



John Howard Association of Illinois

2015 recipient of MacArthur Award for Creative and Effective Institutions

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Sheridan Correctional Center: Inmate Survey Results from JHA's Monitoring Visit Conducted November 30th 2017

Sheridan Correctional Center is a medium-security prison that housed 1,770 adult male inmates on the day of JHA's monitoring visit. JHA collected 944 surveys from inmates (53.3% of the population) during our monitoring visit of this prison. Inmate responses to survey questions are reported below.

Responses to Inmate Demographic Questions:

Race		
Black	536	57%
White	230	24%
Hispanic	106	11%
Other	44	5%
No response	28	3%
Total	944	100%

Age		
Under 26	222	24%
26-35	358	38%
36-45	215	23%
46-55	101	11%
Over 55	36	4%
No response	12	1%
Total	944	100%

How long have you been in this prison?		
Less than 6 months	255	27%
6 months or more	670	71%
No response	19	2%
Total	944	100%

Primary assignment		
Work	177	19%
School	233	25%
Unassigned	419	44%
Other	46	5%
No response	69	7%
Total	944	100%

Responses to Inmate Survey Questions:

Q1: I feel safe		
Strongly Agree	170	18%
Agree	373	40%
Neutral	264	28%
Disagree	72	8%
Strongly Disagree	49	5%
No Response	16	2%
Total	944	100%

Q2: Staff treat inmates with respect		
Strongly Agree	15	2%
Agree	61	7%
Neutral	197	21%
Disagree	279	30%
Strongly Disagree	385	41%
No Response	7	1%
Total	944	100%

Q3: Inmates treat inmates with respect		
Strongly Agree	47	5%
Agree	211	22%
Neutral	444	47%
Disagree	140	15%
Strongly Disagree	86	9%
No Response	16	2%
Total	944	100%

Q4: I know the rules or where to find them		
Strongly Agree	164	17%
Agree	419	44%
Neutral	147	16%
Disagree	118	13%
Strongly Disagree	83	9%
No Response	13	1%
Total	944	100%

Q5: Staff follow rules		
Strongly Agree	23	2%
Agree	98	10%
Neutral	227	24%
Disagree	269	29%
Strongly Disagree	313	33%
No Response	14	2%
Total	944	100%

Q6: My Correctional Counselor is effective		
Strongly Agree	94	10%
Agree	229	24%
Neutral	245	26%
Disagree	154	16%
Strongly Disagree	209	22%
No Response	13	1%
Total	944	100%

Q7: I am satisfied with medical services		
Strongly Agree	33	4%
Agree	116	12%
Neutral	196	21%
Disagree	218	23%
Strongly Disagree	371	39%
No Response	10	1%
Total	944	100%

Q8: I avoid health care to avoid \$5 co-pay		
Strongly Agree	419	44%
Agree	200	21%
Neutral	105	11%
Disagree	123	13%
Strongly Disagree	86	9%
No Response	11	1%
Total	944	100%

Q9: The disciplinary process is fair		
Strongly Agree	18	2%
Agree	71	8%
Neutral	235	25%
Disagree	233	25%
Strongly Disagree	375	40%
No Response	12	1%
Total	944	100%

Q10: This facility is safe for inmates		
Strongly Agree	96	10%
Agree	314	33%
Neutral	330	35%
Disagree	102	11%
Strongly Disagree	91	10%
No Response	11	1%
Total	944	100%

Q11: There is at least one staff member who I could ask for help		
Strongly Agree	140	15%
Agree	376	40%
Neutral	190	20%
Disagree	112	12%
Strongly Disagree	119	13%
No Response	7	1%
Total	944	100%

Q12: The grievance process is effective		
Strongly Agree	11	1%
Agree	38	4%
Neutral	173	18%
Disagree	224	24%
Strongly Disagree	485	51%
No Response	13	1%
Total	944	100%

Q13: I would feel comfortable filing a grievance		
Strongly Agree	47	5%
Agree	106	11%
Neutral	188	20%
Disagree	220	23%
Strongly Disagree	373	40%
No Response	10	1%
Total	944	100%

