

## Sonoma County Juvenile Justice Commission Group Home Inspection Report

Facility Name:	Greenacre Homes (Hurlbut Group Home)
Address:	On file
Phone	707 953-0835 (c)
Contact Person	Timothy Dimick, Program Director

J.J.C. Inspector(s)	James Weathers and Richard Miller,
Date of Inspection	September 24,2014
Date of Last Inspection	February 18,2013
C.C.L. Contact	Pauline Muntzer
Date of Last C.C.L. Inspection	6-23-2014

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

INSPECTED	O	S	N.I.	Comments
Grounds		x		Facility is located in a wooded area surrounded by redwoods lending a rustic park like atmosphere to the home. It is adjacent to the Joyce House, another Greenacre group home.
Building Exterior		x		The building is an older one-story building. No immediate exterior repairs or painting were apparent.
Living Room		x		Living room was spacious with two sofas; fish tank a large screen TV on which several residents were playing video games during our visit and a computer terminal. All furniture was comfortable and in good repair.

Kitchen		x	<p>There was an adequate supply of plates, glasses, cups and flatware for the residents and staff. The dining table was of sufficient size for all house residents and staff. Sharps were locked. Some spices and vanilla were in a cabinet that was not locked. Staff were made aware of this and moved it. After school snacks are provided to all residents and a variety of fresh fruits was on the kitchen counter.</p> <p>Most foods used by all five Greenacre Homes are delivered to the Eddie Street facility and sent from there to the other houses twice a week. Weekly menu is posted and is in compliance with ADA and State nutritional guidelines. The refrigerator was adequately stocked and no out dated left overs were noted.</p>
Bedrooms		x	<p>There are six bedrooms at the Hurlbut House and each resident has his own room. Each bedroom has a desk, chair or chairs, bed and chest of drawers.</p> <p>Lighting in the bedrooms comes from one ceiling fixture and should be augmented by desk lamps if appropriate. This issue was discussed with staff at the exit interview and we were told that at one time the rooms did have individual desk lamps and/or floor lamps but the breakage factor (and safety factors) were such that they were removed. Staff indicated that possible alternative lighting solutions would be explored. Insufficient lighting can have detrimental impact on ability to read in bedroom or at desk. Merely changing the filter covers on ceiling light may considerably improve the situation.</p>
Bathrooms		x	<p>Bathrooms were in good repair. Toilets and showers were, for the most, part clean. However, each of the bathrooms could benefit from a deep cleaning as there was some mold in the grout in the shower stalls. This issue was discussed with staff at the exit interview and we were told that it would be remedied as soon as possible.</p>
Fire Safety --Extinguishers		x	<p>There were two fully charged fire extinguishers bearing current inspection dates readily accessible to staff at the facility.</p>
Fire Safety --Smoke Alarms		x	<p>In addition to the two fully charged fire extinguishers mentioned above there were also smoke alarms and carbon dioxide detectors mounted on the ceilings at strategic locations in the facility.</p>

Fire Safety --Evacuation Plan		x		<p>The house evacuation plan was posted. However, it was in a darkened area and not easily identified. This was mentioned to staff at the time of the inspection and staff agreed to move the chart to a more appropriate area. Exits are clearly marked and easily accessible.</p> <p>There are regularly scheduled fire drills each month.</p>
Food		x		<p>The food service for the five Greenacre Homes is handled differently than most other group homes. Each of the five homes has their own kitchen however most meals are prepared in the commercial kitchen at Eddie Lane.</p> <p>The kitchen at Eddie Lane prepares bag lunches, which are delivered to the school for the residents. Pre-made dinners are heated in the individual houses (lasagna, salad, bread). Breakfast is prepared at the individual houses.</p> <p>Weekly menus are posted and in compliance with ADA and State guidelines.</p>
Emergency Supplies		x		<p>Emergency supplies such as first aid kits, additional food and water etc. were stored in a locked pantry. Toxic chemicals and cleaning material are also stored under lock and key when not being used by staff.</p> <p>Additional supplies are also kept at the Eddie St House and can be distributed to the other Greenacre Homes should the need arise.</p>
Health Services		x		<p>As with the other facilities maintained by Greenacre Homes, children are routinely scheduled for yearly medical exams with additional visits as necessary. Dental exams are scheduled semiannually with follow up treatment as indicated.</p>
Medications		x		<p>Medicines are in a locked drawer in the staff office, which is also locked. Prescribed medications are distributed by staff and charted in a log kept in the locked desk with the medications.</p>
Recreation (on site)	x			<p>In addition to the large screen TV there was a variety of video and computer games and a small library in the living room.</p>

