

Sonoma County Juvenile Justice Commission Group Home Inspection Report

Facility Name:	Hanna Boys Center
Address:	On File
Phone	On File
Contact Person	Louis H. Young Jr, Coordinator of Residences

J.J.C. Inspector(s)	Michael Fried, Bob Faux
Date of Inspection	January 10, 2018
Date of Last Inspection	November 3, 2016
C.C.L. Contact	Megan Mullen
Date of Last C.C.L. Inspection	December 20, 2017

***O = Outstanding *S= Satisfactory or exceeds *N.I. = Needs Improvement/corrective**

Action

INSPECTION	O	S	N.I.	Comments (required if "N.I." is checked)
Grounds	x			Hanna Boys Center is on a 160-acre campus with many buildings, among these are an administration building, a school, and a chapel. There are 9 residential buildings, three of which are group homes and six are cottages. The campus is very well maintained.
Building Exterior	x			As stated above the buildings all appear to be in good condition.
Living Room	x			Cottages provide a very comfortable environment for the residents. There are areas for study and play.
Kitchen	x			In the cottages there is a kitchenette that is available for the boys to use. There is no kitchen as they eat at the cafeteria. Fruit is available in the kitchenette at all times.
Bedrooms	x			Hanna provides all the bedding. There are six bedrooms in each cottage and group home. The boys can decorate their own rooms.
Bathrooms	x			In all residences there is one very large bathroom, which contains 3 showers, 5 toilets, and 5 sinks. Part of the boy's chores is to clean the bathrooms. This rotates monthly. In the group homes there is also a guest bath.
Fire Safety --Extinguishers	x			Fire extinguishers and evacuation plans are in the appropriate places.
Food	x			We were offered lunch, but did not partake this time. Last year the food was very good and plentiful. The boys we spoke with like the food at Hanna.
Health Services	x			The health center includes dental offices and an infirmary where the boys stay if they are ill. Health services vary. Usually there are two LPN's each

			<p>day and a Nurse Practitioner comes twice a week.</p> <p>Dental services include evaluation, regular cleaning, and other dental procedures as needed. The boys come in with a varied state of dental hygiene. Most boys get their teeth cleaned every six months. Those who come in with poor hygiene go for cleaning every 4 months.</p> <p>The biggest problem is decay. There are a couple of dentists who volunteer at Hanna, and the boys with the greatest dental issues are seen by them. They also have several orthodontists who will see one boy each.</p> <p>A consulting psychiatrist comes to campus once a month to see residents and do medical reviews.</p>
Medications	x		<p>Meds are double locked in a cabinet in a locked office. About one quarter of the boys are on psychotropic drugs. Very few of the residents are on more than one or two medications. There is a new protocol: A 3-level signoff to verify proper administration; any missed meds must be reported to CCL as an incident; any emergency room treatment, the same.</p>
Recreation (on site)	x		<p>There are recreation opportunities at each house in addition to all the intramural activities. There are weights and treadmills in each residence. There are some competitive High School sports such as basketball and soccer. Hanna plays in a league with other small schools such as Summerfield Waldorf, Pescadero, and Anderson Valley. One of the boys we spoke with is on the basketball team and feels the games are competitive and fun.</p>
Outings (off site)	x		<p>The outings are quite varied. There is money in the budget for one large outing each year. Some residences augment the budget by doing bake sales and other moneymaking endeavors. Trips have included Six Flags and Santa Cruz.</p> <p>The school sets up hikes and fishing trips to Spring Lake. Hanna has re-energized the Wilderness Fishing and Hiking program outside of Sonoma County.</p>
Education & Classrooms		x	<p>Hanna has an accredited high school for grades 8 through 12. Ratio of teachers to students is 4.5 to 1. Classes go from 8AM. To 2:05 PM. They teach all the regular curriculum plus music and art.</p> <p>In addition, there is a woodworking shop. The teacher taught at St. Helena High for 37 years. He is very energetic and the kids seem to really like and respect him. He teaches safety first and tries to teach things which will help the boys in later life. In addition to woodworking, classes are taught in welding and blacksmithing.</p> <p>The residents we talked with said there were missing ceiling tiles and the school needed better wifi and a bigger server for the computer system.</p> <p>All students attend Summer School session.</p>
Mail/Phone	x		<p>Cell phones are a problem at Hanna as they are in the rest of the world. Hanna's policy is "time and place" related.</p>
Discipline	x		<p>The program is designed for the boys to receive privileges for their behavior. There are various levels and as a resident is more in "control" of their behavior they earn more privileges. The boys get allowances based on the level their behavior has put them. They can spend this money on the various outings. Bullying has been a problem and will be discussed later in</p>

			<p>this report.</p> <p>Hanna is moving from a Status Scoring system for discipline to a more subjective one, checking in with the kids on these issues. The staff is getting in-service training from Dr. Robert Macy on Trauma Informed Care. He did this for Valley of the Moon staff. All fights between boys must be reported to CCL.</p>
Library	x		There is a library attached to the school.
Follow-on Dept.	x		Most of this work is done with students who are juniors and seniors. The follow-on dept. works to get Hanna residents into college and get them scholarships and grants so they can continue their education. They endeavor to get the kids jobs and teach them about life after Hanna (apartments, bank accounts, utilities, etc.) For any job that a boys has: 50% of the earnings goes into savings for when the student leaves.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Hanna Boys Center is a residential treatment facility for boys from 8th grade to the end of high school. One of the unique features is that boys must write a detailed letter explaining why they want to come to Hanna. Hanna sees its mission as changing the lives of “troubled youth” into productive and caring members of society.

