

Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center

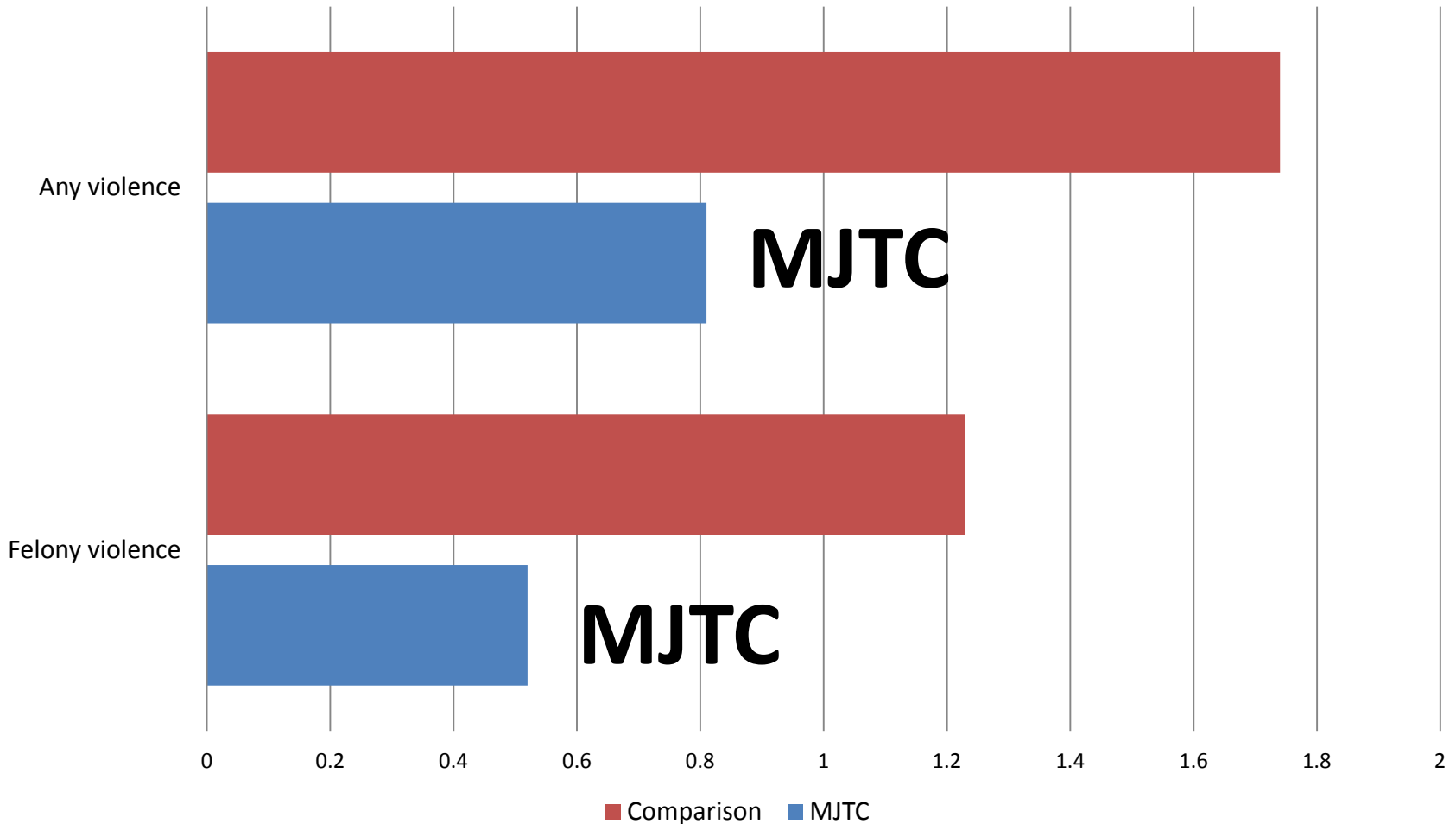


Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center

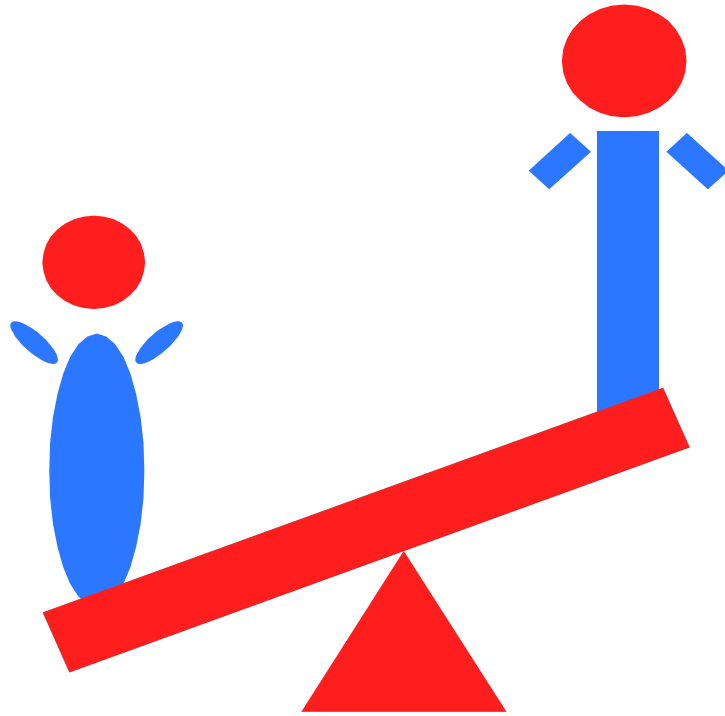
- **The most violent institutionalized juveniles can be treated effectively**
1. Treatment reduces recidivism, especially for felony crimes
 2. Treatment is effective for youth who have psychopathic personality features
 3. Treatment is cost effective

