity, Tobacco Cessation, Cooking Health Food, Cancer Awareness, Physical Fitness, Blood Pressure Checks, Bone Density Screenings and Chair Massages. The event was well attended and provided employees a wealth of information.

The Business Education class worked on a unit called “Business Entrepreneurship” that was based on a handbook developed by Congressman Tom Osborne’s office. As a part of the project, Congressman Osborne was invited to come to campus to talk with the youth. He came to the YRTC-Geneva on April 15, 2004, and spoke to all youth, emphasizing character as an element of change.
Recreation and leisure time activities are an important part of the overall program at the Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center - Geneva. An active recreation/leisure time activities program facilitates youth health, development of creative talents, and constructive leisure time activities that can benefit youth during their stays at the facility, as well as upon their releases to the community. The recreation program is viewed as a necessary part of the rehabilitative process of youth and is important to each youth’s health and individual growth.

STAFFING

The Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center - Geneva employs one full-time Recreation Coordinator and one full-time Recreation Assistant. During the past year, a part-time Recreation Assistant also joined the staff.

Recreation staff members are responsible for preparing weekly recreation schedules, supervising activities, monitoring recreation needs and preferences of the youth, ensuring safe recreation areas, monitoring exercise and recreation equipment to ensure they are kept in good operating order, and organizing special recreational activities. Additionally, recreation staff are actively involved in the youths’ treatment programs and serve as members of the various treatment teams. They may also be called upon to structure individual recreation programs for youth referred by the Classification Committee.

Recreation staff continue to administer pre- and post-physical fitness exams to all youth as a part of the Performance-based Standards project. During the April 2004 data collection, 100% of the youth showed an improvement between their pre- and post-test scores.
ACTIVITIES

The Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center – Geneva’s recreation and leisure time activities program provides a wide variety of choices for youth including softball, basketball, volleyball, swimming in the YRTC or local Geneva swimming pool, using the walking trail, and bicycling.

In addition to physical activities, girls can also be involved in various craft activities, including making decorations for the Spring Festival, knitting and crocheting classes, and making favors for the dining tables for holiday meals.

Each cottage also provides recreational/leisure time opportunities such as table games, board games, music, and TV. The Recreation Center, located on the north side of the campus, provides youth a place to relax and enjoy such things as exercise machines, movies, board games, and craft projects.

In addition to on-campus activities, if youth are eligible, they may participate in a number of off-campus activities including going to movies at the local theater, off-campus softball games, and volunteer activities coordinated by the Recreation Department.

A weekly recreation schedule outlines the recreational activities that will take place during the week. ACA standards call for a minimum of one hour of large muscle activity per day and one hour of structured leisure time activities. The Recreation Department has consistently met and exceeded these standards.
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

In addition to regularly scheduled activities, the Recreation Department provides a wide variety of activities for youth that expose them to new experiences. These activities include:

- A staff/student basketball game
- Christmas cookie baking
- Scattegories Tournament
- Talent Show
- Softball Tournament
- Easter egg hunt
- Making cards and other items to send to military troops
- Making Christmas ornaments
- During school break, the Recreation Department arranged for a visiting nurse to come to campus and present “Unmasking Sexual Con Games.”

During the 4th of July, youth participated in a full day of activities including a track meet, barbecue and watermelon feed, and watching the fireworks.

Another activity that was continued in the past year which the Recreation Department helped coordinate was the youth’s involvement in working at the State Junior Trapshoot held in Doniphan, Nebraska. This three-day activity saw our youth being trained to “load the traps” and keep score. The youth have participated in this activity for a number of years and we have always received excellent reviews of their work and behavior.
The Recreation Department also plays a big part in organizing and participating in the Timberlake trips. Each treatment group was given the opportunity to participate in the Timberlake Ropes Course in Polk, Nebraska.

**GIRL SCOUTS**

The Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center - Geneva is fortunate to continue to have a Girl Scout troop on campus. In addition to planning and setting up for special activities, the Girl Scout members have an opportunity to earn patches by completing various requirements.

During the past year, the Girls Scouts organized, set up, and ran a Halloween Carnival. All youth on campus were invited to the Carnival and the Girl Scouts earned a Halloween patch for this activity.

They were also able to earn a “Fitness to Fashion” patch by researching various fashion issues, designing and drawing fashion items, and researching a variety of fitness programs.

In addition to earning patches, the Girls Scouts had the opportunity to participate in many activities:

- A welcome barbecue for new members
- A fishing trip
- Line dancing at the Spring Banquet
- The Girl Scouts earned $200 in donations for the Heart Walk. They donated this money to the American Heart Association and participated in the Heart Walk.
Juvenile housing units, commonly called “cottages,” are the foundations of institutional living and promote the safety and well being of both youth and staff. Proper space, furnishings, toilet facilities, and heating and cooling systems are essential, as well as compliance with applicable building codes and adherence to fire/safety codes. Cottage programming reflects the diverse nature of the population on campus and includes elements such as life skills training and the completion of work details. Additionally, as youth are housed according to treatment groups, the cottage programming plays an integral part of the implementation of each youth’s individual treatment plan.

