

Oakland County Children's Village Wellness Policy 2025

Preface

Oakland County Children's Village Administration seeks to provide a campus-wide environment where resident students are taught healthy eating and physical activity knowledge, skills, and values. In addition, the campus-wide environment provides ample opportunity to practice these skills on a daily basis.

A local school wellness policy is a written document that guides a facility's efforts to establish an environment that promotes students' health, well-being, and ability to learn. The wellness policy requirement was established by the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004, and further strengthened by the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA). It is specific to local school districts and public residential treatment facilities that participate in the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program. The responsibility for developing, implementing, and evaluating a wellness policy is placed at the local level so the unique needs of each facility may be addressed.

Children's Village Administration provides this policy, along with evidence-based goals that are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time based.

Wellness Committee and Policy Leadership

Committee Role and Membership

Children's Village Administration utilizes a representative facility wellness committee to establish goals for and to oversee health policies and programs, including development, implementation, and periodic review and update of this facility wellness policy.

The committee represents all three licensed facility programs: detention, emergency shelter, and residential treatment. The make-up of the committee will include Children's Village Administration, Children's Village Food Services staff/leadership, Children's Village Medical Unit staff/leadership, Children's Village School staff/leadership (including physical education and health education teachers whenever possible), Children's Village direct care staff, Children's Village clinical and case management staff, and Children's Village residents.

Wellness Policy Leadership

The facility Manager has established wellness policy leadership consisting of designated administration officials, who have the authority and responsibility to ensure that each facility building complies with this policy.

The designated official for oversight of this policy, including reviews and triennial assessments, is Amanda Ranucci, Administrator (ranuccia@oakgov.com, 248-858-1391).

Nutrition

Nutrition Education

Every year, all students, Pre-K-12, shall receive nutrition education that is aligned with the

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Michigan Health Education Grade Level Content Expectations and the Michigan Merit Curriculum Guidelines for Health Education. Nutrition education that teaches the knowledge, skills, and values needed to adopt healthy eating behaviors shall be integrated into the curriculum. Nutrition education information shall be offered throughout the facility campus including, but not limited to, dining areas and classrooms. Staff members who provide nutrition education shall have the appropriate training.

Goal: USDA Choose My Plate educational posters will be posted in all dining rooms.

Goal: Nutrition education will be made available to parents/caregivers/the public. A USDA Choose My Plate educational poster will be posted in the Children's Village main lobby and the Children's Village Medical Unit lobby, with printed copies available in both lobby displays. The educational poster will also be posted in the school Children's Village School entry area.

Goal: "Meet Up and Eat Up" information will be posted in the Children's Village main lobby, the Children's Village Medical Unit lobby, as well as the Children's Village School entry area.

Nutrition Promotion

Nutrition promotion and education positively influence lifelong eating behaviors by utilizing evidence-based techniques and nutrition messages, and by creating food environments that encourage healthy nutrition choices and participation in school meal programs. Residents and staff receive consistent nutrition messages throughout facility buildings, classrooms, gymnasiums, and dining rooms.

The facility promotes healthy food and beverage choices for all students throughout the campus.

Goal: Children's Village will remain committed to purchasing and providing high quality fruits and vegetables with appealing look and taste for residents.

Goal: A variety of fresh fruits are available at all times in large bowls, with the exception of times or spaces where safety restrictions require an alternative plan.

Goal: Staying hydrated and drinking water are encouraged by signage near drinking fountains, offering water breaks throughout the day, and having water available throughout the day on units and in dining areas. Residents are provided their own water bottles in areas where it is deemed safe to do so.

Standards and Nutrition Guidelines for Food and Beverage

The facility encourages residents to make nutritious food choices and ensures that all reimbursable school meals meet requirements found in United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s Nutrition Standards for School Meals.

The facility has nutrition standards for all foods and beverages provided to students for all reimbursable meals.

