

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

Name and Location of Facility: Ft. Reno Adolescent Center
El Reno, Oklahoma

Date of Visit: December 27, 2007

Oversight Reviewer: Dana S. Holden, Oversight Specialist

Focus of Visit: Announced Visit

Date: February 27, 2008

Introduction

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted an announced visit to the Ft. Reno Adolescent Center on December 27, 2007. The center is a coeducational, adolescent drug and alcohol treatment facility that contracts with the Department of Mental Health for substance abuse treatment. The facility also accepts juveniles who have been court-ordered to substance abuse treatment. The purpose of the visit was to assess compliance with established responsibilities and facility policy and procedures. The facility is currently licensed for twenty-four beds by the Division of Child Care of the Department of Human Services (DHS). On the day of the OJSO visit, the census was twenty-two.

Interviews Conducted

- Entry interview with the Treatment Manager
- Two direct care staff members
- Five residents
- Exit conference with the Facility Director, Program Director, Treatment Manager, and other staff

Documents Reviewed

- Personnel files of four direct care staff members
- Files on five residents
- Office of the State Fire Marshal inspection report, dated June 6, 2007
- Oklahoma State Department of Health inspection report, dated February 20, 2007
- DHS Division of Child Care inspection report, dated October 4, 2007

Areas Toured

- Entire facility

Findings

Interviews

The OJSO interviewed five residents, who were randomly selected from the roster. The interviewees were asked questions pertaining to facility standards, program services, and quality of life. The OJSO noted:

- Two interviewees stated they did not trust the staff, because staff had divulged confidential information about them.
- Four interviewees stated that either they had been assigned to scrub the bathroom floor with a toothbrush or they had seen other residents, who had been assigned the task, scrub the bathroom floor with a toothbrush.
- Two interviewees reported that staff had stated that if they refused to sign their behavior reports, they would receive an additional report for disrespectful behavior.

No other concerns were noted from the resident interviews.

The OJSO interviewed two direct care staff members on-duty. Comments included:

- Direct care staff members were not provided enough information regarding the residents to provide appropriate care.
- Some staff members assigned the residents the task of cleaning the bathroom floor with a toothbrush, as a sanction.
- Some staff gave an additional behavior report as a consequence for residents who refused to sign their behavior reports.
- Some staff said that residents who refused to follow the program should be sent to the sanctions program or detention.

No other concerns were noted during the staff interviews.

File Reviews

The OJSO reviewed the files on five residents and the personnel files of four direct care staff members. The files were well organized and complete for the items reviewed. No concerns were noted from the resident and staff files reviewed.

Observational Tour

The OJSO conducted a tour of the entire facility. The facility appeared well-maintained on the day of the visit. No concerns were noted from the tour.

The OJSO reviewed the most recent inspection reports by the State Fire Marshal's office, the Oklahoma State Department of Health, and the DHS Division of Child Care. No deficiencies were cited in the reports.

Concerns

1. Two of the five resident interviewees stated they did not trust the staff, because staff members had divulged confidential information about them to other staff and residents.
2. Interviewees reported that if residents refused to sign their behavior reports, some staff gave residents an additional behavior report for being disrespectful.

Violation

1. Interviewees reported that residents were made to clean the bathroom floor with a toothbrush, as a sanction by some staff members. DHS licensing standards, Section 154.2, Behavior management, (b), Prohibitions, (4), states, "Facility policy prohibits work tasks that are degrading or unnecessary and inappropriate to the resident's age and ability."

Summary

On the day of the OJSO visit, the facility demonstrated compliance with established responsibilities and policy and procedures, with the exception noted above. In the exit conference, the OJSO discussed the finding and concerns from the oversight with the administrators and staff.

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