STAFFING

A Youth Security Supervisor oversees each living unit at the facility. Their duties include supervising living unit staff, overseeing their cottage operations, and ensuring that youth are being supervised and directed. They are also involved in creating schedules for staff and ensuring adequate coverage at all times, evaluating staff performance, interviewing potential employees, and teaching on-the-job training and in-service training to staff members.

Each cottage also has Youth Security Specialist II’s whose duties include providing security in the cottages, enforcing rules and discipline, supervising detail work, as well as teaching youth a wide variety of living skills. On a rotating basis, cottage staff serve as members of the treatment teams that develop treatment for the youth. All cottage staff are then responsible for implementing this treatment in the cottage setting.

Youth Security Specialist I’s are assigned to each cottage and work the 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. shift. They are responsible for cottage safety and security during their shifts.
All staff working in the living units receive at least 40 hours of on-going training on an annual basis. This training includes classes on First Aid and CPR, treatment programming, safety and sanitation, signs and symptoms of mental illness, security and control, and on-the-job training, etc.

**COTTAGE LIVING**

The Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center - Geneva has five living units, commonly referred to as “cottages,” on campus—John Burroughs Cottage, Marie Sandoz Cottage, Sacajawea Cottage, Paul Dunbar Cottage, and LaFlesche Cottage. Each unit has laundry areas, youth rooms, staff offices, a family room, and kitchen facilities that allow them to prepare snacks or serve meals in the cottages on an occasional basis.

Each cottage mandates that the youth living in the cottage participate in the cleaning and upkeep of the cottage and their surroundings. Youth are expected to keep their rooms in order, as well as participate in daily details to keep community areas clean and orderly. Cottage staff instruct youth in basic hygiene issues, how to wash their clothing, and proper completion of daily details, etc.

**JOHN BURROUGHS COTTAGE**

John Burroughs Cottage has a rated capacity of 19 youth, including 6 security rooms and 2 detention rooms. This cottage is multi-functional and fulfills a variety of purposes.

Burroughs Cottage is the home to the STEPS program. Youth are classified into this program based on established criteria, including the completion of a high school program or GED and drug/alcohol issues. They work their way through increasingly challenging levels to earn release.
At the present time, Dunbar Cottage has a rated capacity of 24 youth. Each newly admitted youth is housed in John Burroughs Cottage. Upon admission, staff complete a wide variety of assessments to determine the youth’s medical history, mental status, and suicide potential. While in Burroughs Cottage, each newly admitted youth undergoes a 2-week orientation program designed to familiarize her with all areas of facility programming. This program includes instruction in facility rules, youth rights, medical services, religious programming, and recreational opportunities. Social services staff also provide psycho-educational classes during orientation. Following the completion of the orientation period and classification, youth are moved to a permanent housing unit.

PAUL DUNBAR COTTAGE

Paul Dunbar Cottage, the oldest living unit on campus, was built in 1929 at a cost of $30,000. Throughout the years, Paul Dunbar Cottage has served a variety of populations, including evaluation youth, orientation youth, and male evaluation youth.

At the present time, Dunbar Cottage has a rated capacity of 24 youth. The youth living in Paul Dunbar Cottage are divided into two treatment groups and participate in the strength-based group treatment programming.

SACAJAWEA COTTAGE

Sacajawea Cottage was built in 1974 on the southeast edge of the campus. It was originally built to house approximately 25 youth. Built in the same fashion as Marie Sandoz...
and Burroughs Cottages, it also contains a large living area, individual youth rooms, laundry facilities, counseling offices, cottage staff office, and a kitchenette.

Sacajawea Cottage is also home to two treatment groups who utilize the strength-based treatment modality as the core of their treatment programs.

**MARIE SANDOZ COTTAGE**

Marie Sandoz Cottage is currently home to youth who have been identified as needing additional drug/alcohol treatment services. Girls are classified into one of the two groups in Marie Sandoz Cottage and participate in the Strength-based group program with an emphasis on drug/alcohol issues. Youth must complete established criteria relating to their drug/alcohol problem before applying for release.

**LAFLSECHE COTTAGE**

The newest living unit on campus is LaFlesche Cottage. The newly constructed building first accepted youth in October 2003, when monies were secured to provide staffing for the unit.

LaFlesche houses “special needs” or high-risk youth who are in need of intensive, individualized services. These youth participate in the Levels programming in which they work their way through increasing levels of responsibility. A self-contained classroom is located in LaFlesche that the youth attend.

