

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

Name and Location of Facility: Oklahoma Youth Center
Norman, Oklahoma

Dates of Visit: December 5 and 6, 2006

Oversight Reviewer: Jenifer K. Cooks, Oversight Specialist

Focus of Visit: Second Unannounced Visit, 2006

Date: February 26, 2007

General Information

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) began an unannounced visit on December 5, 2006, at the Oklahoma Youth Center (OYC) and returned on December 6, 2006, to complete the visit. The purpose of the visit was to assess compliance with established responsibilities and facility policy and procedures. The OYC is a state-operated facility that provides mental health services to children and adolescents. The facility was licensed for thirty-eight residents by the Division of Child Care of the Department of Human Services (DHS). The program is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). On the day of the OJSO visit, the census was fifteen.

Persons Interviewed

- Entry interview with the Administrative Programs Officer
- Six residents
- Six direct care staff members
- Exit conference with the Administrative Programs Officer, Executive Director, Information Systems Specialist, and the Director of Program Evaluation

Documentation Reviewed

- Oklahoma State Department of Health inspection report, dated January 18, 2006
- DHS license: Residential Child Care Facility (dated November 1, 2001)
- Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal inspection report, dated June 28, 2006
- Facility treatment schedule for Adolescent Dorm I, Pre-Adolescent Dorm II, and Children's Dorm III
- Policy and procedures on the use of seclusion (effective date: February 20, 2005)
- Staff roster and staff titles

- List of current residents
- Facility therapeutic restraint and seclusion report for August and September 2006
- Facility restraint log from May 25 through September 7, 2006
- Three personnel files
- Files on five residents

Areas Toured

- Adolescent Dorm I
- Pre-Adolescent Dorm II
- Children's Dorm III
- Kitchen/food preparation area
- Dining area

Overview

Interviews

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

Six direct care 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. Staff expressed concerns regarding the implementation of the present treatment model, training regarding the treatment model, and conflicts regarding the use of discipline. No other issues of concern were noted from the staff interviews.

File Reviews

The OJSO reviewed the files on five residents. The OJSO noted:

- A physician's order authorizing the use of a mechanical restraint as a therapeutic intervention to a resident's behavior was not signed by the physician in one file reviewed.
- The consent form authorizing the administration of medication was not signed by the parents or guardian in one file reviewed.

The DHS Division of Child Care conducted an extensive review of the staff files in August 2006. The OJSO reviewed three of the files. All deficiencies were corrected, with one exception: One file did not contain documentation regarding orientation training for the employee; however, the person was no longer employed at the facility. No issues of concern were identified.

Observational Tour

The OJSO conducted a tour of the facility. A copy of the OJSO Facility Inspection Form was left at the facility for corrections to be made within thirty days.

Summary

The exit conference was completed with the Administrative Programs Officer, Executive Director, Information Systems Specialist, and the Director of Program Evaluation. Findings were reviewed, with opportunity given for comments and questions.

Findings

1. One resident file contained an unsigned physician's order authoring a mechanical restraint for behavioral intervention. Department of Human Services licensing standards, Section 168, Requirements for residential treatment facilities, (i), Behavior management, (3), Mechanical restraint, (A), states, "Mechanical restraint is used only with specific verbal authorization of the attending psychiatrist. The authorization must be written and signed by the psychiatrist within 24 hours."
2. One resident file contained an unsigned medical consent form to authorize the administration of medication. Department of Human Services licensing standards, Section 154, Social services, (a), Admission, (4), (B), states, "Upon admission, the facility obtains authorization, by the parents' or custodian's signature, of authority to provide medical care." In addition, Section 154.3, Health and medical services, (e), Medication, states, "The facility has current, written medication policy."

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