

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

Name and Location of Facility: Lawton Adventure Program
Lawton, Oklahoma

Dates of Visit: October 18 and 19, 2006

Oversight Reviewer: Sara Vincent-Spain, Oversight Specialist

Subject: Second Biannual Visit for 2006

Date: January 10, 2007

General Information

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted a routine, unannounced visit to the Lawton Adventure Program on October 18 and 19, 2006. The Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA) contracts with the Southwestern Oklahoma State University for the operation of the program, which serves OJA-custody males. The purpose of the visit was to assess compliance with established responsibilities and facility policy and procedures. The program was licensed for sixteen residents by the Division of Child Care of the Department of Human (DHS). On the day of the OJSO visit, the census was sixteen.

Persons Interviewed

- Entry interview with the Program Administrator
- Four residents
- One direct care staff member
- One case manager
- Exit conference with the Program Administrator and the social worker

Documentation Reviewed

- Case records on four residents
- Personnel files of three direct care staff members
- DHS Division of Child Care inspection report of July 12, 2006
- Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal inspection report of January 18, 2006
- Oklahoma State Department of Health inspection report of August 8, 2006
- Current resident census
- Recreation schedule for September and October 2006

Areas Toured

- Two residential buildings
- Kitchen
- Classroom

Overview

Interviews

The OJSO interviewed four residents. The interview questions pertained to the residents' perceptions of safety, program services, the rights of residents, discipline practices, and other residential program issues. The only issue of concern noted was a comment made that a staff member had threatened to physically assault a resident. The OJSO subsequently reported the alleged assault to the DHS Office of Client Advocacy for investigation.

Two staff members were interviewed. The interview questions pertained to the staff members' perceptions of program services, the rights of residents, discipline policies, and other residential program issues. No issues of concern were noted from the staff interviews.

File Reviews

The OJSO reviewed the case records on four residents and the personnel files of three direct care staff members. No issues of concern were identified from the file reviews.

Observational Tour

The OJSO conducted a tour of the facility. The OJSO noted:

- Holes were observed in the wall plaster and the paneling in the downstairs bedroom.
- The cover on the air conditioner needed to be replaced in the small upstairs bedroom.
- Graffiti was observed on the wall in the upstairs bathroom.
- The toilet seat needed to be replaced in the upstairs bathroom.
- The chest of drawers needed to be replaced in the west bedroom of the annex.
- Holes were observed in the walls of the laundry room in the annex.
- A hole was observed in the floor by the east door of the annex.
- The shower panel was not affixed to the shower wall, the bathroom door would not close, and the paneling was not affixed to the wall, in the east bathroom of the annex.

Summary

The OJSO noted a concern from the resident interviews regarding an allegation that a staff member had threatened to physically assault a resident. The OJSO reported the allegation to the DHS Office of Client Advocacy. The OCA investigation will be monitored by the OJSO until a completed report has been published.

The Program Administrator informed the OJSO during the April 2006 visit that the property owner was making renovations to the facility. During the October 2006 visit, the renovations were still underway.

The OJSO facility compliance report was left at the Lawton Adventure Program at the time of the OJSO visit. A copy of the report is attached. The Program Administrator agreed to correct facility deficiencies within thirty days.

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