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Goal: The Food Services Supervisor offers reimbursable meals during the school day that meet USDA nutrition standards.

Goal: Facility food and beverages served during the school day meet or exceed state and federal guidelines.

Food and Beverage Marketing:

It is the intent of the facility to protect and promote resident's health and to provide consistent health-related messaging.

Goal: Any foods and beverages promoted to residents on campus during the school day will meet the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards.

Goal: As the facility administration reviews existing contracts and considers new contracts, equipment and/or product purchasing and replacement, decisions will reflect these marketing guidelines.

Physical Activity and Physical Education

The facility offers physical education opportunities that include the components of a quality physical education program. Physical education shall equip students with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary for lifelong physical activity. Physical education instruction is aligned with the Michigan Physical Education Content Standards and Benchmarks.

Goal: Regular physical activity will be provided as part of school curriculum. Planned instruction in physical education will teach cooperation, fair play, and responsible participation.

Goal: Interscholastic basketball and volleyball will be offered, when census permits, and students will be encouraged to participate.

Goal: "Read and Ride" elliptical machines will be available in the main school library on campus.

All residents have the opportunity to participate regularly in supervised physical activities, either organized or unstructured, intended to maintain physical fitness and to understand the short- and long-term benefits of a physically active and healthy lifestyle.

Goal: Physical activity will not be withheld as punishment, nor will it be assigned to residents because of poor behavior or as punishment.

Goal: The facility campus contains multiple recreational specialty opportunities such as track, basketball, disc golf, and volleyball. Residents will be encouraged to utilize these opportunities.

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Other Facility-Based Activities that Promote Student Wellness

The facility offers other evidence-based programs across the campus to create environments that are conducive to healthy eating and physical activity and convey consistent health messages.

Goal: The facility will provide attractive, clean environments in which the residents eat.

Goal: The facility will schedule/maintain mealtimes so there is minimum disruption by programs and events.

Goal: Licensed oral health professionals will come into the facility to provide preventative and restorative oral health services.

Goal: The facility Wellness Committee will meet annually, at minimum.

Implementation, Assessment, Documentation, and Updates

Implementation

Facility administration manages and coordinates the implementation of this wellness policy. The facility Administrator or designee delineates roles, responsibilities, actions, and timelines for each licensed facility program.

Triennial Assessment

The facility will conduct an assessment of the wellness policy every three years, at a minimum. The assessment will determine: building level compliance with the wellness policy, how the wellness policy compares to model wellness policies, and progress made in attaining the goals of the wellness policy.

The Food Services Supervisor, Karla Jensen, is responsible for the Triennial Assessment (jensenk@oakgov.com, 248-858-1163).

Documentation

The facility will retain records to document compliance with the wellness policy requirements. Documentation maintained will include: a copy or web address of the current wellness policy, documentation on how the policy and assessments are made available to the public, the most recent assessment of implementation of the policy, and documentation of efforts to review and update the policy, including who was involved in the process, their relationship to the facility, and how stakeholders were made aware of their ability to participate.

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This wellness policy can be found at www.oakgov.com/village. Required documentation will be maintained at administrative offices.

Updates to the Policy

The facility will update or modify the wellness policy as appropriate based on the results of the Triennial Assessments; as facility priorities change; community needs change; wellness goals are met; new health science, information, and technology emerges; or new federal/state guidance or standards are issued. The wellness policy will be reviewed annually and updated at least every three years, following the Triennial Assessment.

Public Updates

The facility will inform the public annually about the local wellness policy, including its content and any updates to and about the policy. The Triennial Assessment, including progress toward meeting the goals of the policy, will also be made available to the public. The facility will provide information on how the public can participate on the wellness committee and assist with the development, implementation, and periodic review and update of the wellness policy. Stakeholders are encouraged to contact Children's Village to be invested and involved in the development, implementation, review, and update of the wellness policy.

All communication will be culturally and linguistically appropriate and will be available via the facility website (www.oakgov.com/village).