

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

---

**Name of Facility:** Deborah Rothe Group Home  
**Date of Visit:** May 25, 2006  
**Oversight Reviewer:** Sara Vincent-Spain, Oversight Specialist  
**Subject:** First Biannual Visit of 2006  
**Date:** August 22, 2006

---

**General Information**

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted a routine, unannounced visit on May 25, 2006, to the Deborah Rothe Group Home, located in Oklahoma City. The purpose of the visit was to assess compliance with established responsibilities and facility policy and procedures. The group home was certified by the Division of Child Care of the Department of Human Services (DHS) for eight female residents, ages thirteen to seventeen. On the day of the OJSO visit, the census was six.

Interviews Conducted

- Entry interview and exit conference with the Program Director
- Two direct care staff
- Group home social worker
- Three residents

Materials Reviewed

- Oklahoma State Department of Health inspection report of March 2006
- Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal inspection report of December 2005
- DHS Division of Child Care inspection report of March 2006

Areas Toured

- Two resident rooms
- Kitchen, including the food preparation and serving-line areas
- Walk-in freezers
- Pantry

## **Overview**

### Interviews

The OJSO interviewed three residents relative to quality of life, program services, safety, the rights of residents, discipline practices, and other residential issues. The Program Director, the group home social worker, and two full-time direct care staff were interviewed relative to safety, program services, the rights of residents, discipline practices, and other residential issue. No concerns were noted from the interviews.

### File Reviews

The files on three residents and three personnel files were reviewed. No concerns were identified from the file reviews.

### Grievances

The OJSO reviewed the grievance log. The OJSO noted the grievances were not filed in numeric order and the tracking log did not consistently document the grievance number, the name of the grievant, the date the form was submitted, the nature and outcome of the grievance, the date of final resolution, and the level at which it was resolved.

### Observational Tour

A tour of the facility was conducted. The group home was orderly and had been newly decorated. The residents had participated in the remodeling of the facility and demonstrated pride in maintaining the new furnishings.

## **Summary**

On the day of the OJSO visit, the facility was clean and well-maintained. Staff demonstrated familiarity with the residents' treatment plans and appropriate supervision of the residents. Residents who were interviewed indicated that staff were fair and provided a safe environment. The Program Director and staff members were active in the local community. The residents had adopted a street for the purpose of monthly cleanup and community service.

The traditional level-and-point system had been replaced with a system that resolved disciplinary issues and rewarded behavior on an individual basis. During the exit conference, the OJSO and Program Director discussed the inadequacies of documentation in the grievance log. The OJSO recommended that the facility maintain the grievance tracking log (OAC-GR-5), in accordance with the DHS grievance tracking log instructions (attached).

SV-S:js