LaFlesche is also the home to the “Officer-of-the-Day” offices, counseling offices, the medical clinic, conference room, and the clothing storage area.
The Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center - Geneva recognizes the importance of community and volunteer involvement in the lives of the youth committed to our care. Through the efforts of our volunteers, youth are provided good role models, opportunities to experience new and different activities, as well as receive help in transitioning back into the community. Youth are also offered opportunities to participate in various volunteer activities, thereby giving something back to the community.

**STAFFING**

The Recreation Coordinator at the YRTC - Geneva serves as the Volunteer Coordinator, under the direct supervision of the Assistant Facility Administrator. The Volunteer Coordinator’s duties include recruiting and screening prospective volunteers, volunteer orientation, maintaining volunteer files, and monitoring volunteer operations.

The Assistant Facility Administrator acted as area lead for the Southeast Region as a part of the HHSS Volunteer Program Coordination Team. This team makes recommendations to the HHSS Policy Cabinet regarding volunteers.

The YRTC-Geneva currently has 40 active volunteers. These volunteers serve in a number of areas on campus including the Community Advisory Board, the Chapel Board, Prison Fellowship, and “Visiting Volunteers.”

In all, volunteers donated 2,811 hours of service during the first 11 months of 2003-04 (July – May). If these were paid services, it is estimated that the cost would be approximately $36,000. Also during this time frame, community organizations and individuals donated approximately $4,099 in goods to the facility.
YRTC-Geneva was fortunate this year to be “adopted” by the Nebraska Federated Women’s Clubs. This network of clubs throughout Nebraska contributed many items during the year, including yarn for afghans, books, and toiletry items. Several of these clubs were also able to tour the facility and become acquainted with our programming.

**PROGRAM ACTIVITIES**

Volunteers are utilized to offer general and supplemental services for youth at the facility and work cooperatively with the administration in fulfilling the facility mission.

**COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD**

The Community Advisory Board is made up of a cross section of community members who have an interest in serving youth. These members bring a wide variety of special knowledge and skills to the Board. The Board meets on a regular basis to review programs, physical plant, and offer advice and guidance to the Administration. During the past year, the Community Advisory Board toured the Lancaster County Juvenile Detention Center and the Nebraska Correctional Center for Women in York.

**VISITING VOLUNTEERS**

An integral part of the Volunteer Program is the “Visiting Volunteers.” The volunteers are utilized for girls who have few or no visits from their families during their stays. In this instance, youth may request to be assigned a Visiting Volunteer. Once a volunteer(s) is assigned to a youth they may visit her on campus. When a youth is eligible, these volunteers may also take her to a wide variety of off-campus activities, including basketball games, picnics, church, movies, and swimming.
The Visiting Volunteers have proven to be an invaluable resource in providing numerous and varied experiences for youth who might not otherwise have these opportunities.

**CHAPEL BOARD**

The Chapel Board is in charge of maintaining the Chapel of Hope and offering advice and guidance on the religious programming at the facility. This group meets on an annual basis to review the Chapel of Hope physical plant and the past year’s religious programming. They also review and plan for any upcoming needs for the religious program or the physical plant.

**SPECIAL ACTIVITIES**

On April 3, 2004, the Volunteer Recognition/Spring Banquet was held. Celebrated on an annual basis, this activity gives the facility and youth an opportunity to recognize the many volunteers and all they contribute to the program. The youth are instrumental in decorating and setting up for the banquet, as well as providing entertainment. In keeping with the western theme of the event, participants enjoyed roping contest and stick horse races. The YRTC-Geneva Girl Scouts also performed line dancing. Prior to the banquet, a “petting zoo” was held, with girls having the opportunity to interact with lambs and horses.

A total of 80 youth, 20 staff members, and 20 volunteers attended the banquet. During the banquet, the volunteers were recognized for their many hours of service to the facility. Volunteers Curt Coddington and Mary Lu and Leroy Swails were given special recognition for their many contributions to the facility.
YOUTH VOLUNTEERISM

The Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center - Geneva believes that it is important for youth to have an opportunity to give back to the community and, therefore, provide a number of volunteer activities in which the youth can participate. During the past year, youth participated in the following volunteer activities:

- Worked with the elderly at a local retirement center
- Took tickets and ran the concession stand at a local theater
- Worked at the local recycling center
- Assisted with a senior citizen’s dinner
- Participated in the Adopt-A-Highway program
- Crocheted and donated quilts to the local nursing home
- Refereed soccer games
- Helped in the annual Geneva Clean-up Day
- Painted curbs for the city of Fairmont, Nebraska.
- Planted flowers and ornamental grasses for the city of Geneva.

The youth also participated in the Heart Walk. They solicited donations in the amount of $200, which they contributed to the American Heart Association. They also walked with other participants in the Heart Walk.
YRTC-Geneva recognizes the importance of education in each youth’s life and in her overall development. The education program strives to accommodate each youth’s learning style and to allow opportunities to progress in the educational program. It is our belief that the school should maintain a safe and secure environment that is conducive to learning.

