

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

Name and Location of Facility: J. Roy Dunning Children's Shelter
Lawton, Oklahoma

Date of Visit: August 12, 2008

Oversight Reviewer: Dana S. Holden, Oversight Specialist

Focus of Visit: Announced Visit

Date: September 8, 2008

General Information

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted an announced visit on August 12, 2008, at the J. Roy Dunning Children's Shelter, located in Lawton, Oklahoma. The purpose of the visit was to assess compliance with established responsibilities and facility policy and procedures. The facility is licensed for 25 residents by the division of Oklahoma Child Care Services (OCCS) of the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS). The shelter contracted with the OKDHS to provide emergency shelter care. On the day of the OJSO visit, the census was eight; one resident was an infant.

Persons Interviewed

- Entry interview and an exit conference with the Director and the Assistant Director
- Three residents
- Two direct care staff members

Documents Reviewed

- Files on three residents
- Two staff files
- Oklahoma State Department of Health Food Inspection report dated May 5, 2008
- Lawton Fire Department report dated November 27, 2007
- OKDHS OCCS inspection report dated July 25, 2008

Findings

Interviews

The OJSO interviewed three residents. The interviewees:

- stated they felt safe at the facility and attributed those feelings to the staff;
- stated the food was good and second helpings were allowed;
- described appropriate forms of discipline for rule violations; and
- described adequate amounts of recreation time.

No concerns were noted from the resident interviews.

Two direct care staff members were interviewed. The interviewees:

- described appropriate knowledge of the facility's grievance procedures and discipline policy;
- demonstrated a genuine sense of caring for the residents; and
- stated adequate training was received for his/her position.

No concerns were noted from the staff interviews.

File Reviews

The OJSO reviewed the files on three residents. The files were complete and well-organized. No concerns were identified from the resident files review.

Two personnel files were reviewed. The files were orderly and complete for the items reviewed. No concerns were identified from the personnel files review.

Area of Concern

1. Reportedly, OKDHS workers do not advise shelter staff of a child's sexual offending behaviors when the child is placed in the shelter. Shelter staff have been advised disclosing this information would be a violation of the child's right to confidentiality.

Summary

The OJSO reviewed the most recent inspection reports by the OKDHS OCCS, the Oklahoma State Department of Health, and the Lawton Fire Department. No violations were cited in any of the reports. On the day of the OJSO visit, the facility appeared to be meeting the needs of the residents.

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