

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

Name of Facility and Location: New Life House
Disney, Oklahoma

Date of Visit: February 23, 2009

Oversight Reviewer: Dana Holden, Oversight Specialist IV

Focus of Visit: Announced Visit, 2009

Date: March 23, 2009

Introduction

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted an announced visit on February 23, 2009, at the New Life House, located in Disney, Oklahoma. The purpose of the visit was to assess compliance with established responsibilities and facility policy and procedures. The facility was licensed by the division of Oklahoma Child Care Services (OCCS) of the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS) for twenty-four female residents, ages thirteen through eighteen. New Life House is a non-profit residential child care agency supported by a faith-based organization. At the time of the OJSO visit, six residents were living on campus.

Persons Interviewed

- Entry interview and an exit conference with the Program Director
- Two staff members
- Three residents

Documents Reviewed

- Six resident files
- Three personnel files and training records
- Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal report dated August 21, 2008
- Oklahoma State Department of Health Food Inspection report dated May 21, 2008
- OKDHS OCCS inspection report dated December 4, 2008

Findings

Interviews

The OJSO interviewed three residents. The interview questions pertained to the residents' perceptions of safety, program services, resident rights, discipline practices, and other residential program issues. No concerns were noted from the resident interviews.

The OJSO interviewed two direct care staff members on-duty. The two staff members described appropriate knowledge of the facility's grievance procedures and discipline policies. Both indicated a genuine sense of caring for the residents. No concerns were noted from the staff interviews.

Files Review

The OJSO reviewed six resident files. The OJSO noted:

- One file did not contain documentation of the resident's immunization record.
- Three files did not document ninety-day reviews of the residents' service plans, and three other files did not document six-month reviews of the residents' service plans.
- The service plans in four files did not document participation by the residents and the parents or custodians in the development of the residents' service plans, nor did documentation indicate the reasons for non-participation.

No other concerns were noted from the resident files reviewed.

The OJSO reviewed three personnel files and training records. Documentation indicated that the three staff members were current on all required training. The criminal record background checks were in order and were filed separately from the personnel files. No concerns were noted from the personnel files and training records reviewed.

Inspection Reports Review

The OJSO reviewed the most recent inspection reports by the fire marshal's office, the health department, and the OCCS licensing unit. The report by the fire marshal's office noted minor deficiencies, which had been corrected. The health department's report did not cite any areas of non-compliance. The report by the OCCS licensing unit cited two minor deficiencies; both had been corrected.

Violations

1. One of the six resident files reviewed did not contain documentation of immunizations for the resident. OKDHS Licensing Requirements for Residential Child Care Facilities, OAC 340:110-3-154.3, Health and medical services, (d), Immunizations, states, "Each resident is immunized against communicable diseases in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Oklahoma State Department of Health."
2. Three of the six resident files reviewed did not document ninety-day reviews of the residents' service plans, and the other three resident files reviewed did not document six-month reviews of the residents' service plans. OKDHS Licensing Requirements for Residential Child Care Facilities, OAC 340:110-3-154, Social services, (b), Service planning, (2), Service plan review, (A), states, "The service plan is reviewed within 90 days after it has been developed and at least every six months thereafter."
3. Four of the six resident files reviewed did not document participation by the residents and parents or custodians in the development of the residents' service plans, nor did documentation indicate the reasons for non-participation. OKDHS Licensing Requirements for Residential Child Care Facilities, OAC 340:110-3-154, Social services, (b), Service planning, (2), Service plan review, (B), states, "The facility involves the resident and parents or custodian in the service plan review. If the parents or custodian do not participate in the service plan review, the reason for non-participation is documented in the service plan."

DSH:js

