

## STANISLAUS COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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## **Stanislaus County Juvenile Hall Health Care Accreditation**

The Stanislaus County Juvenile Hall youth health care services has been awarded a two-year accreditation by the Institute for Medical Quality (IMQ) for meeting medical and mental health standards for corrections and detentions health care.

"Stanislaus County is to be congratulated for meeting these health care standards," said Institute for Medical Quality (IMQ) Board of Trustee Chair, John Kusske, MD. "The adult and juvenile facilities, their staffs and the local community all benefit when the health care in these facilities is found to meet standards developed by the healthcare profession. Implementation of these standards results in more effective health care delivery, greater cost efficiency and better overall health protection for the community," he added.

The accreditation process is rigorous. Evaluations of jail and juvenile hall health services under IMQ's accreditation program are conducted by practicing healthcare professionals including physicians, registered nurses, and mental health clinicians with experience in corrections and detentions health care who are members of IMQ's Corrections and Detentions Health Care Program. The standards cover 62 aspects of Care. These include Administration, Personnel, Care and Treatment, Medication Management, Health Records, and Legal and Ethical Issues. The Accreditation is voluntary.

Stanislaus County Juvenile Hall entered the IMQ Accreditation Program in the 1990's and has maintained accreditation since then. The facility staff has worked diligently to comply with IMQ's standards amid a health care delivery system that has evolved through the years. There currently are 58 county jail and juvenile hall systems in California, 24 of which have received accreditation.

IMQ's correctional health program began in 1979, under the California Medical Association (CMA) in cooperation with the AMA and the California State Sheriff's Association. The program began by offering on-site review and consultation to California jails seeking national accreditation, and then moved forward into the juvenile detention arena. Since then, IMQ has expanded its services to include accreditation surveys, annual Title 15 inspections, consultations, and training for jail and juvenile hall custody and healthcare staffs.

**Editors/News Directors:** A Certificate of Accreditation was sent to Jill Silva, Chief Probation Officer, Stanislaus County.