

## Sonoma County Juvenile Justice Commission Group Home Inspection Report

Facility Name:	Greenacre Homes Occidental Road
Address:	On File
Phone	On File
Contact Person	Timothy Dimick

J.J.C. Inspector(s)	Cathy Brooks, Jody Edwards, Eve Goldberg
Date of Inspection	11/10/16
Date of Last Inspection	10/7/15
C.C.L. Contact	Pauline Muntzer
Date of Last C.C.L. Inspection	7/11/16

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

### *Action*

INSPECTED	O	S	N.I.	Comments
Grounds		X		This home has a porch in front, and a recently added bike trail complete with bumps that winds through the trees.
Building Exterior		X		The exterior is in good condition.
Living Room		X		The living room is very clean with wood like laminate flooring.
Kitchen	X			The kitchen was very large with a beautiful 6 burner stove, a new stove hood and plenty of work space.
Bedrooms		X		There are six bedrooms.
Bathrooms		X		In homes where the boys have a history of sexually acting out, they need to inform the staff before using a bathroom, and staff will monitor the area to insure there is never more than one boy in the bathroom. All boys must shower daily, brush their teeth twice daily, and maintain personal hygiene.
Fire Safety --Extinguishers		X		Adequate extinguishers are accessible.
Fire Safety --Smoke Alarms		X		Smoke alarms are mounted.
Fire Safety --Evacuation Plan		X		The boys practice a monthly fire drill.
Food	X			The boys each have three tokens per week which they can exchange for a meal of their own making if they don't want to eat what is on the menu. One boy was making himself a peanut butter sandwich with strawberry jam. I noticed his initials on the jam jar. He said he didn't like the chunks of strawberry and the preservatives in the jam the other kids ate. The night staff goes out of his way, without any request from the youth, to buy a special jam for him.

Emergency Supplies		X		There is a week's worth of food including canned and dehydrated food, and peanut butter, etc., locked in a cabinet. In addition there are 10 gallons of water, flashlights and candles. Additionally, there is a generator if the power goes out.
Health Services		X		The boys have an annual physical exam, plus medical services as needed. They visit the dentist twice each year.
Medications		X		Medications are locked in a drawer in a locked room.
Recreation (on site)		X		There is a bike trail and bikes for all the boys. Sometimes the boys are allowed to take the bikes with them when they leave the program.
Outings (off site)				The boys take an annual snow trip, visit Six Flags, and go to the movies.
Education & Classrooms		X		Three boys attend public school. The others attend Greenacre School.
Mail/Phone	X			The boys can have their own cell phones.
Discipline	X			Greenacre strives to help their youth succeed. They work on a safety reintegration model where the discipline is not extreme, and the focus is on meeting the child where he is and helping him to bring his behavior back to an acceptable level.
Library		X		There are several shelves of books available, as well as games and videos.

#### Youth Interview

TOPICS				
Evaluation of Program		X		<p>One boy I talked to liked living at Greenacre. He insisted it was "way better" than the last home he had been in because the staff didn't play favorites and he knew what to expect each day.</p> <p>On a return visit a week later I talked with two boys who felt the youngest resident was able to get away with poor behavior.</p>
Program Understood	X			They all understand the program.
Levels (Privileges)	X			One youth was very proud that he has been on the highest level for several months. He slipped a few times, but was able to make up the points.
Grievances		X		See above
Discipline		X		They felt the discipline was not unreasonable, but should be doled out fairly.
Staff Evaluation		X		The two boys I met on the second visit agreed that the most tenured staff were excellent. They felt one of the newer staff wasn't as fair.
Health Services		X		See above.
Counseling/Therapy		X		All the boys have two therapists: the house social worker and a clinician not associated with their home. They receive a minimum of 1 individual hour and 1 group hour per week.

Chores & Allowance	X			The boys earn a weekly allowance based on their behavior and chores. They earn between \$2 and \$12 weekly and are able to spend it how they wish. They can also earn up to \$8 weekly at school. They save a part of it.
Laundry		X		The boys do their own laundry.
Clothes		X		They have plenty of clothes and shoes. They go with the staff twice a year to shop for new clothes when the weather is changing.
Food	X			They enjoy using their meal tokens to take a pass on the planned meal, and instead make something of their own choosing.
Snacks		X		Usually fresh fruit and/or something like a granola bar.
School		X		One boy attends El Molino, two attend Brookhaven Middle School, and one attends Greenacre School.
Library		X		There are several shelves of books ranging from beginners to young adult.
Activities & Entertainment		X		One youth had recently learned to take the public bus from Sebastopol to Sonoma to visit family.
Money		X		They like being able to spend their own money.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES & SUGGESTIONS BY YOUTH**

# of Youth Interviewed:       3  

On my first visit the house was humming along at dinner time. Three boys were cooking. One really opened up and spoke highly of Greenacre Homes Occidental.

A week later, on a return visit, I met with two other boys. They agreed with each other that some of the staff is great, but they didn't think as highly of a few others. They were also very grumpy about another child in the home.

When I arrived they were the last two boys waiting for rides home for a Thanksgiving visit. This commissioner feels that their mood at the time may have contributed to their negative review, bearing in mind that their opinions are valid nonetheless.

The boys appreciate that they can choose their own hairstyles.

**Inspection Summary**

The staff members I met at this home appeared caring and experienced. The home was well maintained and welcoming.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Cathy Brooks

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Eve Goldberg

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Jody Edwards

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis Ruggiero, 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

Revised 7/10/2016