1. Treatment Reduces Recidivism

Offenses per youth



Recidivism: **ZERO** Homicides 4.5 years after Discharge



Comparison Group

Homicides = **16**

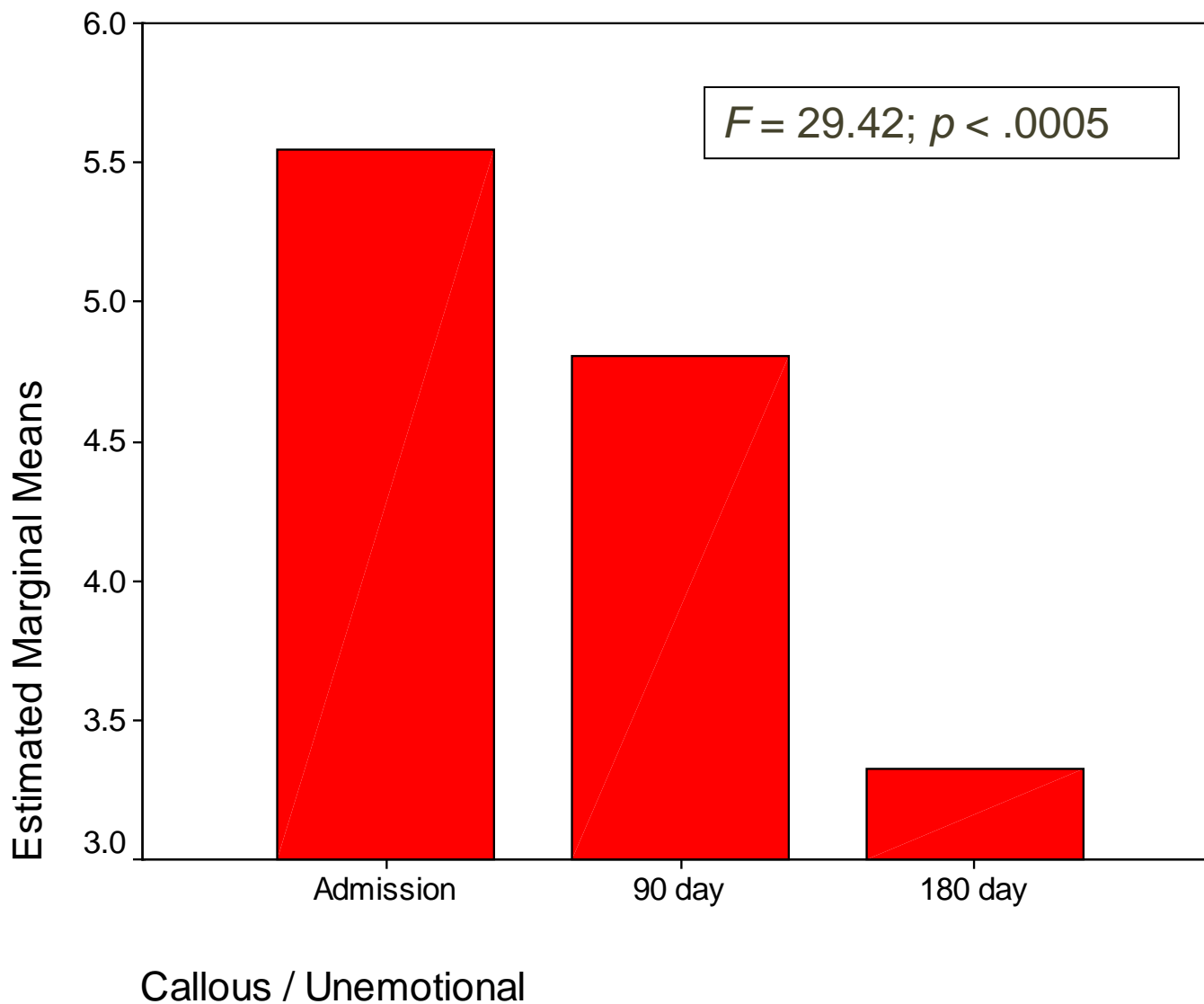
N = 139

Treatment Group

