

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

Name and Location of Facility: Cedar Canyon Adventure Program
Weatherford, Oklahoma

Date of Visit: March 31, 2008

Oversight Reviewer: Dana S. Holden, Oversight Specialist

Focus of Visit: First Biannual Visit for 2008

Date: April 23, 2008

General Information

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted an unannounced visit on March 31, 2008, to the Cedar Canyon Adventure Program, located in Weatherford, Oklahoma. The focus of the visit was to assess compliance with established responsibilities and facility policy and procedures. The Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA) contracts with the Southwestern Oklahoma State University for the operation of the program, which serves OJA-custody males. The program was licensed by the Division of Child Care of the Department of Human Services (DHS) for twenty-four residents. On the day of the OJSO visit, the census was seventeen.

Persons Interviewed

- Entry interview and exit conference with the Administrative Assistant
- Four residents
- Two direct care staff members

Documents Reviewed

- Files on four residents
- Two personnel files
- Oklahoma State Department of Health inspection report, dated September 13, 2006
- Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal inspection report, dated April 26, 2007
- DHS Division of Child Care inspection report, dated December 3, 2007

Overview

Interviews

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

- stated they felt safe at the facility (two interviewees attributed those feelings to the care staff provided);
- reported the food tasted good and that second servings were allowed;
- demonstrated knowledge of the facility's grievance system;
- described appropriate forms of discipline; and
- reported receiving appropriate amounts of recreation time.

No issues of concern were noted from the resident interviews.

The OJSO interviewed two direct care staff members on duty. Both staff members interviewed:

- described appropriate knowledge of the facility's grievance procedures and discipline policies;
- demonstrated a sense of caring for the residents;
- stated they received adequate training for their positions; and
- rated the morale of the staff as high.

No issues of concern were noted from the staff interviews.

File Reviews

The OJSO reviewed the files on four residents and two personnel files. All six files were well-organized and were complete for the items reviewed. No issues of concern were identified from the resident and staff files reviewed.

Summary

The OJSO reviewed the most current inspection reports by the Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal, the Oklahoma State Department of Health, and the DHS Division of Child Care. No violations were noted on any of the reports. When brought to the attention of the administrative assistant that the facility was overdue for an inspection by the health department, she advised that the DHS licensing unit was responsible for contacting the health department to schedule an inspection. The administrative assistant stated that the facility had reported the overdue inspection to the DHS licensing staff and were told that licensing staff would schedule an inspection as soon as possible. It is concerning that the facility has to rely on the licensing worker to schedule health department inspections rather than scheduling their own.

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