



**JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION ANNUAL INSPECTION
JUVENILE HALLS AND CAMPS
CAMP GLENWOOD
2024-2025**

FACILITY NAME: Camp Glenwood
FACILITY TYPE AND CAPACITY: Camp
CAPACITY: 40 (10 per section)

FACILITY ADDRESS: 400 Log Cabin Road La Honda, CA. 94020

INSPECTION PERIOD: July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025
DATE OF LAST INSPECTION: May 11, 2018

FACILITY CLOSURE

Camp Glenwood ceased operations in 2018 and was formally closed on March 19, 2019.

BACKGROUND

Camp Glenwood opened in 1961 and served justice involved male youth for 58 years. For decades it operated as a cornerstone of San Mateo County’s rehabilitative programming for youth. Following its closure in 2019, the facility has remained vacant and has not served any system impacted youth since that time. The Camp Glenwood property is owned by San Mateo County and includes a 25,922 square foot youth facility on approximately 60 acres in an unincorporated rural area of the county. The property is identified as Assessor’s Parcel Number 083-280-020.

CAL FIRE LEASE

In the 2022 to 2023 Governor’s Budget, the State of California authorized the establishment of the Glenwood Fire Center, a new CAL FIRE facility intended to strengthen wildfire prevention and emergency response capacity in the region. The County then entered into negotiations with the State to lease the former Camp Glenwood property for this purpose. Under the lease agreement, finalized in 2024, the County of San Mateo rents the property to CAL FIRE for approximately two years at a monthly rate of \$24,999, or roughly \$300,000 annually.



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The agreement allows CAL FIRE to house two state funded Firefighter Hand Crews, each composed of sixteen firefighters, one captain, one apparatus engineer, and support staff. For nine months each year, these crews will be stationed at the site to conduct wildfire prevention, fuel reduction, prescribed burns, and other community protection efforts throughout the region.

Although the Glenwood Fire Center aligns with statewide fire prevention objectives, it leaves a facility historically used for youth rehabilitation unavailable to San Mateo County youth for at least two more years. Of particular concern, none of the lease revenue has been allocated to youth programs. All proceeds are being held in the County’s general reserve with no designation for youth services.

IMPACT ON YOUTH

With Camp Glenwood no longer available as a youth serving site, San Mateo County has lost an important component of its continuum of care. Camp Glenwood had functioned as the County’s only least restrictive placement, offering a supervised, structured, and therapeutic environment for male youth who did not require secure confinement. The County no longer has a developmentally appropriate local alternative to incarceration in juvenile hall or the Secure Youth Treatment Facility.

In the absence of alternatives to incarceration that provide therapeutic, transitional, and behavioral health services, major gaps remain in the County’s capacity to meet the developmental and rehabilitative needs of youth. The lack of a non secure, community based option has significant consequences. Decades of research show that incarceration does not reduce recidivism and can be harmful to adolescent development. Youth who are placed in secure settings unnecessarily face increased risks of trauma, disrupted education, and deeper justice system involvement.

The absence of Camp Glenwood as a rehabilitative resource is therefore not simply the closure of a facility. It represents the loss of a dedicated space where young males could access supports that promote healing, accountability, and safe reintegration into the community. As a result, justice system involved youth in San Mateo County continue to have no available community based opportunities for rehabilitation.