

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

Name and Location of Facility: Sand Springs Children's Home
Sand Springs, Oklahoma

Date of Visit: January 18, 2007

Oversight Reviewer: Cliff A. Aldridge, Oversight Specialist

Subject: 2007 Announced Visit

Date: April 4, 2007

General Information

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted an announced visit to the Sand Springs Children's Home on January 18, 2007. The purpose of the visit was to assess compliance with established responsibilities and facility policy and procedures. The program was licensed by the Division of Child Care of the Department of Human Services (DHS) for forty residents. On the day of the OJSO visit, the census was seventeen. Thirteen of the residents were in the custody of the DHS.

Persons Interviewed

- Entry interview and an exit briefing with the director and the social worker
- Four residents
- Two houseparents

Documentation Reviewed

- Case records on two residents
- Personnel files of two houseparents
- Facility list of residents
- DHS Division of Child Care inspection report of November 27, 2006
- Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal inspection report of January 3, 2007
- Oklahoma State Department of Health inspection report of January 3, 2007
- DHS Residential Child Care Facility License, No. K8500144
- Facility vehicle inspection reports of January 14, 2007

Areas Toured

- Two residential cottages

Overview

Interviews

The OJSO interviewed four residents, including three DHS-custody children. The sample of residents included two representatives from each of the two cottages. The residents gave favorable responses to the interview questions regarding the staff, the program, and their quality of life. One male houseparent and one female associate houseparent representing both cottages were interviewed. Both houseparents demonstrated familiarity with facility practices and policies and indicated they were conscientious about their responsibilities in caring for the residents. No concerns were identified from the resident and staff interviews.

Documentation Reviews

The OJSO reviewed the case records on two residents. Both files were current for the items reviewed on the day of the visit. No issues of concern were identified from the resident file reviews.

The personnel files and training records of two houseparent couples were reviewed for compliance with licensing standards. The files were complete for employment requirements; however, both files documented only six of the twenty-four hours of annual training required by the DHS licensing standards. No other issues of concern were identified from the staff file reviews.

The DHS Division of Child Care's inspection report noted documentation issues, such as the medication log was not current and service plan reviews were needed. The report also noted that grievance notifications and admission assessments had not been completed on children readmitted to the facility. The Division of Child Care's report also cited the facility for exit lights that were not lighted. The deficiencies were not present on the day of the OJSO visit.

The Oklahoma State Department of Health's inspection report noted rodent droppings, but the facility documented additional pest control services the following day. The Office of the Oklahoma State Fire Marshal's inspection cited no violations and approved occupancy for the residential cottages.

Observational Tour

The OJSO conducted a tour of both residential cottages. On the day of the OJSO visit, the cottages were clean and were well-maintained. No concerns were identified from the tour.

Finding

1. Training records for two staff members documented six hours of annual training in 2006 for each of them. Department of Human Services licensing standards, Section 153.1, (m), (3), (A), in part, states, "Full-time child care staff obtain a minimum of 24 clock hours per calendar year of staff development courses."

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