

Sonoma County Juvenile Justice Commission Group Home Inspection Report

Facility Name:	Greenacre Homes (Green Meadows Group Home) 2015
Address:	On file
Phone	707 953-0835 (c)
Contact Person	Timothy Dimick, Program Director

J.J.C. Inspector(s)	James Weathers, Richard Miller and Mary Cone
Date of Inspection	October 6, 2015
Date of Last Inspection	October 7, 2014
C.C.L. Contact	Pauline Muntzer
Date of Last C.C.L. Inspection	June 12, 2015

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

INSPECTED	O	S	N.I.	Comments
Grounds		x		Green Meadows is a ranch style house located on a large lot in a residential area off Occidental Road. There is a large area behind the house with a basketball court with additional space for other outdoor activities.
Building Exterior		x		Exterior of the building is well maintained with a large deck at the rear. There is a free standing bar-b-que unit and an outdoor table and chairs on the rear deck as well as a variety of stored recreational equipment.
Living Room		x		The living room is spacious with several sofas, chairs, a fish tank, computer, large screen televisions, keyboards, and bookcases loaded with books, DVDs, and tapes.

Kitchen		x		<p>The kitchen and eating area were clean and well maintained.</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.</p> <p>Weekly menu is posted and is in compliance with ADA and State nutritional guidelines. The refrigerator and freezer were well stocked with milk, juices, fruits, vegetables and meats. No out dated left overs were noted.</p> <p>There was an adequate supply of flatware, glasses, cups and cooking utensils.</p> <p>The dining table was of sufficient size for all house residents and staff.</p> <p>Sharps and other controlled food/spices were locked up in another room along with the meds.</p> <p>In addition to scheduled snacks a variety of fresh fruits were available on the counter at all times.</p>
Bedrooms		x		<p>Bedrooms contain desks, chairs, dressers and beds. Lighting in most bedrooms consisted of a single overhead fixture, which with the installation of clearer globes and higher wattage bulbs seems to provide adequate lighting. Desk lamps are provided in some bedrooms in which the occupants appear to respect their usage.</p>
Bathrooms		x		<p>Bathrooms were in good repair however some of the fixtures were older and showing some wear and discoloration. Toilets and showers were clean.</p>
Fire Safety --Extinguishers		x		<p>Two fully charged fire extinguishers with up to date inspection tags were placed at easily accessible sites in the facility.</p>
Fire Safety --Smoke Alarms		x		<p>Each room has a smoke alarm. The hallway has a fire alarm, emergency lighting and exit signs are posted above each exterior door.</p>
Fire Safety --Evacuation Plan		x		<p>Evacuation plan was prominently posted and is the policy at all Greenacre facilities regular fire drills are scheduled at least once each month.</p>
Food		x		<p>As noted above, the kitchen refrigerator and cabinets were well stocked.</p>
Emergency Supplies		x		<p>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</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> <p>Each home has a social worker plus one clinician.</p>
Medications		x		<p>Medications are secured in a locked drawer located in a locked office accessible only by staff.</p>

Recreation (on site)	x			There are a variety of video games and game consoles in the living room. In addition there is a basketball court behind the house and bikes, balls etc. available for the residents' use. There are also planned physical activities making use of the large empty area behind the house.
Outings (off site)	x			Outings include such things as visits to baseball games, bike rides, hiking, movies, and visits to San Francisco on occasion.
Education & Classrooms		x		At present all residents go to the Greenacre school.
Mail/Phone		x		Each resident has access to the phone and computer. Both the phone and computer utilize a sign in sheet and phone usage is not allowed after 9pm under normal circumstances. Mail is sent and received without screening by staff.
Discipline		x		<p>As with the other Greenacre homes, 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.</p> <p>As is the case with the other Greenacre homes there is an "opportunity room" for residents to use voluntarily (or involuntarily should the need arise) 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 holdover consequences, making for a safe environment to get oneself together without a negative connotation</p>
Library		x		Age appropriate reading material is located in the living rooms.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Currently residents ages range from 12 to 15 diagnosed as developmentally delayed or severely emotionally disturbed.

Very low staff turnover. They hire and promote from within from their internship program whenever possible in order to provide continuity and facilitate resident/staff relationships.

Staff input in decision-making and program development is encouraged.

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 a very positive incentive.

Community involvement of Greenacre residents is strongly encouraged where appropriate.

Staff appears to be knowledgeable about residents developmental issue and emotional concerns.

Youth Interviews

TOPICS	O	S	N.I.	Comments
Evaluation of Program		x		Complimentary about program for the most part.
Program Understood		x		Residents interviewed seemed to understand and appreciate the program
Levels (Privileges)		x		Residents are given in-depth orientation upon arrival along with a handbook containing the house rules and regulations. These are reinforced during the initial two-week intake process.
Grievances		x		Grievance procedures as well as the Juvenile Justice Commission flyer were posted on the bulletin and are gone over during the two-week initial adjustment period.
Discipline		x		Residents knew there were consequences and/or rewards for behavior.
Staff Evaluation		x		Residents felt staff were fair and could be talked to. Residents spoken with indicated they had certain members of the staff with whom they felt really comfortable discussing issues.
Health Services		x		Residents confirmed that the policy regarding regular twice a year medical and dental exams was being followed and that additional appointments were made when necessary. Each resident sees a counselor weekly.
Counseling/Therapy		x		See above
Chores & Allowance		x		Each child has assigned chores based on age and ability, which are posted weekly. Everyone receives a basic allowance, which may be augmented based on additional duties and satisfactory behavior. See above.
Laundry		x		Residents help with the laundry of their own clothes under the supervision of facility staff. Pre measured laundry supplies are in a locked cabinet and controlled by staff. Laundry is done regularly once each week however at the residents request it may be done more often.
Clothes		x		Clothes are either their own or from group home supplies. If things get "old" they can pick new ones.

Food		x		Residents felt food was "OK". Some meals were better than others. Residents are encouraged to help with meal prep. Each resident has access to fruit that is always available in the kitchen as well as prepared snacks at regularly scheduled times.
Snacks		x		See above
School		x		See above.
Library		x		Residents make use of the books, video games and movies available in house. Some residents have their own books in their rooms
Activities & Entertainment	x			Residents stated they enjoyed going to the movies and the outings but would like to have more.
Money		x		Residents earn extra money in addition to the basic allowance performing additional tasks at the school or in the community, based on age and type of chore.

ADDITIONAL NOTES & SUGGESTIONS BY YOUTH

Three residents were interviewed with varying lengths of stay...months to years. We had the opportunity to observe staff interacting with one resident about an issue the resident did not appreciate. Both resident and staff were respectful, patient and were able to come to a resolution. The resident completed the task that was assigned and later acknowledged feeling like his point was "heard". He still did not like having to do it, but understood the explanation and completed the task.

Inspection Summary

In the opinion of this review team, this facility provides a safe, healthy and nurturing environment for its residents.

Inspected by: James Weathers _____ Richard Miller _____
and Mary Cone _____

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**