N A A T A P
Native American and Alaskan Technical Assistance Project

PROJECT GUIDE:
Adult Correctional Facility Design Resources

Part of A Series of Guides for Planning, Designing and Constructing Adult and Juvenile Correctional and Detention Facilities on Tribal Lands
The Native American and Alaskan Technical Assistance Project (NAATAP) was created pursuant to an interagency agreement between the National Institute of Corrections and the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

National Institute of Corrections
Morris Thigpen, Director
Larry Solomon, Deputy Director
320 First Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554
(800) 995-6425

Bureau of Justice Assistance
Domingo S. Herrera, Director
Mark Roscoe, Branch Chief
810 Seventh Street NW
Fourth Floor
Washington, DC 20531
(202) 616-6500

Prepared under National Institute of Corrections Cooperative Agreement 04S07GIU2 with Justice Planners International LLC (JPI), 29 Donnybrook Drive, Demarest, NJ 07620 and 1179 Clifton Road, Atlanta, GA 30307. principals: Shelley Zavlek and Mark Goldman.

Purpose

The purpose of each NAATAP Guide is to communicate substantive information concerning a range of subjects that are relevant to the development of adult and juvenile detention and correctional facilities in Indian Country. This series of guides grew out of a recognition that there were common concerns and questions being raised by Tribes and consultants developing new correctional facilities on Native lands throughout the country. The guides seek to provide research and information on issues of common concern to the Tribes. These guides also seek to document the knowledge and experience gained by Justice Planners International LLC (JPI) while providing technical assistance to tribes engaged in the facility development process.

Acknowledgements

JPI acknowledges the assistance of the many consultants who contributed their expertise in the preparation of this series of guides. These materials were developed and reviewed by individuals with diverse backgrounds, expertise and experience in planning and design of juvenile and adult correctional and detention facilities, as well as analysis, design and operation of justice programs, facilities and systems on a local, state and national level.

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Author
Justice Planners International LLC (JPI)

JPI Project Staff: Shelley Zavlek and Mark Goldman, Principals; Anthony H. Jones and Joshua LeFrancois, Associates
Introduction

This project guide presents an annotated bibliography of resources that may be useful to those planning and designing adult detention and correctional facilities. Indeed, a multitude of literature pertaining to the planning and design of jails exists, and this collection represents merely a fraction of it. It is, however, intended to cover a broad range of issues pertaining to planning and design. While the reference selections made for this particular guide are geared mostly toward the planning and design of jails, some documents that pertain to both juvenile and adult facilities, and several documents that concern financing and construction, are also included.

It is recommended that each Tribe's planning and design team review the brief descriptions of the documents contained in this project guide and determine the relative merits of each. Then the sources that seem most applicable to the project should be acquired to be used for the following purposes:

- To increase familiarity with “state of the art” jail architecture, and with design issues and options
- To inspire concepts and encourage creative problem solving
- To share ideas and communicate effectively with other Tribal participants, and with architects and consultants

The sources, which range in size from small booklets to large books, are arranged alphabetically.
Selected Resources on Correctional Facility Planning and Design


The article explores design solutions to ensuring staff safety. Specific examples include: control room design and security rating, pass devices, pod supervision, areas of refuge, and positive staff and inmate identification.


This journal article discusses reasonable accommodations and program accessibility for persons with disabilities as they enter, exit and/or pass through a building. Specifics include discussions on entrances, signage, telephones, security barriers, grab bars, visiting areas, lighting, acoustics mobility aids, toilets, medical isolation cells, and locations of accessible cells. An ADA compliance checklist is also included.


This article discusses the value of progressive thinking in corrections planning. The “soft environment,” is considered as a means of reducing prison violence and improving behavior. Cost issues are also considered, as a good design can lower operating costs significantly. Effective design can help to achieve safer, more humane prisons.


*The Justice Facility Review* is an annual publication from the American Institute of Architects that displays and describes projects that have received recognition from the Committee on Architecture for Justice. Each year’s booklet showcases the state of the art in the design of criminal justice facilities. For every project, there is a floorplan and/or other diagram, and a written description that includes the architect’s statement.


Examines state-of-the-art methods of construction and financing for correctional institutions, focusing on Ohio’s Ross Correctional Institution. Discusses adaptability of the systems construction approach to the podular/direct-supervision concept of jail design and management, and explores various strategies for construction financing.


As of June 30, 1999 there were 69 correctional facilities supervising 1,695 individuals in Indian Country. Statistics cover: the number of persons under supervision, in custody and in the community; admissions and releases; deaths and suicides; facility characteristics such as function, age and capacity; facilities under court order or consent decree for overcrowding or other reason(s); and; programs and staffing needs. NIC Accession No. 016212.


This brief article discusses space specific requirements, numbers, acoustics, location, HVAC, lead lining of walls, plumbing, storage, privacy, security, accommodations for females and elderly and numerous other issues. It also describes issues related to hygiene, pharmaceuticals, and suicide.


