

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

Name and Location of Facility: Southern Oklahoma Resource Center
Pauls Valley, Oklahoma

OJSO Reviewers: Tina Pendergraft and Cliff Aldridge, Oversight Specialists

Date of Visit: May 2, 2006

Focus of Visit: First Unannounced Visit for 2006

Date: September 18, 2006

General Information

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted an unannounced visit on May 2, 2006, to the Southern Oklahoma Resource Center, located in Pauls Valley, Oklahoma. The purpose of the visit was to assess compliance with established responsibilities and facility policy and procedures. The facility was licensed by the Oklahoma State Department of Health for 225 residents. On the day of the OJSO visit, the facility had one resident under the age of eighteen.

Persons Interviewed

- Entry conference with the Administrator, Programs Administrator, the Developmental Disabilities Services Division (DDSD) Programs Administrator (Department of Human Services State Office), Assistant Director for Residential Services, and Building Office Supervisor
- One resident
- One staff member
- Exit conference with the Administrator and the Programs Administrator

Documents Reviewed

- File on one resident
- Two staff files
- DHS Office of Client Advocacy monthly incident report, dated May 3, 2006
- Most recent inspection report by the Department of Health and Human Services Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services
- Life Safety Code fire report, dated July 13, 2005
- Federal and state licensure report, dated July 14, 2005.

Area Toured

- A free-standing residential cottage

Overview

Interviews

The resident interviewed was outgoing and interacted with the OJSO but was not responsive to interview questions. The resident was playful and appeared content during the time the OJSO spent with the resident. The OJSO observed appropriate interactions between the resident and facility staff. No areas of concern were noted.

One staff member was interviewed. No areas of concern were noted from the staff interview.

File Reviews

The file on the juvenile resident was reviewed. No areas of concern were noted.

Two staff files were reviewed. The documentation in one file did not indicate three references had been obtained prior to the employee's hire date. No other concerns were noted from the staff file reviews.

Observational Tour

The OJSO conducted a tour of a dormitory for male residents. The OJSO observed three resident rooms (two of the rooms were unoccupied), the food preparation and dining areas, living area, and bathroom. The OJSO noted:

- rodent droppings in a kitchen drawer;
- a kitchen trash can without a lid;
- the food freezer without a thermometer; and
- unsecured kitchen knives.

The OJSO was advised that facility policy did not address a requirement for a thermometer in the freezer to ensure the appropriate temperature for foods. Also, the Programs Manager explained that kitchen knives were not kept under lock because the facility taught independent living skills to the residents, and the juvenile resident had no history of concern for aggressive behavior.

Summary

The facility had only one juvenile resident. Consequently, the resident had no opportunities to interact with peers. Staff stated the juvenile resident missed peer companionship.

Findings

1. A kitchen drawer had rodent droppings. Oklahoma State Department of Health policy OAC 310:675-7-14.1, Facility maintenance, (c), states, "The facility shall be maintained free of infestations of insects, pests and rodents."
2. A kitchen trash can did not have a lid. Oklahoma State Department of Health policy OAC 310:675-7-15.1, Housekeeping laundry, and general storage, (a), Housekeeping, (8), (B), states, "There shall be a sufficient number of impervious containers with tight fitting lids that are clean and in good repair."

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