Q14: Contraband from outside facility often gets inside		
Strongly Agree	12	1%
Agree	30	3%
Neutral	126	13%
Disagree	301	32%
Strongly Disagree	452	48%
No Response	23	2%
Total	944	100%

Q15: There is frequent gang activity here		
Strongly Agree	68	7%
Agree	101	11%
Neutral	203	22%
Disagree	286	30%
Strongly Disagree	271	29%
No Response	15	2%
Total	944	100%

Q16: Mail is timely		
Strongly Agree	16	2%
Agree	9	1%
Neutral	20	2%
Disagree	59	6%
Strongly Disagree	825	87%
No Response	15	2%
Total	944	100%

Q17: Adequate cleaning supplies are provided		
Strongly Agree	16	2%
Agree	78	8%
Neutral	137	15%
Disagree	247	26%
Strongly Disagree	447	47%
No Response	19	2%
Total	944	100%

Q18: Temperature is comfortable		
Strongly Agree	33	4%
Agree	211	22%
Neutral	282	30%
Disagree	184	20%
Strongly Disagree	227	24%
No Response	7	1%
Total	944	100%

Q19: Posted schedules are accurate		
Strongly Agree	47	5%
Agree	249	26%
Neutral	300	32%
Disagree	172	18%
Strongly Disagree	161	17%
No Response	15	2%
Total	944	100%

Q20: Ventilation is adequate		
Strongly Agree	34	4%
Agree	177	19%
Neutral	324	34%
Disagree	190	20%
Strongly Disagree	183	19%
No Response	36	4%
Total	944	100%

Q21: When something is broken it is fixed in a timely manner		
Strongly Agree	11	1%
Agree	72	8%
Neutral	158	17%
Disagree	275	29%
Strongly Disagree	418	44%
No Response	10	1%
Total	944	100%

Q22: I am satisfied with food from dietary		
Strongly Agree	5	1%
Agree	25	3%
Neutral	67	7%
Disagree	158	17%
Strongly Disagree	683	72%
No Response	6	1%
Total	944	100%

Q23: Clothing provided by state is adequate		
Strongly Agree	14	2%
Agree	97	10%
Neutral	210	22%
Disagree	226	24%
Strongly Disagree	386	41%
No Response	11	1%
Total	944	100%

Q24: I have adequate access to showers		
Strongly Agree	104	11%
Agree	305	32%
Neutral	180	19%
Disagree	161	17%
Strongly Disagree	183	19%
No Response	11	1%
Total	944	100%

Q25: Enough state hygiene items are provided		
Strongly Agree	12	1%
Agree	41	4%
Neutral	65	7%
Disagree	209	22%
Strongly Disagree	606	64%
No Response	11	1%
Total	944	100%

Q26: There is enough rec		
Strongly Agree	14	2%
Agree	81	9%
Neutral	94	10%
Disagree	194	21%
Strongly Disagree	548	58%
No Response	13	1%
Total	944	100%

Q27: I have adequate access to law library		
Strongly Agree	93	10%
Agree	281	30%
Neutral	272	29%
Disagree	122	13%
Strongly Disagree	159	17%
No Response	17	2%
Total	944	100%

Q28: I have enough access to phones		
Strongly Agree	37	4%
Agree	157	17%
Neutral	123	13%
Disagree	187	20%
Strongly Disagree	432	46%
No Response	8	1%
Total	944	100%

Q29: Helpful reentry info is provided by staff		
Strongly Agree	122	13%
Agree	284	30%
Neutral	281	30%
Disagree	112	12%
Strongly Disagree	125	13%
No Response	20	2%
Total	944	100%

Q30: Rehabilitative & Education programming is adequate		
Strongly Agree	153	16%
Agree	307	33%
Neutral	241	26%
Disagree	88	9%
Strongly Disagree	138	15%
No Response	17	2%
Total	944	100%

*Not all percentages reported for individual survey items add up to 100% due to percentages being rounded to whole number.