STAFFING

The Geneva North School faculty is comprised of seven classroom teachers and one Title I/Chapter teacher. Also on staff is a Vocational Counselor who provides services and counseling in the vocational area. A certified teacher provides library services. Providing support services for Geneva North School are a Cosmetologist and Secretary I.

In addition to their regular teaching duties, the teaching staff have a wide variety of duties as they participate in each youth’s total program. A school representative served on the treatment team for each group on campus and attended weekly treatment meetings. Feedback to the rest of the staff was given at each weekly teachers’ meeting.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The State Board of Education has approved the continued operation of the Geneva North School as an approved school under the Special Purpose Agreement. The agreement has been updated as new regulations were approved by the State Board of Education and implemented by the Nebraska Department of Education.

A school program of full academic services for committed students was continued. Academic and vocational testing was provided for the students to assist in their school
placement. Exit testing was completed on all students to measure their progress while in the academic program.

The average daily membership was 71.08 students.

One hundred thirty six students were provided educational services when they were unable to attend the regular school program. An average of 37 students per week received individual assistance in various subject areas. One teacher also assisted the classroom teachers in administering tests to individuals with reading difficulties.

The GED tutoring program was continued. The Adult Basic Education tester from Southeast Community College in Beatrice, Nebraska provided testing. Twelve students were enrolled in the program. None of the students completed the entire series of tests. All GED students are provided with the information necessary to continue testing when they leave the facility.

A summer school session was held and provided an opportunity to present a variety of classes not generally available during the regular school year.

Five seniors graduated in December and five in May. Six eighth-grade students were promoted at the end of the second semester. Honors/graduation programs were held at the end of each semester and an Honors program was held at the end of the summer session.

**TITLE I PROGRAM**

A Title I program providing services for the students was funded by Federal and State monies. The Title I teacher provided support for the regular classroom instructors and
provided individual instructions to selected students. The Title I services may be provided to students in their regular classrooms or in the Title I office. Students were assisted in Internet usage by the Title I teacher.

Pre-and post-testing administered by the Title I teacher indicated an increase in the skill level of students in the areas of reading, spelling, and math. The average length of time the students received the services of the Title I program was nine months.

**VOCATIONAL PROGRAM**

The Vocational Counselor provided vocational interest and skills testing using the Valpar assessment program. Forty-three students were assessed utilizing the full VALPAR instrument, and an additional 17 were given the interest portion of the assessment.

The ACT was administered three times during the school year. Twenty-two students took the test, with an average composite score of 19. This was an increase from the average of 18 the previous year.

The ASVAB was administered to 24 students.

Seventeen students were assisted in completing application forms to post-secondary programs. The Vocational Counselor assisted 14 students with financial aid applications.

Contact with Job Corps was maintained and several students expressed interest in the program and sought admittance with the aid of the assigned juvenile services officer and the Vocational Counselor. The Vocational Counselor also assisted those youth who expressed an interest in joining the military services.
LIBRARY SERVICES

A certified media teacher provided library services to the students and staff. This librarian is often assisted by student volunteers who helped to “read” the shelves and card the returned books.

The Library Commission’s Inter-Library loan system was used to secure reference materials for the students and staff.

An electronic catalog and circulation manager program for the library materials was used to manage the usage of the library materials. This program was updated during the school year.

The facility was very fortunate to receive numerous book donations throughout the year. These books were catalogued and placed either in the school library or the satellite libraries maintained in each cottage living unit. These donations have provided an invaluable resource for youth to develop leisure time reading habits.

COSMETOLOGY SERVICES

A full-time cosmetologist provided complete cosmetology services for all students. A wide range of services is available for the youth so that they may maintain their personal hygiene and appearance. These services might include haircuts, permanents, and eyebrow arches. Personal Development classes were taught throughout the year to orient the students to the cosmetology services available at the YRTC and instruct them in basic procedures for personal care.
THE RELIGIOUS PROGRAM

The religious program provides youth an opportunity to not only continue to practice their religious beliefs, but also to explore and expand their knowledge.

STAFFING

The religious program at the Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center – Geneva is supervised by a quarter-time Chaplain. Church services are conducted every Sunday by this Chaplain or one of several volunteer Chaplains. In addition, YRTC-Geneva enjoys the services of many volunteers in the religious area, including Prison Fellowship volunteers, and community volunteers who come on campus to provide various religious services to the youth.

General oversight of the Chapel of Hope is provided by the Chapel of Hope Board, which meets on an annual basis to review the religious program and physical plant needs.

PROGRAMMING

The religious program on campus includes individual religious counseling, weekly on-campus religious services, off-campus religious services, and special religious programs that come to campus. The Chaplain, at the youth’s request, will make contact with the youth’s personal minister, priest, or religious leader and the youth may receive counseling from her personal spiritual leader.

