

**1 Sonoma County Juvenile Justice Commission
Facility Inspection Report**

Facility Name:	Hanna Boys Center
Address:	On File
Phone	On File
Contact Person	Louis H Young Jr. Coordinator of Residences

J.J.C. Inspector(s)	Jody Edwards and Gina Crozier
Date of Inspection	October 21, 2015
Date of Last Inspection	October 9, 2014
C.C.L. Contact	Pauline Muntzer
Date of Last C.C.L. Inspection	June 24, 2015

**S= Satisfactory or exceeds N.I. = Needs Improvement/corrective action*

INSPECTED	S	N.I.	Comments
Grounds	X		The grounds are quite beautiful. The maintenance is all subcontracted out. However during the summer kids can apply for jobs with maintenance for up to 8 hours a day.
Building Exterior	X		All the buildings we saw were well kept. There were two brand new buildings we saw only the outside of, the auditorium and the alumni and admissions center. These were spectacular.
Living Room	X		The living rooms are large, appear comfortable and had room for all 12 boys and their staff members. In one living room there is a large aquarium.
Kitchen	X		<p>In the group home, the pantry was fully stocked and the main kitchen was full of food. In the group homes, they all get a chance to go to Costco with a budget and a food list. On Sundays they have business groups where they talk about what will happen for the week, including the menu for the week. Each room has a day to cook, the kids help in the morning and the dinner and on Saturday's and Sundays for lunch they eat leftovers. There is a dining table large enough to accommodate all 12 boys and two staff members.</p> <p>The knives are all locked as are the bleach and cleaning products. The pantries are locked, the spices are locked.</p> <p>In the cottages there is a kitchenette that is available for the boys use and snacking at certain times of the day. There is no kitchen as they eat at the cafeteria.</p>
Bedrooms	X		<p>There are 6 bedrooms in each group home and cottage. The boys are housed two to a bedroom and the walls are decorated with the boys personalized things. In the group homes their desks are in the rooms but they mainly do homework in the study room.</p> <p>In the cottages, they have an additional bedroom immediately by the entry door for kids who are sick to try to isolate the illness. If they have a really high fever,</p>

			<p>they send the boys home.</p> <p>We checked a few of the bedrooms, some were neat and tidy, and others were messy with unmade beds. Louis said that when this happens, the first thing they do when they return from school is finish the morning chores and make their beds and clean up.</p>
Bathrooms	X		In both the cottages and group homes there is one huge bathroom for all 12 boys, it has 3 showers, 5 toilets and 5 sinks. They are ADA compliant. In the group homes there is also a guest bathroom near the living room.
Fire Safety	X		We checked one fire extinguisher and it was tagged good until January of 2016. We also observed clear evacuation plans in each residence.
Food	X		The food service for the dining hall is contracted to the Epicurean Group. They are fabulous and offer exceptional food. All the staff eat on site as well. They eat in cottage groups for breakfast and dinner but for lunch they can eat with anyone. There is a salad bar area in addition to the main meal, even if the main meal includes a salad. They can eat outside or in a central dining area for lunch. There is fresh soup every day. There is a brunch on Saturday and Sunday. As a result, in the cottages, they serve a continental breakfast when they wake up.
Health Services	X		In the health center, there is an RN on site always and a dental assistant. There is a driver to take the boys to appointments.
Medications	X		25% of the boys are on psychotropic drugs. Medications are disbursed in the locked staff room as needed by the boy.
Recreation (on site)	X		Every day the boys have two possibilities for recreation, immediately after school and during the hour of free time after dinner. Recreation on the weekends is scheduled from 11-2 for the younger boys and 2:30-5:30 for the older boys. They participate in small school competitive athletics for baseball and basketball. They also have sports they offer which are not yet competitive with other schools such as flag football, and ultimate Frisbee. We saw a tennis court that was recently resurfaced and we learned their ball fields have been resurfaced recently. They have an outdoor swimming pool and a recreation hall where they watch movies on the weekends and play table games. In their homes there are video games, which are only available for use on the weekends. In addition each cottage and group home has a room with weights and tread mills. There is also a place for kids with no athletic ability, the staff deals well with these guys, one activity in particular that is well liked is slot car racing.
Outings (off site)	X		There are multiple opportunities for outings. We heard about college visits to Sonoma State, Berkeley, Davis and Notre Dame. We heard about end of school year visits to 6 Flags and the Boardwalk. We heard about multiple week camping adventures in the summer.
Education/ Classrooms	X		Hanna has an accredited high school called Archbishop Hanna High School for grades 9 through 12. Class sizes average from 8 to 10.
Mail/Phone	X		For cell phones there is a protocol, this is required by licensing about keeping the kids phones overnight. If the youth is a status 1 or 2 with a 3.5 GPA, they can keep the phone overnight. There are no 'awake-staff' in the homes but there are night watchmen who check the homes. If they see kids on their phones at inappropriate times, they tell the appropriate staff member.
INSPECTED	S	N.I.	Comments
Family Contact	X		Home visits are earned and every family is encouraged to attend Sunday Mass and if their boy has earned it, they may take their son off campus Sunday afternoon