Homicides = **0** MJTC

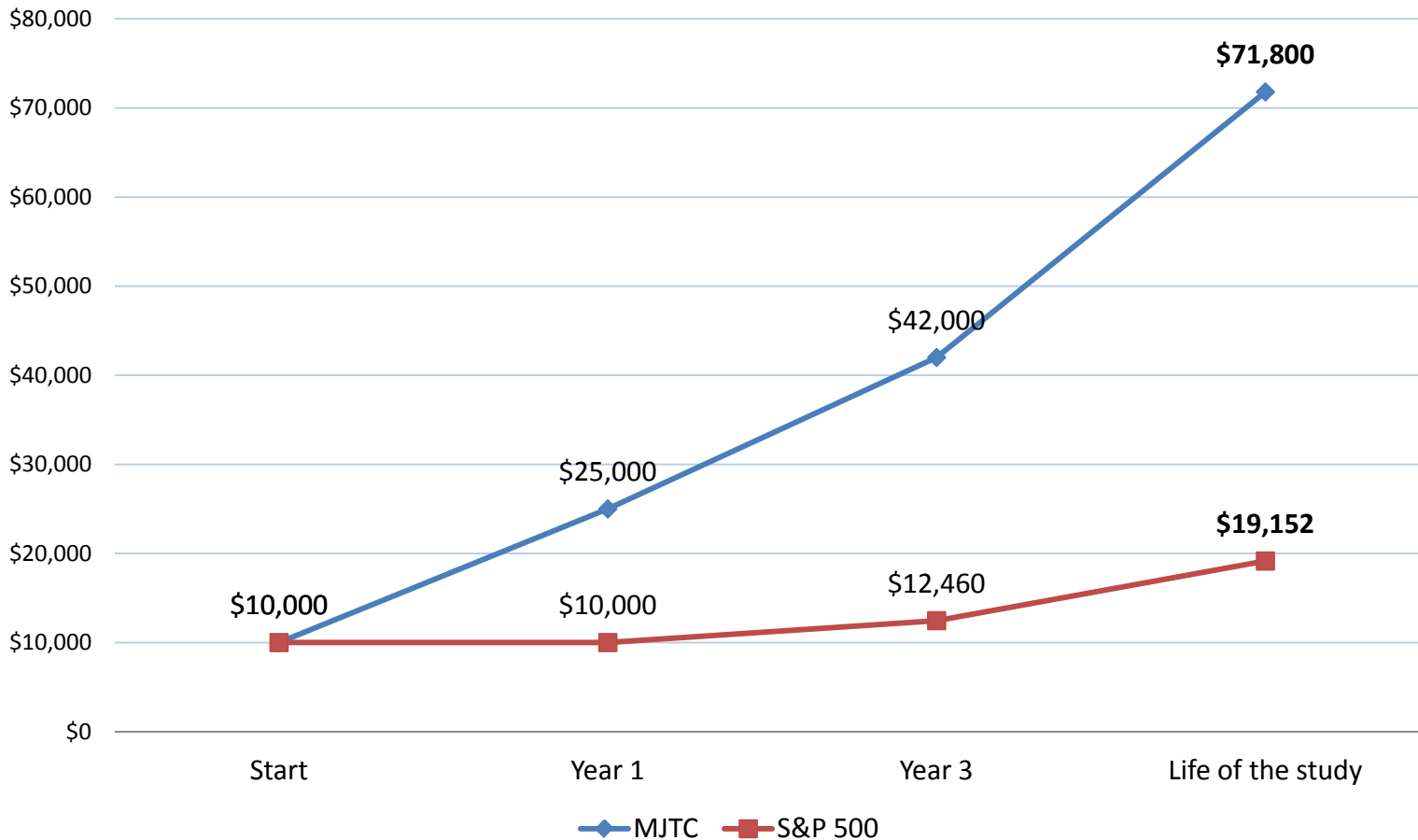
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2. Treatment Effective for Reducing Psychopathic Features – Callous/Unemotional Trait Reduction



