

MEMORANDUM

To: Jason Baker, Program Administrator
Foss Lake Adventure Program

From: Dana Holden, Oversight Specialist
Office of Juvenile System Oversight

Reviewer: Dana Holden

Focus of Visit: First Unannounced Visit for 2005

Date: June 29, 2005

Introduction

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) made an unannounced visit to the Foss Lake Adventure Program on April 26, 2005. The purpose of the oversight visit was to ascertain compliance with established responsibilities. The program was licensed by the Division of Child Care of the Department of Human Services (DHS) for sixteen residents. The census was fourteen on the day of the OJSO visit.

Interviews Conducted

- An entry interview and an exit conference with the Program Administrator
- Two direct care staff
- Five residents

Materials Reviewed

- Most recent inspection reports from the Office of the State Fire Marshal, the Oklahoma State Department of Health, the DHS Division of Child Care, and the Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA)
- Four personnel files
- Files on five residents

Areas Toured

- Entire facility

Overview

Interviews

The five residents interviewed were asked questions pertaining to facility standards, program services, and quality of life. The OJSO noted the following from the resident interviews:

- They made generally favorable responses to the interview questions pertaining to safety, participation in recreation, community activities, and benefiting from the program.
- They made generally favorable comments about the staff.
- The residents reported only appropriate consequences for rule violations.

The two direct care staff members interviewed reported having the required training certifications. They also reported imposing only acceptable consequences for resident rule violations.

File Reviews

The OJSO reviewed the files on five residents. The files were well-organized, and the materials were easy to locate. There were no concerns noted during the review of the resident files.

The OJSO reviewed four personnel files. Three of the four personnel files did not document the required number of training hours for employees. The OJSO discussed this issue and a plan of compliance with the Program Administrator during the exit conference. One employee did not have a current criminal record background check prior to his reemployment with the facility. The Program Administrator provided the OJSO with documentation that indicated a current background report had been requested. No other concerns were noted by the OJSO.

Inspection Tour

The OJSO conducted a tour of the facility. The physical plant was spacious and appeared clean and well-maintained on the day of the visit. A sprinkler system was installed in the dormitory area. The facility had a weight room and a climbing wall for the residents.

Summary

The documentation was in good order, with the exceptions noted. The program offered recreational opportunities to the residents that they might not otherwise be able to access, including field trips, ROPES course exercises, and rappelling.

During the exit conference, the Program Administrator advised the OJSO of a plan of compliance that was acceptable to correct the problems noted.

DH:js