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STAR Academy receives Performance based Standards award

Pierre, S.D. – South Dakota’s juvenile corrections facilities were recently honored for their work in monitoring and improving their programs.

State Treatment and Rehabilitation (STAR) Academy staff received the Barbara Allen-Hagen award from the Performance based Standards (PbS) project during a ceremony in Kansas City, MO August 12th.

"STAR Academy has distinguished itself as a model for other juvenile programs to replicate," said Secretary of Corrections Tim Reisch. "I am very proud of the way our staff has utilized the Performance Based Standards program to strive for excellence."

The Youth Challenge Center program at STAR Academy was given the Allen-Hagen Correction Facility award based on its focus on safety issues and integration of PbS into daily management operations. "The team at STAR Academy is to be commended for winning this prestigious award and they have solidified their leadership within the field of juvenile corrections," said Doug Herrmann, Director of Juvenile Services.

The PbS project was established by the Council of Juvenile Corrections Administrators to ensure quality care in its facilities as it pertains to conditions of confinement and as it relates to reintegration standards for youth transitioning back into the community. Twice each year, data is collected on a set of standards that allows facilities to evaluate their performance over time and in comparison to other facilities across the country.

STAR Academy has participated in the PbS project since 2001. Governor M. Michael Rounds signed an executive order in 2003, requiring the state juvenile corrections programs to continue participating in the project and to report annually to the Legislature on the progress of the project. There are currently 196 facilities in 29 states participating in the PbS project.

For more information on STAR Academy’s participation in the PbS project or to view the most recent report, visit the Department of Corrections website at:
<http://www.state.sd.us/corrections/PbSProject.htm>.