This document contains articles on alternatives to incarceration, juveniles in adult facilities, transitioning from incarceration back to community, and architectural challenges to violent juveniles. (Available from The American Correctional Association, 4380 Forbes Blvd, Lanham, MD 20706).


Geared for representatives from Tribal and other governments’ planning and design teams, this document provides checklists that are extremely useful during the design review process. The checklists pose dozens of questions aimed to help ensure that the design of a jurisdic-
tion’s jail meets that jurisdiction’s needs; and supports its mission, intended operations and programs; is safe and secure; and appropriate for its offender populations. Although primarily written for jails, most of it is applicable to Tribal juvenile facilities and combined juvenile and adult facilities too. Available in late 2002 from the National Institute of Corrections Information Center.


This resource was developed for local officials, jail practitioners, and others interested in the design, management, and operations of direct supervision jails. It is intended to help readers identify jails they may want to study, contact or visit. The document provides basic data on design, bed space, and other aspects of 293 direct supervision facilities. Internet location: http://www.nicic.org/pubs/2001/dsj-2001.pdf


This guide is a source of information for jail facilities up to 200 beds in size. Intended to help jurisdictions create better and more effective jails, the guide provides information essential for successful design and operations. Sections cover pre-design planning and major design considerations (i.e. classification, criminal justice interface). Information is also provided on each functional component (e.g., master control, intake-release, general and special housing), special considerations (i.e. single vs. multiple occupancy, conversions, and costs), and making a building work. NIC Accession No. 015061.


In 1985, a survey was conducted on 255 small jails (50 beds or less) that had been opened since 1974 throughout the United States. The purpose of the survey was to discover how well the jails were working in relation to their designs and construction. NIC accession no. 004956. Internet location: http://www.nicic.org/pubs/pre/004956.pdf


This book is an extremely useful reference for professionals in the corrections and academic community to use when designing, detailing and specifying all kinds of correctional facilities. It includes over 350 pages of text and illustrations that contribute to a detailed account of the processes related to the past, present, and future of corrections design and planning.


Information regarding the planning of new institutions (PONI), in particular juvenile detention and corrections facilities on tribal lands is provided. Sections include: historical overview and evolution of juvenile detention and corrections in general and specific to Tribes; planning in the 21st Century; mission and vision statements; facility development process (FDP); planning team role clarification; direct supervision; using data for facility planning; issues in new facility staffing; operational programming; architectural programming; engaging the public; taking control of the project; site evaluation; and transition and activation. NIC accession no. 016222.


This text is from an NIC class frequently taught to representatives from jurisdictions that are planning a new jail. Participants in this 56-hour seminar learn about the schematic design, design development, and construction document phases of the facility development process. The document explains how to evaluate the success with which the schematic design translates the functional program; and how to assess
how well the design will support intended operations, programs and services. NIC accession no. 014073.

This is a collection of articles providing basic information on the principals of podular, direct supervision jails, and the experiences of local jurisdictions in implementing direct supervision. Internet location: http://www.nicic.org/pubs/jails.htm.

Article argues that properly designed direct supervision dormitories can meet political constraints and offer better work environments for staff. In addition, they are safer, more secure and often the most logical, practical solution. Provides a brief history of direct supervision, lists its principles and comments on the future of its implementation in jail design.

Issues relating to site selection with significant tips on site factors such as traffic flow, distance to courthouse, water usage in detention settings, expansion capability, proximity to population centers and medical assistance and utility availability. The document lays out a process of establishing site criteria, preliminary evaluations, site selection, and site master planning. Common site criteria that are addressed include public fears and the demands of security, economy and functionality. Internet location: http://www.nicic.org/pubs/1996/012888.pdf

This book details the history of reform in American prison systems from their inception to the present. With a multitude of photographs and captivating text, the book presents a format that is easy to follow, enlightening and entertaining. The author succeeds in highlighting the different forces that have shaped the structure of reform systems over time.

Article discusses how telemedicine impacts costs and security. By not transporting dangerous inmates to outside medical facilities, and instead using telemedicine, inmates know they are getting better care and access to specialists. Furthermore, inmates like the fact that they do not have to go through the pains and embarrassment of being handcuffed and transported in public. Available from The American Correctional Association, 4580 Forbes Blvd., Lanham, MD 20706.

A comprehensive account of planning and design issues. This book discusses a variety of options and considerations regarding the design and construction of adult and juvenile correctional facilities, ranging from housing and service facilities to security features.
**ALSO AVAILABLE:**

**Project Guide: Adult Correctional Facility Design Resources**

**Project Guide: Alternatives to Incarceration of Offenders**

**Project Guide: Assessment of Project Status & Technical Assistance Needs**

**Project Guide: Best Practices - In-Custody Programs for Juveniles and Adults**

**Project Guide: Design Review**

**Project Guide: Existing Facility Evaluations**

**Project Guide: Objective Classification Analysis**


**Project Guide: Selecting an Architect-Developing RFQs and RFPs**

**Project Guide: Site Selection**

**Project Guide: The NEPA Land Use Process for Proposed Development of Correctional Facilities in Indian Country**

**Project Guide: Tribal Justice System Assessment**