3. TREATING VIOLENT JUVENILES IS COST-EFFECTIVE

Cost - benefits of MJTC



Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center
[MJTC]:
Clinical-Correctional Model of Care



Mendota Mental Health Institute
Madison, Wisconsin

Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center – Statutory Language

[46.057\(1\)](#) The department shall establish, maintain, and operate the Mendota juvenile treatment center on the grounds of the Mendota Mental Health Institute

The center shall provide psychological and psychiatric evaluations and treatment for juveniles whose behavior presents a serious problem to themselves or others in other juvenile correctional facilities and whose mental health needs can be met at the center

The Foundation for Treatment

- A Clinical-Correctional Hybrid Structure for Violent Youth
- In the Health Services Agency
- High Security Structure with Low Coercion Treatment
- Youth Choose to Participate
- Not Participating has Natural Results within Program

What is the Goal?

- Big Picture: Reduce Recidivism
- Institution Picture: Decrease Defiance
- Decreasing Defiance Ripens Conditions for Real Treatment

Counterintuitive Practices

- No One Technique or Set of Techniques

Treatment effects come from:

1. Physical environment
2. Comprehensive & Multidimensional Treatment System
3. How the System is Administered: With Security, Not By Security
4. Once 'Decompressed' – Clinical Focus

Set Up Treatment by Making a Data Feedback System That Matters

Today-
Tomorrow
Behavior
Program

Insert Format Records Tools Window Help

MJTC Conduct Database -- Data Entry Form

394245 Date for Data 12/10/2001 Assigned Unit MJTC 3

BEHAVIOR PROGRAM

	Peers	Adults	Limits	Group	Earn	Max	Busted 1
AM	10	10	10	School	12	12	<input type="checkbox"/>
PM	10	10	10	Special	18	18	<input type="checkbox"/>

Percent 100% 100%
Level 4 4
Calc Save

SECURITY

Security Status Levels
UnitRestriction 0
Hours 0 Hours Specify No hours
ConductReports
RoomExtraction
ControlStatus

