

## Sonoma County Juvenile Justice Commission Group Home Inspection Report

Facility Name:	Plumfield Ranch
Address:	On File
Phone	On File
Contact Person	Darcee Drakulich

J.J.C. Inspector(s)	Eve Goldberg, Michael Fried
<b>Date of Inspection</b>	October 24, 2017
Date of Last Inspection	December 6, 2016
C.C.L. Contact	Pauline Muntzer
Date of Last C.C.L. Inspection	11-10-2014

*\*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			Home is located in the countryside with beautiful open field behind house. Grounds are well-maintained and attractive. Attractive plantings along front of house.
Building Exterior	x			House, decks, and stairs are well-maintained. House last painted 18 months ago.
Living Room	x			Living room is comfortable, neat, and homey. Two comfortable leather couches, large coffee table, big screen TV, books on shelves. Living room festively decorated for Halloween – including a line of pumpkins on the hearth. Large picture window looks out on countryside.
Kitchen	x			Kitchen is clean and organized. Full supply of dishes, cooking utensils, pots and pans. Photos of residents having fun and on outings are taped to fridge.  Locked cabinet contains snacks, sharp knives, and cleaning supplies.  Many cookbooks and cooking spices in cabinet.
Bedrooms	x			There are 4 bedrooms: 2 doubles and 2 singles. All bedrooms are homey, clean, and welcoming. Pop culture posters, maps, and family photos on walls. Stuffed animals, clothes, games, and other personal objects in rooms. Each boy has a desk, chest of drawers, and closet.
Bathrooms	x			The bathroom is clean, fully supplied, in good repair. A map-of-world shower curtain is festive and clean.
Fire Safety --Extinguishers	x			Two fire extinguishers: one near kitchen, one in entry hall. Both up to date and signed off in working order.
Fire Safety	x			One smoke alarm in each bedroom. Two smoke alarms in hallway. All in

--Smoke Alarms			working order.
Fire Safety --Evacuation Plan		x	Evacuation plan posted above washer-dryer.
Food	x		Cabinets well stocked with staples such as rice, flour, nuts, raisins, potatoes, and cereal. Fridge well stocked with fresh greens, fresh veggies, milk, and other nutritious food. Large freezer full with frozen dinners, pizza, bread, meat, juice.
Emergency Supplies		x	In Kitchen: cabinet with canned beans and vegetables. Freezer filled with frozen foods.  In Staff Room: large plastic box with first aid supplies, blankets, towels, atlas. Other emergency supplies include crank radio, many battery powered lanterns.
Health Services	x		All new residents receive a medical, vision, and dental examination upon intake. Annual physical and twice-a-year dental exams follow. Staff keeps a medical binder for each boy, which carefully tracks their medical needs, issues, and appointments. A staff therapist is available for individual counseling with each boy. Family counseling is available when needed.
Medications	x		Medications and medication binder are in locked cabinet. Binder is up to date. Medications are prescribed by a psychiatrist or physician and administered by staff.
Recreation (on site)	x		Basketball court and large open field offer ample space for recreation and sports. Equipment includes various balls, tennis racquets, and bikes. A barn in the backyard is used for indoor recreation such as holiday parties. Many board and card games are available in the house.
Outings (off site)	x		Recent and upcoming outings include going to the beach, roller skating, visiting Copperfield's Books, riding the Smart Train to Petaluma, and hiking. Special Halloween activities include going to the Pumpkin Patch, decorating pumpkins, and making Halloween posters to put in the barn as part of a Halloween party for all 3 Plumfield houses.  During the two week summer vacation, outings include going to: the Sonoma County Fair, the San Rafael Space Festival, slip & slide, swimming, and bowling.
Education & Classrooms	x		Five of the boys attend Plumfield Academy. One boy attends public middle school.  Administrative, residential and educational staff meet regularly and frequently to coordinate care and education of the boys.
Mail/Phone		x	The boys have access to mail and phone calls on an individualized basis. They have privacy for their phone calls.
Discipline	x		Discipline is based on a detailed program of levels, points, and behavior reinforcement. All staff are well-trained in the discipline procedure. Discipline begins with verbal prompts for inappropriate behaviors. If behavior continues, discipline ramps up to brief time outs, structured room time, and OOPS (which is restriction from public outings, electronics and TV for 1-3 days).  Staff members work with each boy so that discipline is an opportunity for learning and personal growth.

Library	x			A wide variety of books are on shelves in entryway and living room.

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

Boys all get a regular allowance. They also earn extra allowance money by performing their chores. There is a house chore binder, which lists all the chores and details the responsibilities involved in each chore. Boys who have lived at The Ranch help teach new residents about house rules and chores.

**YOUTH INTERVIEWS**

TOPICS				
Evaluation of Program	x			Boys seemed positive about program.
Program Understood	x			All boys understood the rules and functioning of the program.
Levels (Privileges)				
Grievances				
Discipline				
Staff Evaluation	x			Boys were very positive about staff.
Health Services				
Counseling/Therapy				
Chores & Allowance				
Laundry				
Clothes				
Food				
Snacks				
School	x			Boys expressed liking school and learning.
Library				
Activities & Entertainment	x			Boys particularly enjoy the various outings – especially movies and going to the bookstore to buy books.
Money				

**ADDITIONAL NOTES & SUGGESTIONS BY YOUTH**

# of Youth Interviewed: 5

One of the inspectors met with a group of five boys whose ages ranged from 14 to 17. Their time residing at Plumfield ranged from three months to eight years. Most of the boys had lived at other Plumfield houses. Several had also lived in various foster homes.

All of the boys were essentially positive about their experience at Plumfield. They all seemed to understand the rules and discipline. They said that sometimes it was difficult when a new boy came into the program, but that staff

handled these situations well and were able to integrate new boys into the fabric of the household.

The boys said that they especially liked outings. A couple of them mentioned that they really liked to read, and always enjoyed going to get new books when they had money to spend. They also really liked movie nights.

Four of the five boys interviewed attend Plumfield school; one attends public school. To a person, the boys all expressed that they were having a good school experience.

## Inspection Summary

There are currently six boys, age 14-17, living at Plumfield Ranch. When we arrived for this inspection, five of the boys were seated around the dining table playing cards with their house manager, Scott. The sixth boy was speaking privately on the phone with his grandmother out on the deck.

Inspectors were impressed by the over-all clean, organized, and homey feeling in the house. The house and grounds are well maintained and attractive. Staff are clearly well-trained and dedicated to creating a positive, caring, environment for the boys.

Inspectors were also impressed by the coordination between administrative, educational, and residential staff. The boys seem to feel safe, trust the staff, and understand what is expected of them.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Inspection Commissioner

**Next Inspection Recommended:** \_\_\_\_\_ **or** \_\_\_\_\_ **Annual Inspection**

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Inspection Commissioner

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Inspection Commissioner

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Mary Cone, Commissioner/Report Review

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Mary Cone, Chairperson

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 12/2016