Outings (off site)	x			Activities include A's games, bike rides, hiking, trips to San Francisco. They go to the movies once a week, have been ice-skating, and field trips to San Francisco.
Education & Classrooms		x		A number of the children attend on site school and SCOE.
Mail/Phone		x		Each resident has unrestricted access to the phone and computer. Mail is sent and received without screening.
Discipline		x		<p>There is an "opportunity room" for residents to use voluntarily (can also be placed there by staff if it is felt to be in the child's best interest) for de-escalation or reflection during stressful incidents. While the door is not locked, staff is always in attendance. The resident is removed from the room after a five-minute period.</p> <p>If the opportunity room is used, there are no additional consequences, making it a safe environment for the residents to calm down without any ongoing negative carryover.</p> <p>Points are earned by residents that can be used to volunteer at hospice, the humane society, organic food pantry.</p>
Library		x		Age appropriate reading material is located in the living rooms.
<b>ADDITIONAL NOTES</b>				
Unlike most group homes in Sonoma County Greenacres accepts residents who are both developmentally delayed and emotionally challenged ages 8-18 (with exceptions some residents are older)				
They take level 14 and level 12 kids.				
Accept regional center clients				
Very low staff turnover. They hire from within which can improve consistency with residents and facilitate relationship building.				
Staff input is encouraged in decision-making and program development.				
Internship program requires interns to work minimum of 20 hours a week and agree to 1-year commitment. This is a paid internship and requires intern to stay past his or her own academic school year. Paid internships are rare so this is an incentive.				
Community involvement of residents is encouraged where appropriate.				

Staff is knowledgeable about residents with both developmental issue and emotional concerns.

Each resident is associated with a regional center. Currently 15% of their residents are from Sonoma County.

## Youth Interviews

TOPICS	O	S	N.I.	Comments
Evaluation of Program		x		Residents complimentary about program. Each child spoken to stated they enjoyed the program but would rather be home/elsewhere.
Program Understood		x		All residents are given an orientation presentation upon arrival along with a handbook containing the house rules and regulations.
Levels (Privileges)		x		Residents understood how the "privilege and consequence" program works.
Grievances		x		One resident interviewed was not aware of the formal grievance procedure or of the availability of the JJC to assist in resolving problems. When the process was explained to one resident, he immediately wanted the interviewer to see his room, to show him where a "termite was coming out of the wall." It was actually a bit of black pen.
Discipline		x		Residents felt discipline was fairly administered by the staff.
Staff Evaluation		x		As was the case at Joyce House residents here were positive in their comments about staff. "No problems approaching any of them but some easier to talk to than others".
Health Services		x		Residents felt they received services as needed. One resident did object to the twice a year dental check-ups and cleanings.
Counseling/Therapy		x		Residents stated they see their doctor for medication monthly.
Chores & Allowance		x		Residents looked on chores as a way to earn extra privileges and increased allowance.

Laundry		x	Residents help with laundry chores as in keeping with their age and ability under the supervision of a staff member. Staff always handles laundry materials.
Clothes		x	Residents' clothes were clean and there was additional clothing in the bedrooms.
Food		x	Residents were complimentary about both the quality and quantity of the meals provided.
Snacks		x	In addition to the prepared snacks available at specific times the residents liked being able to get snacks (fresh fruit) whenever they wanted from the kitchen counter.
School		x	Each resident stated they liked school.
Library		x	One resident stated he liked the video games but "wasn't much into reading" although he knew there was a variety of books available.
Activities & Entertainment	x		One resident commented on how much he especially enjoyed the weekly movies.
Money		x	Can earn funds based on age and chore.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES & SUGGESTIONS BY YOUTH**

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**Inspection Summary**

In our opinion this facility provides a safe, healthy and nurturing environment for its youthful residents.

Inspection Commissioner (s)

**James Weathers**

**Richard Miller**

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

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