

Sonoma County Juvenile Justice Commission Group Home Inspection Report

Facility Name:	Plumfield Farm
Address:	On File
Phone	707-824-1414
Contact Person	Darcee Drakulich

J.J.C. Inspector(s)	Mary Cone, Richard Miller
Date of Inspection	May 25, 2016
Date of Last Inspection	May 26, 2015
C.C.L. Contact	Pauline Muntzer
Date of Last C.C.L. Inspection	July 7, 2015

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

Action

INSPECTED	O	S	N.I.	Comments
Grounds	X			Very nicely maintained grounds with nice plantings in the front. The backyard is huge with well-tended grass, acres of open space.
Building Exterior	X			Newly painted last year and very clean.
Living Room	X			Cozy with TV, sofas, coffee table, chairs and lots of books.
Kitchen	X			Fresh fruit is available in the kitchen. Clean and well stocked with all kinds of healthy food in the cupboards, refrigerator and freezer. There is also a huge freezer in the other room full of food.
Bedrooms	X			Bedrooms were very clean and neat with personal photos and memorabilia.
Bathrooms		X		Very clean.
Fire Safety --Extinguishers	X			Up to date.
Fire Safety --Smoke Alarms	X			In working order.
Fire Safety --Evacuation Plan		X		The evacuation plan is posted and will soon also be posted in each child's room. However, each child knows exactly what to do in the event of an emergency. In this home, each room has it's own door to exit.
Food	X			The refrigerator has vegetables, yogurt, bread and other fresh products. No food had out dated expirations. Cabinets contained canned foods, breads, beans and other items. It is worth noting that the kitchen contains many spices and herbs for cooking which shows the high level of meal preparation that goes on in this home.

Emergency Supplies	X			There are extra blankets and large jugs of emergency water. The freezer is filled to capacity with meat, chicken, vegetables, and juice.
Health Services	X			Each child has an annual physical exam. The dental exams are twice annually. Plumfield's own therapist provides individual and family counseling. Individual counseling is usually one or two times a week.
Medications	X			Staff administer medications that are prescribed by a psychiatrist. The medication binder was up to date and in an easy to use format. The medications were also user friendly in the storage bin. Medication is located in a locked cabinet.
Recreation (on site)	X			There is a large game cupboard. The yard is huge with a basketball court and other possibilities for games and outdoor activities. The kids often play Frisbee at this home. Inside there is a foosball table.
Outings (off site)	X			The children go to movies, on hikes, to the beach, to miniature golf, parks, shopping, etc. They also go to special events such as parades, fairs, museums, and events in San Francisco. They are going to a park on Saturday.
Education & Classrooms	X			The children attend Plumfield Academy.
Mail/Phone	X			As appropriate for each individual.
Discipline	X			All staff are well trained in the discipline procedure at Plumfield. It starts with a verbal prompt for inappropriate behaviors then to 5 to 10 minute time outs. Next SRT is structured room time, which is 45 to 90 minutes in the child's room, and then to OOPS which is house restriction where the child is restricted from public outings, electronic and TV for 1 to 3 days depending on the behavior. In the years I have been inspecting Plumfield, I have seen the verbal prompts work exceptionally well because all the staff are on the same page and the children feel secure with the limits.
Library	X			Excellent library.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

The house is very clean and well maintained.

We were impressed with the staff. They were a delight to deal with. They are clearly interested in the kids and demonstrate respect for each child.

There is a real feeling of family in this home, as in all the Plumfield homes. The boys feel very safe and secure with each other and the staff.

There are pictures of the boys on the refrigerator showing events they have been to or other milestones.

The rooms are a bit on the dark side when the curtains are closed. I have already spoken with the director, Darcee Drakulich, and she is going to see to making the rooms a bit brighter. She stated that it is a curious dilemma because the boys do not want the curtains open. In this home, when the curtains are closed the rooms are darker than the other homes. However, when the curtains are open, the rooms have more than enough light.

Youth Interviews

TOPICS	O	S	N.I.	Comments
Evaluation of Program	X			“Good program, I know what to do.” “This is a safe place.”
Program Understood	X			The boys understand the program and most are able to convey that they believe it is helping them.
Levels (Privileges)	X			The levels are understood and are fair. The boys feel secure in the consistent behavior expectations for themselves and others.
Grievances	X			Most grievances are handled by the staff at each home or the teacher, however, if the boys feel they need to speak with Scott (therapist) or Darcee (director) they have access to them on a daily basis at the school. For the boys who go to public school, they are on the campus several times a week and can speak with either during that time.
Discipline	X			“It’s fair and I can’t get away with stuff but that’s how I learn.”
Staff Evaluation	X			“The staff are fair and they treat me well.”
Health Services	X			
Counseling/Therapy	X			“Everyone likes Scott and he helps me.”
Chores & Allowance	X			“The chores are good and I get an allowance.”
Laundry	X			The staff does the laundry and the boys fold and put away.
Clothes	X			“I have nice clothes here and warm ones in the winter.”
Food	X			“The food is good and when we had ratatouille and they even put cucumber in it, I think.”
Snacks	X			“Sometimes the snacks are better and sometimes fine.”
School	X			“I like Plumfield school.”
Library	X			“In the living room.”
Activities & Entertainment	X			“I go to lots of outside activities.” I really like to play Wii.”
Money	X			“We get allowance for doing our chores.”

ADDITIONAL NOTES & SUGGESTIONS BY YOUTH

of Youth Interviewed: 3

Inspection Summary

This facility runs an exceptional program. With any concern, the response is immediate, which is notable. It is impressive how well these children are cared for in such a safe and nurturing environment. Plumfield is a stellar example of what a group home experience should be. They have been doing this work for over 40 years and have a program that has helped hundreds of children face their issues and move on to a productive life.

Inspection
Inspection Commissioner

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

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 7/31/14