

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

Name of Facility: Southern Oklahoma Resource Center
Date of Visit: November 10, 2005
Oversight Team: Tina Pendergraft and Chris Fiesel, Oversight Specialists
Purpose of Visit: Second Unannounced Visit for 2005
Date: May 5, 2006

Introduction

The Office of Juvenile System Oversight (OJSO) conducted an unannounced visit on November 10, 2005, to the Southern Oklahoma Resource Center in Pauls Valley, Oklahoma. The purpose of the visit was to assess compliance with established responsibilities and facility policy and procedures. The facility is licensed by the Division of Child Care of the Department of Human Services (DHS) for 225 residents. On the day of the OJSO visit, three of the residents were under the age of eighteen. These juveniles were residents of the facility during the previous OJSO visit in May 2005.

Persons Interviewed

- Two staff members
- Exit conference with the Director, via telephone

Documents Reviewed

- Two staff files
- Files on two residents
- DHS Office of Client Advocacy's quarterly incident reports, dated August and October 2005
- Oklahoma State Department of Health's post certificate report (revisit), dated February 2, 2005
- Most current inspection report by the Office of the State Fire Marshal

Areas Toured

- A dormitory for male residents, to include three resident rooms, the common areas, and the bathrooms
- Food preparation and dining areas

Overview

Staff Interviews

The OJSO interviewed two staff members. Comments included:

- The facility was a good place to work.
- Employee training was excellent.
- The progress made by residents was exciting.

Resident Interviews

The OJSO was unable to interview the juvenile residents, as they were on home visits on the day of the OJSO visit.

Review of Personnel Files

The OJSO team reviewed two staff files. The review revealed:

- One file did not contain an annual job performance evaluation.
- One file had only two required hours of training documented in 2005 for the employee. (Full-time child care staff are to obtain a minimum of twenty-four clock hours per calendar year of staff development courses.)

No other concerns were noted from the review of the staff files.

Review of Resident Files

The OJSO team reviewed the files on two residents. No concerns were noted.

Observational Tour

The OJSO team conducted a tour of a dormitory for male residents. The OJSO observed three resident rooms, the kitchen areas, living areas, and bathrooms. Remodeling of the dormitory is currently underway. Four concerns were noted:

- Food was uncovered in the refrigerator; staff corrected this immediately.
- A toilet paper holder was missing in one of the bathrooms and the covers on air vents were missing throughout the dormitory. Staff told the OJSO that once the renovation of the dormitory was completed, these items would be corrected.
- Fire extinguishers in the dormitory were last inspected in October 2004.

Summary

The Southern Oklahoma Resource Center is a well-organized facility that allows for adequate supervision of the residents. Staff reported there had not been any incidents

of the residents attempting to go absent without leave from the facility since the last OJSO visit. The interviewees were excited about the facility renovation.

Findings

1. One of the staff files reviewed did not contain an annual job performance evaluation. Department of Human Services licensing standards, Section 153.1, Personnel, (g), Employment requirements, (3), Performance evaluation, states, "Each employee has a written job performance evaluation at least annually, which is maintained in the employee's personnel record."
2. The facility was overdue for an annual fire inspection by the facility.
3. Fire extinguishers had not been checked within the last year. Department of Human Services licensing standards, Section 165, Construction and fire safety, (5), Fire protection equipment, (B), fire extinguishers, (i), states, "All fire extinguishers are inspected, serviced, and tagged annually by a trained individual."

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