As a part of the religious program, the Chaplain meets with each new youth during the orientation program and gains information about her religious background, denomination, and interests. Should this information reflect any special religious needs, for example, special religious dietary requirements, the Chaplain can make arrangements to accommodate these needs.
On-campus Sunday services are held at the Chapel of Hope. The Chapel provides youth with a place to worship, as well as have special programs. Parents of the youth may also attend on-campus services with their child if they so desire. The average church attendance during the past year was approximately 30-35 youth, 3-6 visitors, and 4-5 staff members. When eligible, youth may also attend off-campus services at a variety of churches in Geneva.

YRTC-Geneva continues to have a youth choir. The youth go through an audition process and rehearse on a regular basis. During the past year, they performed at a local church, as well as at the Spring Banquet.

**PRISON FELLOWSHIP**

The Prison Fellowship program continues to be a strong, supportive activity on campus. This group meets on Tuesday evenings, with an average attendance of 29 youth and 7 Prison Fellowship volunteers. The volunteers lead youth in singing and group Bible studies.

The Prison Fellowship group also organizes several on-campus special activities for youth. During the past year, several weekend seminars were held, as well as cookouts, softball, volleyball, skits, and an annual Christmas party.

The YRTC-Geneva religious program also gives the youth an opportunity to be baptized, if they so desire and with parental permission. During the past year, several baptisms were conducted.

All religious activities are on a voluntary basis, only. Youth do not have to participate in religious activities if they do not wish to.
Treatment program activities are a critical component to the youth in that they are given an opportunity to address personal issues such as victimization, self-management, and self-destructive behaviors. Identifying strengths, enhancing social skills, and encouraging resiliency are critical processes that the treatment program attempts to integrate into each girl’s individual program. Family consultations, restorative justice, as well as specialized medical/psychiatric/psychological approaches are stressed in the treatment process.

The YRTC-Geneva’s treatment program is committed to utilizing the “state of the art” treatment methodologies and is engaged in continuing research to better understand the needs of the youth that we serve.

STAFFING

The Social Services Department at the Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center - Geneva is composed of the following staff members:

- 1 Mental Health Practitioner Supervisor
- 3 Youth Counselor I’s
- 2 Licensed Mental Health Professionals
- 3 Chemical Dependency Training Specialists
- 1 Psychologist III
- 1 Staff Assistant
- Contractual Psychiatrist and Clinical Psychologist
PROGRAMMING

The Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center - Geneva recognizes that each youth is an individual, with varying backgrounds, histories, and a wide variety of needs and abilities. While the primary treatment program is the Strength-based Group Counseling program, this modality is augmented with a wide variety of programming to help address the needs of our youth. Of growing importance in meeting these needs is the increasing awareness of gender issues experienced by girls. Our program offerings include:

- Outpatient drug/alcohol treatment
- Drug/alcohol assessment, education, and counseling
- Cognitive skills for life
- Tobacco education and cessation
- Prenatal care and education for pregnant youth
- Parent and youth orientation and family consultations
- Cognitive restructuring and inter-personal skills development
- Intensive, structured individual behavioral and mental health programming
- Women’s issues programming
- Family-focused counseling
- Leisure time development/recreational activities
- On and off-campus work opportunities
- Community volunteer services

STRENGTH-BASED GROUP COUNSELING

The core treatment program, Strength-based Group Counseling, is based on the premise of youth helping youth. The Strength-based Group Counseling process focuses on
identifying positive coping skills, reframing coping skills that have negative implications, and practicing the skills of empathy and self-awareness.

Through the classification process, each youth’s behavior pattern, coping style, and “problems” are identified. Youth are assigned to a treatment group where they are guided in the daily management of their behaviors. They meet in group meetings to work on their behavior patterns and assigned problems, as well as provide help to fellow group members. Strengths, interests, and talents are identified and enhanced through the course of treatment.

CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY PROGRAM

The YRTC-Geneva provides a multi-dimensional chemical dependency program that offers services to youth based on their identified levels of chemical use/abuse. Counselors provide chemical dependency assessments, educational programming, orientation, and intensive programming for chemical dependency issues.

YRTC-Geneva continues the intensive drug/alcohol treatment program. Based on the assessment/classification process, youth meeting established criteria are entered into one of two intensive treatment groups that are housed in Marie Sandoz living unit. Youth entering this program undergo traditional drug/alcohol group programming that has been coupled with the behavior management component of the Strength-based Group Counseling program. Family interventions are offered on a routine basis and emphasis is placed upon reintegration of the youth into an active outpatient treatment program following release.

