

Sonoma County Juvenile Justice Commission Group Home Inspection Report

Facility Name:	Greenacre Homes (Eddie Street)
Address:	438 Eddie Lane, Sebastapol
Phone	707 953-0835 (c)
Contact Person	Timothy Dimick, Program Director

J.J.C. Inspector(s)	Jim Weathers, Richard Miller, Susan Moreno
Date of Inspection	August 7, 2014
Date of Last Inspection	
C.C.L. Contact	Pauline Muntzer
Date of Last C.C.L. Inspection	6-23-2014 (Joyce Drive facility)

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

INSPECTED	O	S	N.I.	Comments
Grounds		x		Grounds of building are relatively well maintained. There are some areas in need of watering, however given current drought conditions the grounds look good. Back yard and patio overlook vineyard, there is a table and bar-b-que on the patio outside of kitchen area.
Building Exterior		x		Exterior of the building appears well maintained. Paint is fading in areas. Housing unit is attached to the rear of the offices housed in front of house.
Living Room		x		Living room was spacious, several sofas, fish tank and a table with two computers and a printer. Books lined the shelf above the computer terminals. There is a second day room with a couple of chairs and a couch. The pool table is missing it's top and was pushed to the side. All furniture, while worn, was in good repair. There are a few books in the second living room.

Kitchen		x	<p>This group home runs their food service differently than others. Each home has their own kitchen most meals are prepared in the commercial kitchen at Eddie Lane. This kitchen prepares bag lunches, which are delivered to the school for the residents. Pre-made dinners are heated in the individual houses (lasagna, salad, bread). Weekly menu is posted and in compliance with ADA and State guidelines. Breakfast is prepared at the individual houses. All surfaces in the kitchen were sticky to the touch. There were food particles on the ceiling of the dining area. The “food service” area shares space with the house kitchen so cabinets are locked to prevent house kitchen staff use. There were a couple of house kitchen cabinets that were not locked despite having locks on the doors. There was an adequate supply of flatware, personalized drinking cups and flatware. The dining table was of sufficient size for all house residents and staff. Sharps and other controlled food/spices were locked. Snacks were available on the counter and consisted of fruit. There is a central cold room for storage of produce, meats and dairy for all the houses. There was an ample amount of eggs and milk in the cold storage. Bread and chicken were also observed. Most foods are shipped to the Eddie Ln, house by local suppliers. Local Food Bank drops off foods that are nearing their shelf life. Food is sent from Eddie Ln to the other home twice a week. Food is stored in two very large commercial freezers and two additional commercial refrigerators. In addition to the cold room storage there is a “warm room” storage room for dry goods. There is ample supply of dry good including rice, flour, sugar, cereal, etc.</p>
Bedrooms		x	<p>Each resident at Eddie Ln has their own room, except when the census reaches 9 residents. Each room has a desk , lamp, bed and dresser. One room has a worn desk chair that is torn in a number of places (this room is currently vacant).</p>
Bathrooms		x	<p>Bathrooms were in good repair. Toilets and showers were clean. There were a couple of personal items left behind. Each of the bathrooms could benefit from a deep cleaning.</p>
Fire Safety --Extinguishers		x	<p>Up to date. Fire Extinguishers are located in the kitchen, near a back door and in the hallway leading from the office building.</p>
Fire Safety --Smoke Alarms		x	<p>Each room has a smoke alarm. The hallway has a hardwired fire alarm, emergency lighting is hardwired and exit signs are posted above each exterior door. Evacuation plan was posted.</p>
Fire Safety --Evacuation Plan		x	<p>posted</p>
Food		x	<p>See kitchen</p>
Emergency Supplies		x	<p>See kitchen, Fire Safety</p>
Health Services		x	<p>Each home has a social worker plus one clinician.</p>