SELF HARM

Checks 0
ObservationStatus

Add New Record
Close Form

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS - NARRATIVE

Event Category
Significant Event

Record: 1 of 298

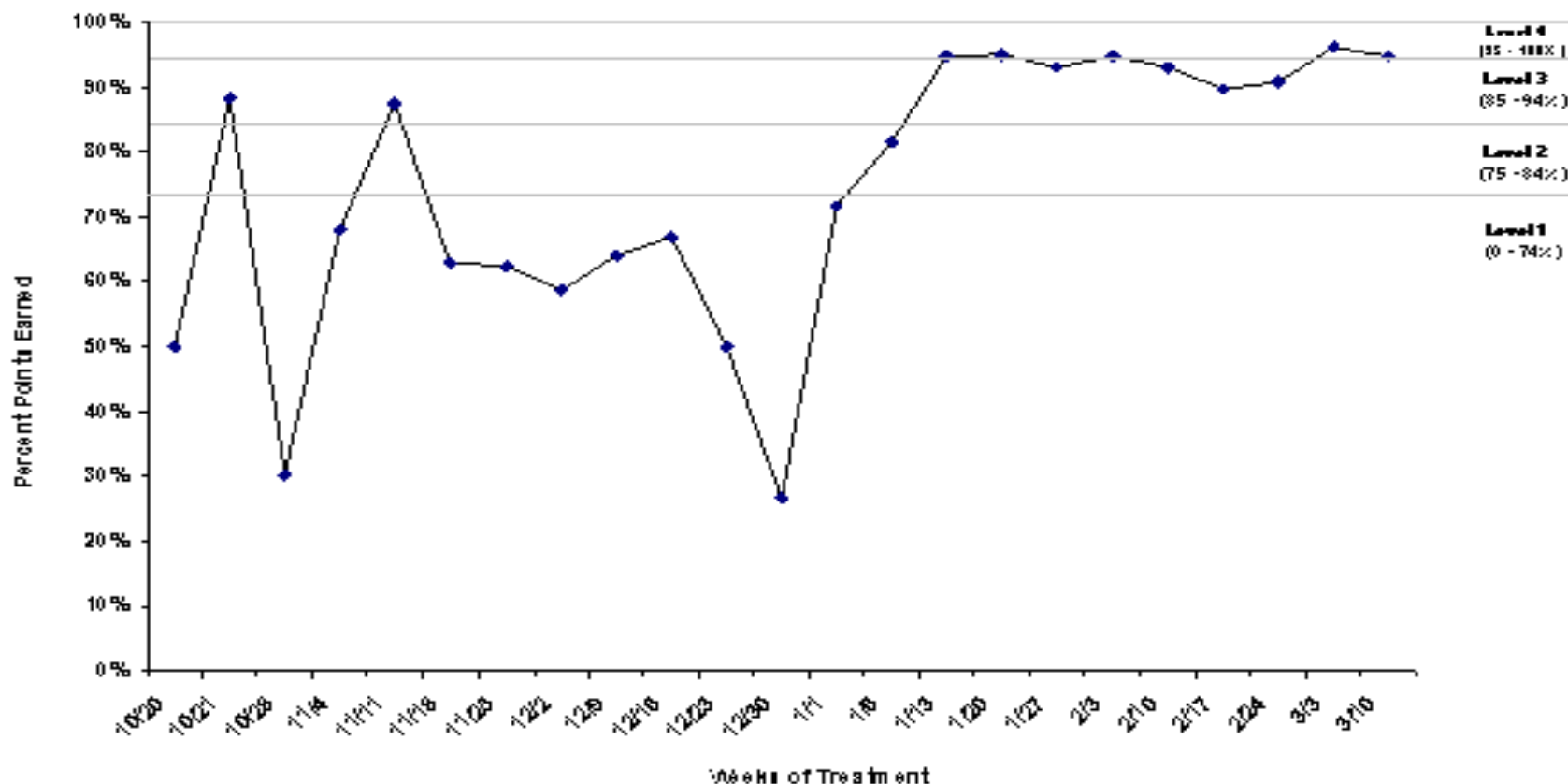
Security
Data

Events
Data

Today-Tomorrow: Weekly



Percent of Points Earned Weekly on MJTC



Each AM-PM shift, data is taken using 0-10 point behavior rating scales assessing interactions with peers, interactions with adults, and the ability to follow rules and limits. In addition, data is taken using 0-6 point behavior rating scales assessing behavior and participation in each school class and treatment group. The ratings are combined to calculate a total percent for the day.

What is the Key to Effectively Reaching Very Violent Youth?

- **Create another system and place it next to the system in play, but make the new system a better one for the youth →→→→ and then balance the “new system” against the necessary correctional sanctions which are there primarily for safety reasons instead of repeated punishment**

Treatment Components

'Today-Tomorrow' Behavioral Assessment System

- x2 Daily Ratings on youth behaviors
- Higher points = Greater Privileges
- Daily levels = Privileges
- Redemption Available Every day
- Youth decides: Choice over Coercion
- Data Driven Decisions – Information for All

Why Does it Work?

- Transparent – Easy to Understand
- Predictable – Every Day Results
- Fair & Clear – Works for All Involved
- Immediate – Pay-off is Rapid and Regular
- Redeemability – Short Penalties – 1 Day
- Achievability – Reachable Goals & Desirable Outcomes

Results

- Treatment can Significantly Improve Institution Conduct
- Improved Institution Conduct Predicts Improved Community Behavior
- Treatment Reduces Recidivism
- Treatment Reduces Costs
- Treatment Breaks Psychopathic Features
- Treatment Most Effective for Most Psychopathic

What Does it Take?

- Change Legal Structure for Placement
- Change Infrastructure from Pure Security Model – Create New Model & Practice
- Commit to Treating Most Violent Youth
- Sufficient Budget to Staff Properly
- Active Supervision of Staff
- Utilize Data Driven Evidence System
- Tolerate Negative Behaviors of Youth Long Enough for Treatment to Take Hold

Mendota Mental Health Institute
Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center



How can we help?

Despite Current Trend, Clinical-Correctional Hybrid Models of Care are Effective Interventions in the Treatment of Violent Juveniles

To Really Help: Change the System