Youth who do not meet the criteria for placement in the intensive drug/alcohol group but show a need for further drug/alcohol services may have these needs met in a variety of ways, including education classes, individual counseling, or a Strength-based Group.
Tobacco education and cessation activities are offered to all youth. Utilization of structured relapse prevention programming and Tobacco Free Nebraska resources emphasize the risks of continued use of nicotine.

**ORIENTATION PROGRAM**

All newly admitted youth complete a two week orientation program. The program involves extensive orientation and teaching in all areas of facility programming including rules and discipline, youth rights, medical access, grievances, meals, communication, and treatment programming. As a part of the orientation program, Social Services staff teach a core curriculum of psycho-education classes.

**SPECIAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMMING**

YRTC-Geneva often receive youth that require specialized management programming to meet their unique needs. These youth may exhibit severe behavior disorders and associated mental health issues that require the development of intensive, individualized behavioral and counseling interventions.

Youth identified as needing specialized management programs may be classified into the Levels program, which is an incentive-based program with associated reinforcers for the youth as they demonstrate improved behaviors and self-management.

Youth with increased risks of suicidal/self-harming behaviors receive close supervision and are reviewed daily by qualified social services staff. This suicide prevention program is known as the Greenline Suicide Prevention Program and has three levels of supervision. These levels are designed to decrease the youth’s immediate risk of engaging in suicidal behavior.
BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

The Business Department provides support to all activities and treatment on the YRTC-Geneva campus. The office provides all personnel services, including support in recruitment and hiring, payroll, employee benefits, and workers’ compensation. All accounting support for the campus—budget, purchasing supplies and equipment, accounts receivable, accounts payable, financial reporting, and youth trust funds—are handled by the Department. The Business Manager also supervises the Food Service Department and the Supply Clerks.

STAFFING

The Business Department consists of a Business Manager, who is the supervisor of the Department, one Accounting Clerk II, two Supply Clerks, one Food Service Manager, four Food Service Technicians, and one part-time Human Resources Officer.

CLOTHING DEPARTMENT

During the past year, the Clothing Supply area made some major changes. The department was moved to its new home in LaFlesche Cottage, where there is more storage available. The YRTC-Geneva continues to supply most of the youths’ clothing and during the past year, new winter coats were purchased. The clothing storage area also stores youth property that they cannot have.

FOOD SERVICE DEPARTMENT

The Food Service Department is responsible for providing meals for all youth and staff on campus. These meals must be nutritionally balanced, well planned and prepared, and served in a manner that meets established governmental health and safety codes. All menus are approved by a Registered Dietician.
During the past year, 94,223 youth meals and 9,846 staff meals were prepared and served, with an average cost of $1.36 per meal.

During the past year, the Food Service Department made the following changes:

- **Breakfasts are being served in the cottages three days per week.**
- **A food preference survey of all youth on campus was completed. Items were either added to the menu or deleted as a result of this survey.**
- **The use of food service trays was implemented, with the food pre-served on the trays. Youth were then allowed to eat what they prefer.**
- **Fresh fruit and milk were made available in the cottages at all times so that youth could have access to healthy snacks.**
- **Special meals were prepared for the holidays, including Thanksgiving and the 4th of July. A special meal was prepared for Christmas and the youths’ parents were invited to come and join their children in a meal.**

![Preparing a meal](image1)
![Food Service Building](image2)
![Dining Room](image3)

**BUSINESS OFFICE**

**PERSONNEL**

YRTC-Geneva has an allotted FTE of 103.85. During the past year, we hired 24 new employees; part of these 24 new hires were to partially staff the newly constructed LaFlesche Cottage. One newly created part-time Human Resources staff position was filled with an employee from the Hastings Regional Center who will split his work time between the facilities. Within the past year, the Recreation Assistant and part-time Nurse II positions previously funded by grant monies became permanent positions.
We also experienced 13 resignations, 2 promotions within the facility, and 8 transfers within the facility. The average length that positions were vacant (not including the two new positions) was 3 weeks. The rate of turnover for approved positions was 8.4%.

The maintenance department, which has previously been placed under the supervision of the Department of Administrative Services—Building Division was returned to the supervision of the Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center - Geneva on July 1, 2003.

Diane Jansky, Youth Security Specialist II, and Francis Hurst, Maintenance Supervisor, were selected as Employee of the Year and Supervisor/Manager of the Year, respectively. Mr. Hurst was also selected as an HHSS Supervisor/Manager of the Year.

During the past year, these employees received service awards:

- Francis Hurst - 40 years
- Richard Wehland - 35 years
- Jerry Herman - 25 years
- Connie Taylor - 10 years
- Pat Carpenter - 5 years
- Louis Matthies - 5 years

- Delores Hartman - 30 years
- Don Belau - 30 years
- Jan Slepicka - 15 years
- Jan Myers - 10 years
- Linda Bottorf - 5 years
- Pat Carpenter - 5 years
- Linda Bottorf - 5 years

In selecting these honorees, the following was noted:

Diane Jansky is described as hard working and committed to the care of youth under her control. She uses a relaxed demeanor and low key approach which has a calming effect on the youth. Facility youth readily accept Mrs. Jansky’s feedback, even in a crisis.