Medications		x		Medications are secured in a locked drawer located in a locked office accessible by staff. Prepackaged medication is colored coded to time of day to reduce errors.
Recreation (on site)	x			There are a variety of video games and game consoles in the living room. The pool table is currently without a top. They have an aquarium and a house cat. There is a basketball hoop in the back yard and an additional game console in the second living room area. There is a desk with two computers and a printer that is available for residents to use without restrictions.
Outings (off site)	x			Each resident is given a bicycle and encouraged to use it. There are a number of photographs of the residents participating in community bike rides including the Gran Fondo. It was noted that one resident rode with a staff to the Golden Gate Bridge. Activities include A's games, bike rides, hiking, trips to San Francisco. They go to the movies once a week, have been ice-skating, Scandia, Exploratorium and science camp. Each resident is offered Aikido classes (a non-violent martial art). One resident is close to obtaining a black belt.
Education & Classrooms		x		Eight of the residents at Eddie Ln attend the Sonoma County adult program. One attends a vocational school, Two are at Brookhaven and one is at Anna Lee part time. There is an emphasis on behavior. During the summer months when the school year ends they run a summer program to keep their residents engaged in the process and keep a consistent structure. This is done at the cost of Greenacres. Each student is issued an iPad. The residents would not be enrolled in public school due to behavioral issues.
Mail/Phone		x		Each resident has unrestricted access to the phone and computer. That is of course unless restrictions due to behavior are in effect. Mail is sent and received without screening.
Discipline		x		Eddie Lane is unique in the use of restraint given the age of their population, 18 plus. Use of restraints is extremely low due to the age of the residents. Restraints have been used 1.5 times this past year. The program focus is on relationship building and learning independent decision and life skills. There is an "opportunity room" for residents to use voluntarily (can also be placed there) 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. Points are earned by residents that can be used to volunteer at hospice, the humane society, organic food pantry. If the opportunity room is used, there are no consequences, making a safe environment to get oneself together without a negative connotation.
Library		x		Age appropriate reading material is located in the living rooms.

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 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.

Encourage staff input 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.

Emphasize community involvement of its residents 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		Complimentary about program. Three residents were interviewed. Each stated they liked the program, some for different reason, but universally thought it was helpful
Program Understood		x		1)states he was given an orientation assigned a peer buddy, given a handbook of house rules #2,3) both given orientation and someone to talk with.
Levels (Privileges)		x		Each resident interviewed could explain how the privilege system worked and what the consequences were. Resident "2" liked being able to make money so he could buy things.
Grievances		x		Resident "1" felt comfortable discussing the issue with the other person and felt staff would be receptive to talking. Residents "2" and "3" did not really address the issue beyond stating they'd take it to staff.

Discipline		x		Each resident knew there were consequences for behavior felt things were fair and resident 2 stated he had to accept responsible for his behavior to “stay out of trouble”. Resident 3 knew he could get in trouble for not following rules. Resident 2 and 3 knew they could lose the things they had earned.
Staff Evaluation		x		All residents felt staff were fair and could be talked to.
Health Services		x		Each resident sees a counselor weekly. They each stated they liked their counselor. Resident “2” stated he would rather talk about “weather, chocolate and food” than any of the ideas the counselor had, but he enjoyed talking. Each resident saw psychiatrist every other week.
Counseling/Therapy		x		See above
Chores & Allowance		x		Earned based on age and points earned for chores done. Resident 2 was excited by opportunity to earn his money to buy things. Chores are assigned according to a schedule. Chores include, feeding the fish, helping with cooking.
Laundry		x		Laundry is available on site. Each resident stated they do laundry once a week based on posted schedule. Detergent is pre measured. Locked cabinet in laundry room was unlocked, cabinet contained items that contained bleach. When staff were told they locked it.
Clothes		x		Clothes are either their own or from group home supplies. If things get “old” they can pick new ones.
Food		x		Universally each resident stated food was good. Although resident 2 stated he did not eat “food from Mexico, Asia or Africa”. When asked about eating taco’s from Sebastapol, he smiled and said, with a smile, “that would be ok”. Each resident said they were encouraged to help with meal prep. Each resident has access to fruit that is available in the kitchen, and to his or her own snack they have purchased.
Snacks		x		see above
School		x		see above.
Library		x		One of the residents has his own books and enjoys reading. Resident 2 likes his ipad and enjoys the weather reports. Resident 3 did not voice an opinion
Activities & Entertainment	x			Each resident interviewed stated they enjoyed going to the movies and the outings. Resident “2” did not necessarily like the bike riding because it caused him to “work up a sweat” and he did not like that. He smiled and said he did it to be with the rest of the group.
Money		x		Can earn funds based on age and chore.
ADDITIONAL NOTES & SUGGESTIONS BY YOUTH				

Inspection Summary

Jim Weathers/Richard Miller
_____ Annual Inspection
Inspection Commissioner

Next Inspection Recommended: _____ **or**

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