



Placer County Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission Annual Inspection Report

Welfare & Institutions Code Section 229.5

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a juvenile justice commission may inquire into the operation of any group home that serves wards or dependent children of the juvenile court and is located in the county or region the commission serves. The commission may review the safety and well-being of wards or dependent children placed in the group home and the program and services provided in relation to the home's published program statement.

(b) In conducting its review, the commission shall respect the confidentiality of minors' records and other information protected under other provisions of law. It may review court or case records of a child provided it keeps the identities of minors named in those records confidential, and may review the financial records of a group home. However, the commission may not review the personnel records of employees or the records of donors to the group home.

(c) The commission shall give the group home manager at least 24 hours' advance notice of a visit to a group home. If the commission believes that there is a serious violation of applicable licensing laws or regulations or that residents of a group home are in danger of physical or mental abuse, abandonment or other substantial threat to their health and safety, the commission shall notify the Community Care Licensing Division of the State Department of Social Services for appropriate action, shall consult with the presiding judge of the juvenile court and chief probation officer as to whether or not a visit is appropriate, and shall notify other juvenile justice commissions of its actions, as appropriate.

(d) Upon the completion of a visit, if the commission finds any condition in the group home that poses a danger to its residents or otherwise violates any applicable law, ordinance, or regulation, the commission shall verbally advise the group home manager of its findings, unless it determines that the advisement could be detrimental to the children placed there, and shall send written confirmation of its findings to the group home manager within 14 days. The commission may also report its findings to the presiding judge of the juvenile court, chief probation officer, State Department of Social Services, or other juvenile justice commissions as appropriate. A group home manager may meet with the juvenile justice commission, chief probation officer, county welfare director, juvenile court, or the State Department of Social Services to resolve any problem or to submit a plan of correction.

Facility: Koinonia Crisis Resolution Center

Address: Withheld

Phone Number: (866) 251-7584

Department Chief: Daryl Morales

Staff Interviewed: Daryl, Allen, Jean, Burt

Date of Inspection:

Juvenile Justice Commission Inspection Team: Charles Holmes and Sharon P. Howard, PhD

Supervising Juvenile Court Judge: Hon. Colleen Nichols

Staffing Ratio: 3 juveniles/ 1 staff awake
3 juveniles/ 1 staff asleep

Number of suicides: 3 youth referred to law enforcement

Number of assaults: 0

Number of runaways: 3-4

GENERAL

Does the facility house juveniles under 601 of the W&I Code? YES NO
Does the facility house juveniles under 602 of the W&I Code? YES NO
Are 601's and 602's separated? YES NO
Are males kept separate from females? YES NO

INTERIOR

Are sleeping rooms adequate and clean? YES NO
Is the interior of the house clean? YES NO
Were walls, paint, drains, plumbing, vents, windows, etc... in good working condition? YES NO
Are cleaning fluids and chemicals labeled and safely stored? YES NO
Are recreational equipment and sporting equipment in good order? YES NO
Are the hallways kept clear and uncluttered? YES NO
Are personal possessions allowed in sleeping rooms? YES NO
Is there any graffiti present? YES NO
Is a study area available for residence? YES NO
Is there adequate lighting in the facility? YES NO
Does the facility maintain an adequate temperature during seasons? YES NO

EXTERIOR

Are outdoor common areas well maintained? YES NO
Are any outdoor areas in disrepair? YES NO

MEALS/NUTRITION

Is the kitchen clean?	YES [x]	NO []
Is staff present and supervising during meals?	YES [x]	NO []
Is a weekly menu prepared and posted?	YES [x]	NO []
Are the meals served cafeteria style?	YES []	NO [x]

PROGRAMS

Are minors allowed ample time for recreation of any kind?	YES [x]	NO []
Do all minors exercise daily?	YES [x]	NO []
Do minors have access to religious services?	YES [x]	NO []
Are Medical/Mental Health Services available to minors?	YES [x]	NO []
Is there counseling available to the minors?	YES [x]	NO []
Is there a family reunification plan in place for minors?	YES [x]	NO []
Is there substance Abuse counseling available for minors?	YES [x]	NO []
Are there parenting classes available?	YES []	NO [x]
Are there any vocational classes available?	YES []	NO [x]

GRIEVANCE POLICY

Are all minors oriented to the rules and procedures?	YES [x]	NO []
Are rules and grievance procedures posted and visible to minors?	YES [x]	NO []
Is there a consistent and fair discipline plan in place?	YES [x]	NO []

COMMUNICATION

Do minors have access to phones?	YES [x]	NO []
Are minors given free postage for their correspondence?	YES [x]	NO []
Is incoming and outgoing mail read by staff?	YES []	NO [x]
Are accommodations made for visitation?	YES [x]	NO []
Does staff supervise visits?	YES [x]	NO []

Commissioners Observations: (N/A, no minors were present or available for interview)

Are the minors in a good state of appearance?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do they appear to shower regularly and in proper hygiene?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Is clothing appropriate and in good condition?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Did the minors interviewed feel they had an opportunity to express their concerns or issues with the staff?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Was a minor interviewed prior to or before the inspection?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Were any issues raised during the minor interview?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Commissioners Narrative:

The Koinonia Crisis Resolution Center (CRC) is situated in a residential home in a quiet neighborhood in Loomis. Because the goal of the CRC is to help bring calm to families in crisis, a great deal of thought and effort goes in to making the facility peaceful and homey. The french porch has a large swing and relaxed atmosphere, with potted plants and music speakers. The interior of the house was clean and well-maintained. The house has a large living area, a large kitchen where meals are prepared by staff, two bedrooms at the front of the house and four bedroom at the back, and a bedroom for the house parents. The backyard and garage contain exercise and recreational equipment including a ping-pong table, tetherball pole, basketball hoop, and a picnic area. Because the youth reside at the CRC on a short-term basis, most recreational activities are held on-site. Youth spend at least one hour per day outdoors engaging in exercise or recreational activities. Security cameras are located in common and exterior areas of the house.

Commissioners were met by Daryl Morales, the facility manager, who in turn introduced them to Alan and Jean, house parents, and Burt, a child care counselor. There was one youth residing in the facility but not present because she was on a pass with her parents, and another youth was expected to arrive that afternoon. Daryl explained the philosophy of the program, stating that the CRC is intended as a resource for families in crisis who do not need the level of care or structure provided by a group home. Because the youth reside at the facility at-will, the staff spend significant time and effort getting buy-in from the youth. The staff at the CRC interact with the youth informally and in structured counseling meetings. Staff also works with the parents on parenting skills. The emphasis is on family reunification.

Staff explained the grievance policy, and noted that they could not recall when a complaint had been filed by a resident. Within the last year, one complaint had been filed by parent with 50% custody who was upset that the other parent had placed the child there.

Because the goal is on stabilizing the youth and family reunification, the residents do not participate in regular chores. Meals are provided for them, and appear to be well-liked by the residents. The youth are allowed to

attend religious services; transportation is provided by the parents because staff generally remains on-site. Local school districts provide transportation to and from school. Staff has access to a vehicle for emergency use.

Staff provided the commissioners with letters and emails written by family members, and these testimonials provided a very positive view of the program. Staff is described as “supportive, knowledgeable, patient, and kind.” Commissioners similarly felt like staff members appeared well-trained, engaged, and experienced. Most have worked at the CRC over many years, and are familiar with the community and issues facing the youth. They are to be commended for their outstanding work with the youth of Placer County.

The Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention Commission of Placer County finds that the CRC is in compliance with California State Licensing Regulations.

Inspection Report completed by Commissioner: Sharon P. Howard

On this date: August 16, 2018