

Sonoma County Juvenile Justice Commission Group Home Inspection Report

Facility Name:	Plumfield Ranch
Address:	On file
Phone	707-824-1414
Contact Person	Darcee Drakulich

J.J.C. Inspector(s)	Mary Cone
Date of Inspection	October 14, 2015
Date of Last Inspection	October 27, 2014
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			This home is located down a beautiful country lane with grapes growing on the left. It is nestled in a valley with beautiful views. The decks and areas around the home are very well maintained and nicely planted.
Building Exterior	X			The outside of the home is freshly painted and extremely clean.
Living Room	X			The living room has two leather sofas with a coffee table and a flat screen t.v. There are books, dvd's, a computer, a telescope, and a fireplace. The fireplace definitely gives the room a very homey and cozy feel.
Kitchen		X		The kitchen was clean and well stocked with enough cutleries for all residents and staff. The sharps were locked, as was the vanilla. There was a refrigerator stocked with all kinds of healthy food. The cupboards hold many, many cookbooks, spices, oils, etc. It is apparent that there is real cooking going on in this home.
Bedrooms	X			There are four bedrooms at the Ranch. Some boys have their own room and a couple share with another resident. Each resident has a chest of drawers and a closet. There are desks and lamps.
Bathrooms		X		The bathroom was in good repair and clean.
Fire Safety --Extinguishers		X		The fire extinguisher had a current inspection date and accessible.
Fire Safety --Smoke Alarms		X		There are smoke alarms in working order as well as carbon dioxide detectors in the common areas and near the furnace, as per regulations.
Fire Safety --Evacuation Plan		X		There is a house evacuation plan that was posted. All the boys know where their exit is and where to meet in an emergency.

Food	X			The food is nutritious and plentiful. There are menus posted and since this is the home of the older boys, many of them help with planning and executing the meals. The refrigerator was stocked with food and leftovers. The large freezer was full.
Emergency Supplies	X			They have emergency supplies such as first aid kits, food and water.
Health Services		X		The boys get routine yearly medical exams and twice a year visits with the dentist. There is also a staff therapist who provides counseling services.
Medications		X		Medications are prescribed by a psychiatrist and administered by the staff. The percentage of residents on psychotropic medications at this inspection time was 75%. The medications are locked and the logbook was up to date.
Recreation (on site)	X			On site there is just about anything a young man would want to do. They have a basketball court and acres of land which can be used for any game at all; soccer, baseball, football, etc.
Outings (off site)	X			The boys have been to Giants games, the coast, movies, fishing, boating, the river, Scandia, shopping, San Francisco.
Education & Classrooms	X			Most boys go to Plumfield Academy, although one goes to Analy and one to El Molino.
Mail/Phone		X		Individualized for each resident.
Discipline	X			There are verbal instructional prompts, which are impressive to watch. Each staff in each home is absolutely familiar with the youths expectations and their own. If that doesn't work, they go to their rooms for a certain amount of time. Occasionally, a youth will advance to OOPS which is house restriction with no public outings, electronics or TV. Although, OOPS is pretty rare in this home with the older youth.
Library	X			Copious amount of impressive titles. This is a home where, if a youth is interested in a certain book or author; the book is purchased for him.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

This home is staffed by people who have worked at Plumfield for years. It is very well run with the boys in complete understanding of what is expected of them and working hard to become productive citizens of the community.

Community involvement of the residents is encouraged with the young men involved in after school sports, Ceres,

Hospice, and other programs. The boys receive new clothing in the summer and fall. In most residential treatment facilities, staff must attend 20 hours of training per year. However, Plumfield surpasses this requirement by requiring weekly trainings of between 1 ½ to 2 hours.

An impressive feature of Plumfield to this commissioner is their dress code. Plumfield acknowledges that a healthy self-esteem includes a neat and clean personal appearance. It is evident that they emphasize good personal care by how the boys always look. I have never seen any young man looking unkempt or with attire that could be construed as gang orientated. This could be because these children are able to purchase new clothes for themselves which is different than other group homes I've seen.

Youth Interviews

TOPICS	O	S	N.I.	Comments
Evaluation of Program	X			I like this program because everyone here really cares and it's helped me a lot. When I was in foster care and got upset I would get kicked out but here they help me deal with my anger or being upset and they don't kick me out.
Program Understood		X		Yes, we all understand the program.
Levels (Privileges)		X		We are all on the higher levels at this house.
Grievances	X			We talk to staff and that usually takes care of a problem but we can always talk to Darcee too. When boys arrive at Plumfield they and their representatives are notified of their rights and proper procedure for filing complaints.
Discipline		X		Discipline is fair. In this house not a lot of problems because we know how to behave.
Staff Evaluation	X			The staff are really great. They care and try to help us.
Health Services		X		We go to the doctor once a year and to the dentist two times a year.
Counseling/Therapy	X			Scott is our therapist. He is really easy to talk to and helps us all a lot.
Chores & Allowance	X			We all have chores to do around the house and we get an allowance but there is always more we can do to earn more money.
Laundry		X		We do our own laundry.
Clothes	X			When we need new clothes we are taken on a personal shopping trip.
Food	X			The food is really good. It's much better than any place else I've been.
Snacks		X		The snacks are good and there is fruit available.
School		X		The boys who attend Plumfield Academy like it very much. One boy attends Analy High School and another, El Molino High School.
Library		X		There is a good library here and at our schools. And we can go to the public library also.
Activities & Entertainment	X			We go on hiking trips, to Giants games, San Francisco, fishing, Scandia, and shopping. One boy is involved in wrestling at Analy, another is on the football team at El Molino. One volunteers at Ceres and another at Hospice
Money		X		We get allowance and can always do extra work.

ADDITIONAL NOTES & SUGGESTIONS BY YOUTH

of Youth Interviewed: 3

These boys are old enough to express appreciation for the care and attention they are receiving at Plumfield. They are thankful to be learning life skills and experiencing community within this home and the Plumfield family.

Inspection Summary

Plumfield Ranch offers an enriched home experience while teaching life skills and community. This is a stellar home providing a safe and nurturing environment.

Next Inspection Recommended: _____ or X Annual

Inspection
Inspection Commissioner

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