



**RANDALL COUNTY JUVENILE PROBATION
YOUTH CENTER OF THE HIGH PLAINS**

9300 South Georgia ♦ Amarillo, Texas 79118
(806) 468-5700 Telephone ♦ (806) 468-5713 Fax

Joe Barton, MA, LPC-S, NCC
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer

Erin A. Wyrick, MA, LPC-S
Deputy Chief of Behavioral Health

To: Chiefs of Contracting Counties
CC: Lou Serrano, TJJD – Deputy Executive Director
Mark Williams, TJJD – Regional County Program Administrator
From: Joe Barton, Randall County Chief JPO
Date: June 30, 2020
Re: COVID-19



Hello Chiefs,

In light of current concerns related to the COVID-19, I am writing to let all of you know what steps we, at the Randall County Juvenile Probation Department / Youth Center of the High Plains, are taking to help ensure the safety and health of the children we serve, and our valued officers and staff.

Working in concert with our facility medical director, as well as following recommendations published by the CDC, Randall County Juvenile Probation / Youth Center of the High Plains has initiated the following:

- Refreshers and signage regarding recommended hygiene practices (e.g., hand-washing, proper interpersonal hygienic practices);
- Public and Internal Notices (to our employees) regarding avoiding our premises if sick or ill;
- New, more specific and stringent, intake protocols to monitor incoming children for signs and symptoms of contagious illness and implementing specific protocols with our medical staff to lessen the likelihood of any contagious illnesses being spread to others in the facility;
- We have ensured all necessary supplies are on hand;
- Travel will be limited;
- Our continuing practice is to notify placing agents if their child becomes seriously ill and we welcome any and all communication about the well-being of a child by a parent or placing agent.

We believe that education, prevention, and preparedness are keys to upholding the highest levels of safety and health for all on our premises and within our facility.

The health and safety of those we serve is our top priority.

We will continue to stay informed, seek guidance from our medical personnel, and respond efficiently as this dynamic situation continues to develop.

Sincerely,

Joe Barton, Ph.D., LPC-S
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer
Randall County Juvenile Probation / Youth Center of the High Plains