Brian Farraghar is the Executive Director of Hanna. He is the fourth director in the homes 70 years and the first who is not a priest.

A large problem at Hanna, and most residential homes is recruiting and retaining staff. The work is quite challenging and the starting salary is around \$15 an hour. The minimum requirement is a college degree. With the cost of living being what it is, it is hard to find qualified people to fill staff position. This is one of the reasons that one of the cottages is empty.

Hanna is completely privately funded. Most of the boys do not come to Hanna with a strong faith component. If residents are not Catholic, kids are encouraged to go to the church, mosque, or synagogue they choose. About 35% of the residents come in as Catholics. Hanna does not promote any one religion.

Like most open setting homes, substance abuse is a problem. The boys have cell phones and the community uses many of the athletic facilities, so obtaining drugs is not that difficult. Many of the residents come from environments where drugs and alcohol are a problem. Many families want their kids to get out of troubled situations in their home communities. Student population is approximately 50% Hispanic and 15% African American. All the residents speak English but language is sometimes a problem with the families.

YOUTH INTERVIEWS

TOPICS			
Evaluation of Program	x		We spoke with two boys—one a senior and the other in college at Cal State Long Beach. He was spending break at Hanna.
Program Understood	x		
Levels (Privileges)	x		Both of the young men understood the program and felt that they had benefited from it.
Grievances	x		Both of the young men felt that there was still too much bullying going on. One of the boys said “I have been bullied a lot of my life, but I have learned to deal with it here and stand up for myself”.
Discipline	x		Boys felt the discipline makes sense and had no problem with it.
Staff Evaluation	x		Liked most of the staff and thought they were helpful.

Health Services	x			
Counseling/Therapy	x			
Chores & Allowance	x			
Laundry	x			
Clothes	x			There has been a liberalization of colors that the boys can wear and this has not resulted in new problems.
Food	x			The two residents we spoke with thought the food was good. This is a change from last year when there were several complaints.
Snacks				
School			x	Both of the young men thought that the school badly needed to be renovated. They said it needed more than just a new coat of paint, "It needs to be updated".
Library				
Activities & Entertainment				
Money				

ADDITIONAL NOTES & SUGGESTIONS BY YOUTH

of Youth Interviewed: 2

We spent a good deal of time speaking with the two young men about the legal problems of the past year. Both of them said they were "truly surprised" by the revelations having to do with the clinical director. They said he was someone they felt they could easily speak with and that he would help them. Both said they had no inkling that there was something "bad" going on.

When we talked about the female staff person, we were told that it was kind of an "open secret" that something was going on. One of the boys said that he had seen the female staff person and the resident holding hands. He further said that he had "reported it" and that led to an investigation. Hanna was used as an evacuation center during the wild fires. The Hanna generator failed, so most of the boys were sent home and the boys from outside Sonoma County were sent to Sonoma Valley High School. One boy ran away and was later expelled. Before the boys were returned, the entire campus was professionally cleaned. Upon reopening the campus, both students and staff were provided trauma counseling.

Given all that has transpired during the past year, staff is much more focused on unrecognized physical, emotional, and sexual abuse signs. One consequence is that staff is more reticent about physical familiarity with the boys.

The JJC graduation awards are well received by both students and staff.

Inspection Summary

Hanna Boys Center is a facility in transition. Brien Farragher has changed the treatment milieu and it has taken the residents and staff some time to adjust. They do seem to be getting there. Some of the complaints and confusions that were voice last year were not repeated this inspection They seem to have done a good job recovering from the fires and helping the residents deal with the turmoil.

The legal issues of the past year are upsetting. Hanna is trying to deal with them by instituting many new protocols, such as new GPS systems have been installed in all Hanna vehicles. So, when boys are taken off grounds for any reason, staff calls the office and reports that they have arrived and calls again when they are leaving for home. Also if

a resident misses his meds, a report is written. There are many new systems in place for the safety of the residents.

Next Inspection Recommended: _____ or X **Annual Inspection**

Michael Fried, Inspection Commissioner

Robert Faux, Inspection Commissioner

Mary Cone, Chair/Report Review

cc: Honorable Judge of the Sonoma County Superior Court
Commissioner of the Juvenile Court
Probation Department, Chief of Probation
Sonoma County Family Youth & Children's Services
State of California, Community Care Licensing
Facility Inspected

Revised 12/2017