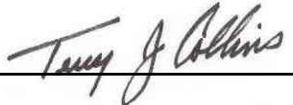


STATE OF OHIO



DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION
AND CORRECTION

SUBJECT: FEMALE OFFENDER PROGRAMS AND SERVICES	PAGE <u> 1 </u> OF <u> 3 </u> . NUMBER: 71-SOC-04
RULE/CODE REFERENCE:	SUPERSEDES: 71-SOC-04 dated 05/03/08
RELATED ACA STANDARDS: 4-4436, 4-4353-1	EFFECTIVE DATE: June 20, 2009
	APPROVED: 

I. AUTHORITY

This policy is issued in compliance with the Ohio Revised Code 5120.01 which delegates to the Director the authority to manage and direct the total operations of the Department and to establish such rules and regulations as the Director prescribes.

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to develop and implement standards regarding programs and services to meet the unique needs of female offenders.

III. APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction staff, independent contractors, and offenders working or assigned to correctional institutions that house females.

IV. DEFINITIONS

None

V. POLICY

It is the policy of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction to ensure that correction facilities housing females shall maintain gender specific programs and services that address special needs of female offenders.

VI. PROCEDURES

A. Inmate Programs

1. Female institutions shall provide education and counseling services to address issues specific to the female offender, such as, domestic violence, sexual abuse, and family planning, etc.

2. Female institutions shall provide parent education programming specifically designed to enhance parenting skills, address child welfare issues and assist the offender in developing family reunification plans prior to release.
3. Female institutions shall provide health promotion programs, information, services or workshops, which address the health issues of the female population, such as smoking cessation, self-breast examination, weight control, and hypertension/stress management.
4. Pre-natal programming, information, services or workshops will be provided for all pregnant offenders.
5. A mother-infant residential parenting program will be available for eligible offender mothers serving short sentences so that they can maintain custody of infants born during their incarceration. This program shall be assigned by qualified persons, with whom the infants are placed when they are not in the care of their mothers. Qualified persons may include offenders who are trained in the competencies required for nursery care and who are working under appropriate supervision.
6. Institutions housing pregnant offenders shall provide support services such as baby placement planning, prenatal education, parent education and post-partum depression counseling. Unless mandated by state law, birth certificates/registry does not list a correctional facility as the place of birth for any infant born to an incarcerated mother.
7. Offenders, upon their request, shall be provided information regarding pregnancy options, which include abortion and adoption.
8. Female institution release preparation programs shall provide information regarding sexually transmitted diseases, birth control information, family reunification planning, and information about the Department of Children's Services if appropriate.
9. Substance abuse programming should recognize and address dynamics that are specific to women, such as effects of drugs and alcohol on the fetus, psychodynamics' of dependency issues, effect of addiction on the family, etc.
10. When possible, institutions housing female offenders shall provide education, training, and work opportunities in occupations which are not traditionally female, i.e., building maintenance, carpentry, auto repair, farm crew, etc.

B. Institution Services

1. Commissary—female gender specific hygiene items shall be available in the commissary. The commissary shall also provide appropriate cosmetic items in order to maintain good grooming.
2. Visiting—in addition to the routine institution visiting program, as outlined in Administrative Rule 5120-9-15, female institutions are encouraged to provide alternative

visiting programs which shall promote mother/child bonding and facilitate the maintenance of the family structure.

3. Recreation—Recreation shall include those activities that are of specific interest to the female offenders.