

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

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

Date of Visit: July 1, 2008

Oversight Reviewers: Anthony Kibble, Oversight Specialist
Dana S. Holden, Oversight Specialist

Focus of Visit: Announced Visit, 2008

Date: July 21, 2008

General Information

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted an announced visit on July 1, 2008, at the Baptist Children's Home, located in Oklahoma City. The purpose of the visit was to assess compliance with established responsibilities. The facility was licensed for forty-eight residents by the division of Oklahoma Child Care Services (OCCS) of the Department of Human Services (DHS). The program provides a Christian-home environment and basic residential services, educational opportunities, and age-appropriate lifestyle experiences to children and adolescents. On the day of the OJSO visit, the census was thirty-two.

Persons Interviewed

- Entry interview and an exit conference with the assistant director
- Six residents
- Three direct care staff members
- One case manager

Documentation Reviewed

- Files on seven residents
- Personnel files and training records of five staff members
- Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal inspection report, dated May 10, 2007
- Oklahoma State Department of Health inspection report, dated July 23, 2007
- DHS OCCS inspection report, dated March 18, 2008
- Quarterly facility grievance reports from January 1 through May 31, 2008
- Two caretaker conduct review reports, dated December 26, 2007, and May 13, 2008
- Recreation schedule for April, May, and June 2008

- Tornado and fire drill log for 2008
- Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation criminal record background checks for five staff members

Areas Toured

- Two cottages

Overview

Interviews

The OJSO interviewed six residents. The interview questions pertained to the residents' perceptions of safety, program services, resident rights, discipline practices, and other residential program issues. All six interviewees reported:

- feeling safe and having positive relationships with the houseparents; and
- receiving appropriate forms of discipline for rule violations.

No concerns were identified from the resident interviews.

Three direct care staff members and a case manager were interviewed. The interview questions pertained to the staff members' perceptions of program services, resident rights, 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 support from administration.

No concerns were identified from the staff interviews.

File Reviews

The OJSO reviewed the files on seven residents. On the day of the OJSO visit, the files were well-organized and complete for the items reviewed. The personnel files and training records of five staff members 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 two 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.

Area of Concern

The most current inspection report by the fire marshal's office indicated that an inspection was overdue. The OJSO discussed the past due inspection with the facility assistant director, who, in turn, contacted the DHS licensing unit to request the scheduling of an inspection by the fire marshal's office. The OJSO requested a copy of the fire marshal's report upon completion; at the time of this writing, the OJSO had not received a copy of the fire marshal's report.

Summary

On the day of the OJSO visit, the facility was in compliance with established responsibilities, with the exception of the above listed concern. The staff members indicated a desire and willingness to provide appropriate care for and to meet the needs of the residents. The program provided a safe and positive environment for the residents in a Christian-home setting. The residents made positive comments regarding the program and the staff.

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