

**OKLAHOMA COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH
OFFICE OF JUVENILE SYSTEM OVERSIGHT**

Name and Location of Facility: Baptist Children's Home
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Dates of Visit: December 12, 14, and 18, 2006

Oversight Reviewer: Dana S. Holden, Oversight Specialist

Focus of Visit: Announced Visit, 2006

Date: March 7, 2007

General Information

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) began an announced visit on December 12, 2006, at the Baptist Children's Home, located in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and returned on December 14 and 18, 2006, to complete the oversight. The purpose of the visit was to assess compliance with established responsibilities and facility policy and procedures. The facility was licensed for forty-eight residents by the Division of Child Care of the Department of Human Services (DHS). The program serves children and adolescents in a Christian-home environment and provides basic residential services, educational opportunities, and age-appropriate lifestyle experiences. On the days of the OJSO visit, the census was forty-eight.

Persons Interviewed

- Entry interview and an exit conference with the director and assistant director
- Ten residents
- Five direct care staff members

Documentation Reviewed

- Files on ten residents
- Six staff files
- Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal inspection report, dated August 18, 2006
- Oklahoma State Department of Health inspection report, dated March 27, 2006
- DHS Division of Child Care inspection report, dated December 7, 2006

Areas Toured

- Four cottages

Overview

Interviews

The OJSO interviewed ten residents. The interview questions pertained to the residents' perceptions of safety, program services, the rights of residents, discipline practices, and other residential program issues. The OJSO noted:

- Eight of the ten interviewees reported having positive relationships with the houseparents; the remaining two interviewees described their relationships with the houseparents as average.
- All reported receiving appropriate forms of discipline for rule violations.

Five direct care staff members were interviewed. The interview questions pertained to the staff members' perceptions of program services, the rights of residents, discipline policies, and other residential program issues. The staff members interviewed:

- described appropriate forms of discipline for rule violations by residents;
- expressed a desire to help the residents who were under their care; and
- reported receiving appropriate training for their positions.

File Reviews

The OJSO reviewed the files on ten residents. On the day of the OJSO visit, the files were well-organized and complete for the items reviewed. Six staff files were reviewed. The materials were easy to locate, and the files were complete for the items reviewed. No issues of concern were noted from the resident and staff file reviews.

Observational Tour

The OJSO conducted a tour of four of the eight cottages. On the day of the OJSO visit, the cottages were clean and were well-maintained. No issues of concern were identified from the observational tour.

Summary

On the days of the OJSO visit, the facility was in compliance with established responsibilities. The staff members indicated a desire and willingness to provide appropriate care for the residents and to meet the needs of the residents. The program provided a safe and nurturing environment for the residents in a homelike setting. The residents made positive comments regarding the program and the staff.

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