Francis “Hub” Hurst’s long experience at the facility makes him highly knowledgeable of facility needs and his experience in working with vendors and contractors has enhanced his ability to efficiently carry out his duties. His vast experience in seeing what has and hasn’t worked over the years has made him an asset to the facility.

ACCOUNTING

YOUTH TRUST FUND

An accounting of personal funds for each youth at the Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center - Geneva is kept in the business office. These funds are kept in a separate bank account that is reconciled at the end of each month. Youth may purchase personal items or approved clothing with their funds. The sources for these funds include:
Funds brought by the youth upon admission
Money received by the youth’s family
Money earned by working at various jobs at the YRTC
Money worked at off-campus jobs
Social Security benefits

YOUTH WELFARE FUNDS

The Youth Welfare Fund has proven to be a very valuable asset in providing youth a variety of benefits throughout the year. Money for this fund comes in a variety of ways:

- Earning from the Pepsi pop machine
- Outstanding trust fund checks that have not been cashed within 2 years
- Donations
- Fund raising activities

During the past year, this fund has been used to purchase T-shirts for the Improv program, decorations for the Spring Banquet, outings to Timberlake, swimming pool pass, and supplies for the Girl Scout Troop.

BUDGET

YRTC business office staff, in cooperation with the Budget Unit of HHS, prepare an annual facility budget that is submitted to the State Legislature for approval and appropriations. The following is the budget allocation to the facility by HHSS for fiscal year 2003/04:

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YRTC-Geneva recognizes the importance of providing staff the training necessary for them to obtain the required skills and knowledge to make positive contributions. Developing and maintaining these competencies helps ensure the safety and security of the youth, staff, and facility. To this end, a comprehensive training program has been developed that includes pre-service, classroom training, extraneous, specialized, and on-the-job training.

**STAFFING**

YRTC-Geneva has an on-site Training Coordinator. This Coordinator is a part of the Finance and Support Division and maintains an office at the YRTC-Geneva. The Coordinator is responsible for the development of class offerings, teaching classes, recordkeeping, and coordination of the overall program. Other YRTC-Geneva staff also provide training in their areas of expertise.

During the past year, YRTC-Geneva employees completed over 10,000 hours of training, an increase of 2,000 from the 2002/03 training year. This training consisted of classroom, specialized, extraneous, on-the-job and pre-service training.

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**PROGRAM OFFERINGS**

**PRE-SERVICE TRAINING**

Prior to assuming their regular job duties, all new employees receive 160 hours of pre-service, in-service training, and on-the-job training. This training includes familiarization with all facets of the YRTC-Geneva program. Besides core curriculum classes, new employees are given an opportunity to “shadow” staff to observe job specific duties. During the past year, 24 new employees were hired. Each of these employees completed the one-week pre-service training in addition to all other training requirements.
CLASSROOM TRAINING

In-service classroom training was offered in the form of 10, 1-week sessions during the past year. As noted earlier, training is provided by a variety of staff in areas in which they have some expertise. New curriculum added in the past year included “Understanding Female Addiction,” “Justice by Gender,” and “Smoking Cessation.” In addition, with the opening of LaFlesche Cottage, staff from that area required supplemental training in safety and security, Levels programming, and cottage orientation.

SPECIALIZED TRAINING

We were fortunate to bring several excellent trainers to campus to provide training in areas not covered during the regular classroom training. These sessions included “Second Hand Smoke,” “Native American Cultural Awareness”, “Taking Care of Me—the Seven Habits of Happiness,” “The Power of Resiliency and Emotional Intelligence,” “Gender 101”, and “Lotus Notes 6.0.”

An average of 23 staff members attended each of these training sessions that further broadened their bases of knowledge.

EXTRANEOUS TRAINING

The opportunity to attend off-campus training gives staff a chance to meet other professionals and keep current with juvenile justice trends. During the past year, staff members attended the following off-campus training opportunities: “Project Management and Making Meetings Work,” “Supervisor Training,” “Heating and Cooling,” “Unmasking Sexual Con Games,” “KRONOS” and “NIS,” “Juvenile Offenders with Mental Health Disorders,” and “Disc IV Software.” Staff members also attended the following conferences: Nebraska Juvenile Justice Spring Conference, CJCA Midwest Region Conference, and the Heartland Juvenile Services Institute Conference.
**MEDICAL DEPARTMENT**

The medical goals of the YRTC-Geneva are to promote good health through teaching and daily practice; to maintain the good health of each youth; to prevent disease, disabilities, and accidents; to provide a high standard of medical care; to provide for continuity of medical care; and to provide health rehabilitation when needed.

