



KPYF residents participate in a recreational programming activity.

Alaska Ombudsman

The Alaska State Ombudsman investigates complaints from the public about how state agencies have handled issues, as outlined in Alaska Statute 24.55. They look at whether the agency acted unlawfully, unfairly, unreasonably, mistakenly, or inefficiently. If needed, the Ombudsman may recommend a solution or steps to prevent the problem from happening again. Alaskans should first try to resolve the issue with the agency directly. If that doesn't work, they can contact the Ombudsman for help.

By Phone:

Anchorage: 907-269-5290
Juneau: 907-465-4970
Elsewhere in Alaska: 800-478-2624
Out of State: 907-269-5290

By Mail:

Alaska State Ombudsman
1500 West Benson Blvd.
Anchorage, AK 99503



Kenai Peninsula Youth Facility

Marathon School

Youth at Kenai Peninsula Youth Facility receive a comprehensive education through the State Department of Education and administered by the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District.

Helping students achieve their academic potential is a primary goal of the school program. Since nearly two-thirds of youth are two or more years behind academically, remedial education and summer school are provided. The school staff is dedicated to offering opportunities that prepare youth for success in school, work, or further education after leaving the program.

In addition to providing basic academic instruction, another important goal of the school is to assist students in finishing high school and earning a diploma.

For questions about your child's education, you may call the teacher at 907-335-3343.

VISITATION DAYS & HOURS

- Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Sundays from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Visitation is limited to immediate family.

Special visitation hours may be available by contacting the Unit Supervisor at 907-335-3102.

Contact Information

If you wish to contact your child at the Kenai Peninsula Youth Facility, you may do so by calling:

907-335-3102 Local
844-335-3100 Toll Free

All calls are discontinued at 8:30 p.m. every day.

405 Marathon Road
Kenai, AK 99611

907-335-3100

Our mission

To hold juvenile offenders accountable for their behavior, promote the safety and restoration of victims and communities, and assist offenders and their families in developing skills to prevent crime.

History

The Kenai Peninsula Youth Facility (KPYF) opened in December 2003 to meet the need for a juvenile detention on the Kenai Peninsula, allowing youth to remain close to their families and legal counsel. The Juvenile Probation office is also on-site, giving youth and families direct access to their Juvenile Probation Officers.

Philosophy

At KPYF, we accept each youth as they are. Our philosophy focuses on helping them take responsibility for their choices and the consequences. We are committed to building resiliency and reducing recidivism through meaningful opportunities for growth. We recognize that working closely with families is essential to long-term success as youth prepare to return to their communities. KPYF employs trauma-informed care to foster accountability, repair harm, and support the development of life skills.



Detention residents learn about fire safety during a presentation at KPYF.

Detention Program

The detention unit at KPYF temporarily holds male and female youth while their cases are investigated and the court determines a disposition. Adolescents from other areas of the state may also be held at KPYF. KPYF's detention unit provides a secure placement for juveniles who have committed a crime or violation and need to be detained to:

Assure a court appearance.

Protect the community.

Protect themselves.

KPYF detention is designed to provide a safe and secure setting for youth awaiting court decisions or transfer to probation or institutional programs. It is also the goal of the detention unit to create an environment for youth that supports growth.

Although stays on the detention unit are typically short, ranging from overnight to over 30 days, staff work to achieve meaningful short-term goals. Juvenile Justice Counselors provide individual and group counseling, supported by a behavioral system designed to modify unacceptable behaviors. Youth also receive academic evaluations, along with school and recreational programming. Contracted psychiatrists and psychologists provide court-ordered evaluations and offer guidance to staff in dealing with youth experiencing difficulties.

Performance-based Standards

Performance-based Standards (PbS) is a national quality improvement program for juvenile justice agencies and facilities to identify, monitor, and improve the conditions and rehabilitation services for youth in locked detention and treatment centers. Guided by national standards and outcome measures, KPYF began its membership in PbS in 2004 and has since made improvements in our services to the youth we serve. Following PbS standards helps us align with national best practices that support successful reentry into the community.

Medical Department

KPYF's Medical Department is staffed by one part-time registered nurse. Consultants include a physician, dentist, dental hygienist, psychiatrist and mental health clinicians who augment the nursing staff and contribute to the 24-hour medical care maintained by an on-call system. The nursing staff also provide ongoing training for KPYF employees and is available for consultation with staff regarding youth medications, injuries, or other medical matters.

Volunteers

KPYF values community involvement and recognizes the public's role in helping youth successfully transition back into the community. To foster engagement, KPYF maintains an open-door policy for individuals and groups interested in volunteering. Community members are invited to share their time and talents through skill-building activities such as guitar lessons, cooking, and arts and crafts. These experiences give youth opportunities to connect with positive adult role models who can support them beyond their time at KPYF.