

Sonoma County Juvenile Justice Commission Group Home Inspection Report

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

J.J.C. Inspector(s)	James Weathers and Richard Miller, Susan Moreno
Date of Inspection	October 7, 2014
Date of Last Inspection	February 18, 2013
C.C.L. Contact	Pauline Muntzer
Date of Last C.C.L. Inspection	6-23-2014

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

INSPECTED	O	S	N.I.	Comments
Grounds		x		Green Meadows a two-story 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 and additional space for other outdoor activities.
Building Exterior		x		Exterior of the building appears well maintained and the large deck at the rear of the house shows signs of recent repairs. 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 with the meds.</p> <p>Snacks were available on the counter at all times and consisted of a variety of fresh fruits.</p>
Bedrooms		x	<p>Bedrooms contain desks, chairs, dressers and beds. Lighting is from a single overhead fixture. The question of adequate lighting at the desk was discussed with house staff. Desk lamps were removed some time ago due to breakage. Staff agreed to consider methods of providing better lighting.</p>
Bathrooms		x	<p>Bathrooms were in good repair. 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. It is the policy at all Greenacre facilities that 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. Vanilla was located in an unlocked cabinet (contains alcohol). Staff immediately removed it and secured it.</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.
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		One resident attends public school, the others go to the Greenacre school. They are driven to class and returned home via the facility's van.
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

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 and promote from within which can improve consistency with residents and facilitate relationship building.

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 is knowledgeable about residents with both developmental issue and emotional concerns.

Each resident is associated with a regional center. Currently 15% of Greenacre residents are from Sonoma County.

Youth Interviews

TOPICS	O	S	N.I.	Comments
Evaluation of Program		x		Complimentary about program.
Program Understood		x		Residents interviewed seemed to understand and appreciate the program
Levels (Privileges)		x		Residents 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.
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. Although one resident stated he has not seen a counselor in some time.
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 that 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 good and that there was plenty of it. 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. Enjoyed trick or treating outing coming up. Have been to baseball games (A's).
Money		x		Can earn funds based on age and chore.
ADDITIONAL NOTES & SUGGESTIONS BY YOUTH				
Inspection Summary				
<p>In the opinion of this review team, this facility meets or exceeds all the criteria to be rated as a fine group home serving the youth of our county. Of particular note is the positive interaction between the staff and residents. All during our visit one or another of the staff was engaged with one or more of the residents either playing a game or just talking.</p>				

Inspection Commissioners: _____
James Weathers/Richard Miller/Susan Moreno

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**