			<p>until 4:30.</p> <p>There are family sessions with the caseworker. They have an expert who provides parenting classes once a month open to all parents. This is held from 7-9pm on a Tuesday. If the parent comes they can also take the youth to dinner and then go to the session. There is also individual family counseling, sometimes including the youth and sometimes not. Also all families are invited to an open house twice a year that includes a "back to school" experience.</p>
Discipline	X		<p>The program is designed to earn privileges rather than discipline. There are four levels of status, from level 4 which represents behavioral issues to level 1 which is the best. Level 4 implies a need for lots more attention and instruction from staff, verbally abusive behaviors and poor impulse control. A new to the home youth will start at an orientation status for thirty days. Status 3 implies the youth is doing ok but continues to have issues of being out of bounds, being disrespectful, and not getting their work done. Privileges come with each status. For example status 2 implies the youth can request to leave campus one weekend a month.</p> <p>When staff members talk to the boys about poor behavior they reference working as a group and as a community not as an individual.</p>
Library	X		<p>There is a library building as a part of the school and in each home there are books available, both reference books and pleasure reading books in the study areas.</p> <p>There are also enough computers for each boy in each house.</p>

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Hanna Boys Center is a residential treatment center serving boys age 14-19. Their mission is to change the lives of troubled, motivated youth through faith, education and caring, helping them to grow into productive members of society. The core values of the program are nurturing the mind, the body and the spirit, transforming boys into productive healthy compassionate young men.

There are multiple aspects to Hanna Boys Center program. First is a group living experience that fosters peer relationships and provides structured daily living activities. There are two kinds of residences on campus, cottages and group homes. Cottages are where everyone starts and are generally for freshmen and sophomores. Group homes are generally for juniors and seniors although some younger boys can live in the group homes if they earn that privilege. Each cottage or group home has 12 boys living in it with four staff members. Two of these staff members are working at all times, but all four get to reside there 24/7 which is most likely a major attraction to the position. There are 6 cottages and all the youth eat at the cafeteria for all their meals. At the group homes, independent living is taught and the youth plan menus, shop for food, make their own meals and eat as a family. The exception is the lunch meal which is eaten at the cafeteria. The second aspect is the educational program. Third is a sports and recreation program to foster teamwork, physical fitness and promote a healthy approach to leisure. In addition there is counseling, campus ministry to provide spiritual guidance, health services, and a follow on program for alumni of the program.

Each child creates goals with their caseworker. An example of goals is, 1. Reading the Phoenix book, which coincides with addiction recovery and 2. not having the last word. For each of these goals, he is scored daily and the scores are averaged for the week to create a status level. The school creates their own grades as does the recreation part of their program.

