

<b>TITLE: REASONABLE &amp; PRUDENT PARENTING</b>	<b>POLICY #: 29.5</b>
Department: Program/Services	Effective Date: 1/1/17
	Applicable Standards:
<b>Revisions:</b>	

Policy: McCrossan Boys Ranch will ensure that each child in its care has ongoing opportunities to engage in age and developmentally appropriate activities (i.e. extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, and social activities).

Definitions: Age or developmentally appropriate – activities or items that are generally accepted as suitable for children of the same chronological age or level of maturity or that are determined to be developmentally appropriate for a child based on the development of cognitive, emotional, physical, and behavioral capacities that are typical for an age or age group and in the case of a specific child, activities or items that are suitable for the child based on the developmental stages attained by the child with respect to cognitive, emotional, physical, and behavioral capacities of the child.

Reasonable and prudent parenting standard – the standard characterized by careful and sensible parental decisions that maintain the health, safety and best interests of a child while at the same time encouraging the emotional and developmental growth of the child, that a caregiver will use when determining whether to allow a resident to participate in extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, and social activities.

Procedures:

1. The unit manager of each living unit will apply the reasonable and prudent parenting standard when determining whether to allow a resident to participate in particular extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, and social activities. The associate director or designee will provide oversight of the unit managers and apply the reasonable and prudent parenting standard in their absence. Residents’ participation in activities will also be discussed at weekly management meetings involving unit managers, group leaders, medical staff, the program manager, and the associate director.
2. All staff responsible for applying the reasonable and prudent parenting standard will receive training in how to use and apply the reasonable and prudent parenting standard.
3. McCrossan Boys Ranch will provide or arrange transportation to support youth participation in extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, and social activities.
4. Involvement in extracurricular, enrichment, cultural, and social activities will be documented on the resident’s treatment plans, monthly or quarterly reports, and bi-weekly reviews. Treatment plans and monthly or quarterly reports will be signed by the resident’s unit manager. Initial treatment plans and bi-weekly reviews will be reviewed and signed by the associate director.