

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

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**Name and Location of Facility:** Lakeside Home  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

**Date of Visit:** February 22, 2007

**Oversight Reviewer:** Cliff A. Aldridge, Oversight Specialist

**Subject:** Announced Visit, 2007

**Date:** April 30, 2007

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**General Information**

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted an announced visit on February 22, 2007, to the Lakeside Home, located in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The purpose of the visit was to assess compliance with established responsibilities. The program was licensed by the Division of Child Care of the Department of Human Services (DHS) for twenty-three residents, although the facility was staffed for only twenty-one. The census was fifteen on the day of the visit. The program is operated by the Tulsa County Juvenile Bureau of the District Court.

Persons Interviewed

- Entry interview and an exit conference with the Lakeside Superintendent
- Three residents
- Two resident counselors (direct care staff)

Documentation Reviewed

- Case records on two residents
- Personnel and training files of two resident counselors
- List of the residents
- Staff roster
- DHS Division of Child Care inspection report of December 7, 2006
- Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal inspection report of January 14, 2007
- Oklahoma State Department of Health inspection report of February 13, 2007
- DHS Residential Child Care Facility License, K8500034

## Areas Toured

- Two classrooms
- Dormitory for male residents
- Dormitory for female residents
- Kitchen and dining areas
- Gymnasium, recreation, and crafts rooms

## **Overview**

### Interviews

The OJSO interviewed three residents. All three described meaningful relationships with the direct care staff and their assigned therapists. Questions about their quality of life and participation in program services and meaningful recreational activities received favorable responses. One morning shift and one evening shift resident counselor were interviewed. The interview responses were positive about the administration, their training, and the benefits of the program for the residents. No concerns were identified from the resident or staff interviews.

### Documentation Reviews

The OJSO reviewed the case records on two residents. Both were complete for the items reviewed. The personnel and training files of two resident counselors were complete for each of the items reviewed on the day of the visit. No concerns were identified from the file reviews.

The DHS Division of Child Care's inspection report noted missing tiles in the girls' bathroom near the bathtub and holes in the ceiling tiles to be corrected with the submission of a work order to county building operations personnel. The Oklahoma State Department of Health's inspection report noted three non-critical soiled items. The report also noted that the sanitizing solution was too strong on the day of the visit and that there was evidence of rodent droppings. The superintendent indicated that corrections were made.

The Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal's inspection report identified six minor issues in the main building to be corrected within thirty days and noted that long-term plans should address alternate housing for recreation, due to the age and condition of the [gymnasium] building. The other issues were documented as corrected.

### Observational Tour

The OJSO noted a light fixture in the girls' dormitory that did not work and needed a light cover. A work order had been submitted for repair of a recent hole in a wall. The ceiling of the boys' dormitory was in poor condition, with numerous holes and scrapes in the tiles, vents in poor condition, and a missing vent cover. The facility has made major

repairs to the ceiling in the past in response to observations by the OJSO; however, the type of ceiling appears to be particularly susceptible to damage in the boys' dormitory. The superintendent reported discussions of alternatives to the present construction. A seam in the carpet had also become frayed with wear and needed to be repaired. No concerns were identified during the tour of the school, the kitchen, the dining room, or the common areas of the main building.

A separate building on the campus featured a gymnasium, arts and crafts rooms, and other recreation rooms. As noted above, the Fire Marshal indicated that long-range plans should address alternate housing for recreation. The OJSO concurs with that recommendation. The building is quite old, and there is evidence of many past repairs and the need for additional repairs. Damages in the gymnasium included streaks and cracks in the walls and peeling paint. There was evidence of leaks in the roof, as well. Other rooms in the building need repairs. Overall, the building is unattractive, is not energy efficient, and except for the gymnasium, is not well adaptable to general recreational or arts/crafts activities. Major renovations to the structure would be costly and would not likely meet the current recreational needs of the Lakeside program.

## **Conclusions**

It appears that the facility regularly attends to repairs and maintenance in the main building, even though issues were identified from the tour. Overall, the documentation was in good order. Morale among the residents, the staff, and the administration appeared to be high.

The county should consider a replacement ceiling for the boys' dormitory, instead of replacing tiles over and over. The Fire Marshal's recommendation for alternate housing for the recreation program should be seriously considered, as well.

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