**STAFFING**

Two full-time and one part-time Registered Nurses coordinate the medical program at the Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center – Geneva. During the past year, the nursing positions that were previously funded by grant monies have become permanent positions.

The nurses are responsible for health screening, administering and recording of medical treatments, the formulary, individual medical programs for youth, youth travel in regard to health services, daily sick calls, scheduling weekly clinic visits, medical records, and health education of the youth and employees. The nurses are under the direction of a contractual physician, who provides regular medical care for the youth. A nurse practitioner is on contract and sees referred youth for psychiatric evaluations.

The facility also maintains a contract with the local hospital for emergency medical services. YRTC-Geneva also has access to a wide variety of medical specialists to provide for any special needs that may occur with our youth.

**PROGRAM**

The medical clinic is open Monday through Friday, as well as alternating Saturday mornings. With the addition of a part-time RN, 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. coverage has been added during the weekdays. Sick call is held on a daily basis during the weekdays, and the contractual doctor and dentist hold weekly clinics.
Each newly admitted youth receives a thorough medical, dental, and eye exam. They also receive orientation as to the availability and access to medical care and the procedures for requesting care. Historical information is sought from the parents/guardians to review any previous or current medical problems and immunization history.

During the past year, the following medical services were provided:

- The staff physician performed 440 brief clinical exams and completed 120 physical exams. Thirty two exams were performed at his local office.
- Youth made 4,566 visits to the medical clinic.
- The Optometrist performed 60 eye exams and 58 pairs of glass were ordered.
- The dentist examined 120 youth and performed dental work on 85 youth.
- Prenatal visits numbered 48, with 4 obstetric ultrasounds being performed at the Family Health Services. Two youth delivered viable infants at the Family Health Services facility.
- The physician performed 24 new employee physicals.
- Youth and staff received the influenza vaccination upon request.
- Five youth received dermatology assessments with a Dermatologist.
- Two youth were referred to a specialist for colonoscopies.
- Eight Hepatitis B vaccines were administered.
MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

It is the goal of the Maintenance Department to provide and maintain a clean, aesthetically pleasant, safe, and secure facility environment to meet the needs of the youth, staff, and the State of Nebraska. In doing so, the programs of rehabilitation and treatment are enhanced. It is our intention to be very much a part of the overall YRTC-Geneva team.

STAFFING

The maintenance staff consists of one Facility Maintenance Supervisor, one Facility Maintenance Specialist, and four Facility Maintenance Technician II’s.

During the past year, following the resignation of a maintenance staff person, this position was transferred out of the Department to another area. Maintenance staff were moved to a Monday through Friday schedule, with an on-call person to cover the weekends and holidays.

Throughout the past year we have continued to have an adult inmate from the Department of Corrections assigned to work with the Maintenance Department. The inmate living quarters are in one of the former staff apartments, and the Facility Maintenance Supervisor provides supervision. This has been a successful program and the assigned inmate has historically provided a great deal of help to the Maintenance Department.

MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES

Beginning July 1, 2003, the supervision of the Maintenance Department was transferred from the Department of Administrative Services to Health & Human Services. While supervision duties were transferred, the purchasing process continued with the
Department of Administrative Services—State Building Division. The Facilities Maintenance Manager of the State Building Division approves all maintenance purchases.

The recently completed LaFlesche Cottage and renovations in other areas have created new challenges and learning experiences for all maintenance staff members.

During the past fiscal year, maintenance staff completed a total of 604 Preventive Maintenance Work Orders.

Maintenance staff all received their required hours of in-service training. This training included several job related training sessions.

This past fiscal year, the State Health Inspector, State Fire Marshal, Electrical Inspector, Boiler Inspector, and ACA Internal Audit Team visited the YRTC-Geneva campus. Suggested corrective actions have been taken on all of the deficiencies that were noted as a result of their inspections.

Major projects that were completed in the past year by facility staff and contractors include:

- Department of Roads, Fillmore County Roads Department, and staff from LRC, BSCD, and GIVH completed demolition of YRTC-Geneva sidewalks and front driveway.
- A new employee parking lot was completed.
- A Walking Path was constructed.
- Continuing work on the electronic door systems in all cottages.
- A new HIVAC unit was installed in the Chapel.
Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center - Geneva

2003/04 ADMISSIONS

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# 2003/04 RELEASES

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## FY2003/04 AVERAGE COUNTS

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**AVERAGES**

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**AVERAGE AGE AT ADMISSION:** 16

**AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY:** 10 MONTHS
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Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center - Geneva

2003/04 ADMISSIONS BY RACE

- Caucasian: 54%
- African American: 23%
- Hispanic: 13%
- Native American: 10%
# Youth Rehabilitation & Treatment Center - Geneva

## FY2003/04 COMMITTING OFFENSES

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