Youth Interviews

TOPICS	S	N.I.	Comments
Evaluation of Program	X		<p>The boys made these comments:</p> <p>"My biological mom is a drug addict, I just have to focus on my future, my</p>

			<p>schoolwork, they really help you here".</p> <p>"The rules here are basic, handle the things you need to do, don't cause any problems. Morning chapel, pray for a couple minutes. Pretty good facility, better than being at home.</p> <p>" At home I would sit home and do nothing. There's so much to do here, there's structure. There's a lot of things here to do</p>
Counseling/ Therapy	X		The boys described the counseling as beings good and they both felt that if they have a problem they get lots of support. They also mentioned that there is lots of peer support.
Physical Education	X		They both enjoyed the physical education parts and even wished for more as well as more variety of sports. They told us they go out on bike rides and hikes with supervision.
Health Services			
School	X		They both described making education a priority and that they were doing much better here in the small class sizes than where they were before.
Food	X		<p>The boys made these comments:</p> <p>"I like the food, I am a vegetarian and there is a lot of variety. The salad bar gets jammed sometimes."</p> <p>"The food gets old, in a group home you can get some say about it. It's really good food here. You can get seconds and thirds and the deserts are good."</p> <p>"Veggies are pushed if they see that you are a junk food eater."</p>
Snacks	X		They said there was plenty of food.
Library			
Chores			
Money			
Mail / Phone			
Levels (privileges)	X		They both understood the status levels and had no issue with them.
Laundry	X		We learned that all the boys do their own laundry, but we didn't ask they boys what they thought of this.
Grievances	X		<p>The boys made these comments:</p> <p>"If you have a problem with a staff you have to work with your case worker. The case worker tries to check in with you weekly."</p> <p>"They try to process with you, seems like a fair process and staff are fair."</p>
Activities & Entertainment			
Program Length Understood			
Staff evaluation	X		They both felt that staff are fair and supportive and ask the boys how they can make the experience living there better for them.
Discipline			
Allowance			
Clothes			
Medications			

Drugs/Alcohol			
Probation officer			

ADDITIONAL NOTES & SUGGESTIONS BY YOUTH

of Youth Interviewed: 2

Next time I visit I will focus the questions for the boys on the areas unfilled above. We asked additional questions and heard these comments:

Do you feel safe here?
 "It depends, sometimes there is bullying, but there is a good honor committee of seniors and they tell them, they call them on it. There are no threats, just plain facts. I feel safe at night (even though there are no closed doors in the cottages) because there are cameras in the hall and there are night guards who check."
 "I felt safe in the cottages and I still do in the group homes. The cameras are new."

What would you improve?
 "More sports, more different classes like photography and more electives."
 "More sports, I'm an athlete, I would like tackle football, water polo and swimming."

What have you learned here?
 "To make school a priority, have structure, don't overwhelm yourself, learn to speak up, try something new."
 "Speak up about bullying, if there's kids messing with kids, the new kids, they don't know. Have patience, this place teaches you patience, you have to have good grades and make the right status."

How is this place about accepting different kinds of boys?
 "They are accepting of all kinds of boys."

Inspection Summary

Hanna Boys Center seems to be an example of a quality group living experience. While they are licensed by Community Care Licensing, they receive no government funding and take no placements from social services. As a result the legislation concerning group homes does not affect them. However they may be the recipient, if they accept them of some of the boys who have been affected from the closing of other group homes. The boys can truly call this place home as they can live here up to a maximum of five years and Louis told us many boys want to complete their high school years here now that they have an accredited high school.

They have an exceptional follow up program. They provide counseling and emotional services to alumni as well as pay for books and tuition for college work. They encourage alumni to return and speak with the boys. The typical message is about what the alumni wish they would have taken advantage of while they were here.

Jody Edwards
 Signature of Commissioner

Next Inspection Recommended: _____ or X Annual Inspection
 Date

 Chair, Juvenile Justice Commission

cc: Honorable Judge of the Sonoma County Superior Court
 Commissioner of the Juvenile Court
 Probation Department, Chief of Probation
 Department of Social Services
 State of California, Community Care Licensing
 Juvenile Probation Director
 Facility Inspected