

Sonoma County Juvenile Justice Commission Group Home Inspection Report

Facility Name:	Greenacre Homes (Joyce Dr. Facility)
Address:	On File
Phone	On File
Contact Person	Timothy Dimick

J.J.C. Inspector(s)	James Weathers, 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	June 20, 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.
Building Exterior		x		The Joyce House is an older two-story structure. No immediate painting or repair needs were noted. Currently a new deck is being built at the front of the building.
Living Room		x		The living area was spacious and comfortably furnished with couches, chairs, TV, books and video games. The entire interior of the house has recently undergone extensive remodeling.
Kitchen		x		The kitchen and eating area was clean and well-maintained containing table and chairs, adequate to seat the residents and staff. Sharps are locked in another room. 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.
Bedrooms		x		There are six bedrooms at the Joyce House one of which is furnished with two beds however the usual occupancy is only six with each child having a room to himself. The bedrooms are adequately furnished with bed (or in one case beds) desks, chair(s), dressers and with closets.

Bathrooms		x		There were two bathrooms with showers available for residents. The bathrooms were in good repair with no broken porcelain or tiles.
Fire Safety --Extinguishers		x		There were two charged fire extinguishers bearing current inspection dates in the facility, one on the first floor and one on the lower level.
Fire Safety --Smoke Alarms		x		There were two charged fire extinguishers bearing current inspection dates in the facility on both floors.
Fire Safety --Evacuation Plan		x		The house evacuation plan was posted, however, it was behind the staff's office area and not easily located by the residents. This was mentioned to staff and the chart was immediately moved to a more appropriate area. Exits are clearly marked and easily accessible. Policy requires fire drills at least once per month and one of the children spoken with indicated that: "We seem to have fire drills every other day".
Food		x		Refrigerator and cabinets appeared to be adequately stocked. Snacks are provided in the morning and afternoon. A supply of fresh fruit is kept in a locked cabinet so that staff can monitor its consumption as some residents seemed to be eating it all the time.
Emergency Supplies		x		Emergency supplies such as first aid kits, additional food and water etc. were stored in a locked pantry. Additional supplies are also kept at the Eddie St House and can be distributed to the other Greenacre Homes should the need arise.
Health Services		x		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.
Medications		x		Medicines are in a locked drawer in the staff office, which is also locked. Other toxic chemicals and cleaning material are also stored under lock and key when not being used by staff. Prescribed medications are distributed by staff and charted in a log kept in the locked desk with the medications.
Recreation (on site)	x			On site recreation consists of TV, video games, some board games and reading. There was a small library in the living room and many of the residents had books in their rooms. In addition to the TV on the ground floor there is a second in the recreation room in the basement along with workout apparatus. There were a variety of balls and other recreational material stored in the lower level closets.
Outings (off site)	x			Outside activities include: visits to baseball games, bike rides, hiking, movies, and visits to San Francisco on occasion.
Education & Classrooms		x		Residents attend SCOE or onsite school program.

Mail/Phone		x		Each of the residents has access to the home's telephone and computers. Incoming and outgoing mail and e-mail is unrestricted unless there are special circumstances involved.
Discipline		x		Discipline is two pronged consisting of rewards for "good" behavior and defined penalties for unacceptable behavior. Rewards consist of a possible increase in the allowance each child receives, increased outings, etc. Penalties include restriction of outside activities and in some cases restriction to the resident's room. Restrictions are usually limited to one day. Restrictions of more than one day require the approval of a Supervisor.
Library		x		There was a small library in the living room and several residents had books in their rooms. In addition to the reading material there were a variety of video games and movies.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

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 l4 and level l2 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 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 are 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.
Program Understood				Residents given in-depth orientation upon arrival along with a handbook containing the house rules and regulations.
Levels (Privileges)				Residents understood how the "privilege and consequence" program worked.

Grievances		x	<p>Although the grievance procedures as well as the JJC Contact information bulletin were posted in the staff area behind a counter in the dining area one of the residents interviewed seemed not to be aware of these avenues to address problems. He stated that whenever he had a problem he just went to one of the staff to talk it out.</p> <p>In addition to reinforcing the grievance procedures with residents on a regular basis the information concerning these procedures should be placed in a more easily accessed area.</p>
Discipline		x	Residents seemed to understand and accept the disciplinary policies in place.
Staff Evaluation	?		The relationship between residents and staff in both the Joyce and Hurlbut Houses seem to be very positive. Both houses have a warm family- like atmosphere. "I like the staff here."
Health Services		x	Residents confirmed that the policy regarding regular medical and dental exams was being followed and that additional appointments were made when necessary.
Counseling/Therapy			Residents stated they see their MD for mediation.
Chores & Allowance			Each child has assigned chores, which are posted weekly. Everyone receives a basic allowance, which may be augmented based on additional duties. One resident stated he liked Friday's because that is when they got "money."
Laundry		x	Residents help with the laundry of their own clothes under the supervision of facility staff. Staff controls laundry supplies.
Clothes		x	Residents' clothes were clean and there was additional clothing in the bedroom closets.
Food		x	Residents were complimentary about both the quality and quantity of the food they received.
Snacks		x	The fact that the fresh fruit was kept in a locked cabinet was annoying to at least one resident but he did indicate that probably that was OK because some other kids "pig out" when the fruit was always on the counter.
School		x	Residents attend SCOE or onsite school program.
Library		x	Residents make good use of the books, video games and movies contained in the house library.
Activities & Entertainment		x	Residents interviewed stated they enjoyed going to the movies and on the field trips such as to "The City".
Money		x	Residents like the idea of having their own money to spend.
ADDITIONAL NOTES & SUGGESTIONS BY YOUTH			

Inspection Summary

As with the other Greenacre facilities, we believe this house provides a safe, healthy and nurturing environment for the children in residence.

Inspection Commissioners:

James Weathers

Richard Miller

Next Inspection Recommended: _____ **or** _____ **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