

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

Name and Location of Facility: LeFlore County Juvenile Detention Center
Talihina, Oklahoma

Date of Visit: May 3, 2010

Oversight Reviewer: Dana S. Holden, Oversight Specialist IV

Focus of Visit: Unannounced Visit, 2010

Date: May 27, 2010

Introduction

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted an unannounced visit on May 3, 2010, at the LeFlore County Juvenile Detention Center, located in Talihina, Oklahoma. The purpose of the visit was to assess compliance with established responsibilities. The facility was certified by the Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA) for ten juveniles. The OJA contracted with the LeFlore County Board of Commissioners for the detention center, and in turn, the County Commissioners contracted with Sequoyah Enterprises Inc. for the daily operation of the detention center. The facility provided regional detention services to other counties. On the day of the OJSO visit, the census was ten.

Interviews Conducted

- Entry interview and an exit conference with the acting program director
- Interview with the acting program director
- Two residents

Documents Reviewed

- Two resident files
- Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal report dated February 22, 2010
- Oklahoma State Department of Health Inspection report dated February 10, 2010
- Annual assessment report issued by the OJA Office of Public Integrity (OPI) regarding a visit conducted on March 2, 2010
- Physical Intervention Log and reports for the time frame of July 1, 2009, through April 30, 2010
- Facility log on room confinement and corresponding incident reports for the time frame of July 1, 2009, through April 30, 2010

Findings

Resident Interviews

The OJSO interviewed two residents. The interview questions pertained to the residents' perceptions of safety, detention program services, resident rights, discipline practices, and other residential care issues. The OJSO noted:

- Both residents stated they felt safe at the facility.
- Both residents reported receiving appropriate educational services and recreational activities.

There were no other concerns noted during the interviews.

Staff Interview

The OJSO interviewed the acting program director. The acting program director reported receiving appropriate training and demonstrated familiarity with the facility's policies and procedures and the detention standards. No concerns were noted from the staff interview.

Resident File Review

The OJSO reviewed two resident files. The files were essentially complete and well-organized. No issues of concern were noted from the resident file reviews.

Personnel File Review

No personnel files were reviewed as they had recently been reviewed during the OPI audit of the facility and no deficiencies were noted.

Room Confinement/Restriction Logs Review

The OJSO reviewed the room confinement/restriction logs for July 1, 2009, through April 30, 2010. There were three incidents of room confinement documented in the log for this time period. The OJSO noted the following:

- One resident was placed on room confinement for a violation that did not appear to meet criteria. This incident was discussed with the acting program director who stated that she had reviewed this incident and addressed it with staff.

There were no other issues of concern noted from the Room Confinement/Restriction Logs review.

Physical Intervention Log

The OJSO reviewed the physical intervention log for the time frame of July 1, 2009, through March 10, 2010. There were a total of five incidents of physical intervention during this time frame. There were no concerns noted from the review.

Inspection reports reviewed

The OJSO reviewed the most recent inspection reports by the Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal dated February 22, 2010, the Oklahoma State Department of Health dated February 10, 2010, and the OJA Office of Public Integrity dated March 2, 2010. No violations were cited in the three reports.

Area of Concern

1. One incident of room confinement did not appear to meet the criteria for room confinement. The acting program director had already addressed the issue.

Summary

There were no violations noted during the oversight visit to the facility. The OJSO discussed the one area of concern and believes the acting program director has sufficiently addressed the issue. The OJSO discussed the areas recognized as program strengths with the acting director and a copy of the Facility Exit Checklist was left with the acting director.

DH/LB

