

## Sonoma County Juvenile Justice Commission Group Home Inspection Report

Facility Name:	TLC Coast House
Address:	On File
Phone	On File
Contact Person	Andy Day

J.J.C. Inspector(s)	Dennis Ruggiero; Gina Crozier
Date of Inspection	July 10, 2015
Date of Last Inspection	December 7, 2013
C.C.L. Contact	Pauline Muntzer
Date of Last C.C.L. Inspection	3/4/2013

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

### *Action*

INSPECTED	O	S	N.I.	Comments
Grounds		X		The Coast House is a spacious rural well-maintained facility. Open areas are mowed and gardens are well tended. There is a fence that should be repaired separating a neighbor's mobile home unit from the group home property.
Building Exterior	X			The buildings are in excellent condition. The paint looks fresh and clean. An expansive deck overlooking the property was recently built for resident use.
Living Room	X			The living room is spacious and well laid out with comfortable furniture. There is an entertainment center. Games, reading material and videos are available.
Kitchen	X			The large kitchen is well equipped with modern appliances. Cupboards and drawers are labeled for resident convenience. All sharp instruments are secured in a locked closet.
Bedrooms	X			Eight of the ten bedrooms are occupied. The single occupancy rooms are clean, well furnished, of adequate size with view windows.
Bathrooms	X			The four bathrooms were roomy, clean and organized. They are shared by two residents in most cases. At full capacity, occasionally three.
Fire Safety --Extinguishers	X			Fire Extinguishers inspected 4/15
Fire Safety --Smoke Alarms	X			Smoke alarm inspection: 9/17/14
Fire Safety	X			Laminated evacuation plans are posted throughout the building in hallways

--Evacuation Plan				with bedrooms and at exits. Last Safety Drill 5/21/2015 (one was completed on 6/30 but the proper paperwork was not filed), gathering place is in the front driveway.
Food	X			There is an abundance of food available. Refrigerators are clean, orderly and well stocked. Freezers show no signs of old or freeze damaged goods. Dry goods are stored in cabinets and are available to residents. There is a staff member responsible for shopping and stocking food.
Emergency Supplies	X			There are sufficient emergency supplies kept in storage in the former school building behind the main house.
Health Services	X			Residents can complete an illness form that is reviewed by coordinators. There is an annual "well child" checkup and six-month dental checkups.
Medications	X			Medications are stored in a double locked cabinet. There are set monitored distribution times. Each resident has a file for medication storage and distribution. Medications are inventoried daily. If a resident refuses meds, they may be kept home from school and given Options for medication refusal.
Recreation (on site)	X			There is a basketball court in an asphalt area, a volleyball court in a field and a vegetable garden. It was mentioned that this group is not sport oriented.
Outings (off site)	X			There are a variety of off-site activities; rafting, hiking, Six Flags, beach, park, snow, 8 day back pack. Some residents saw snow for the first time. Many of the excursions include other TLC campuses.
Education & Classrooms	X			Students with IEPs attend Journey School on the Sebastopol site. Currently, one student is attending the local high school.
Mail/Phone	X			Staff must dial and pick up phone calls at all times. Phone use is limited to two 5-minute calls per day to parents, placement workers, and/or legal representatives. Residents may contact friends through letter writing only.
Discipline	X			Residents understand the rules and the discipline protocol. When occasions arise where discipline is required, the residents interviewed stated they were given the opportunity to explain what happened and received feedback on how best to handle that particular type of situation in the future. They felt the disciplinary process was fair.
Library	X			There is a large assortment of books available for resident use. Many books were visible in the resident rooms.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES**

Resident's rights are posted in a visible location, as is the JJC grievance sheet.

Three staff members are on-site when residents are present. One staff is on site overnight.

Walls in common areas contain photos, memos and relevant information for resident interest and motivation.

There is a feeling of safety, security and trust.

## Youth Interviews

TOPICS	O	S	N.I.	Comments
Evaluation of Program	x			She said that one thing that concerns her is the transition to being independent. She would like to be independent as soon as she can. She needs to find work and has no idea how she can find a job, a place to live, and a car. She was hopeful that she would receive preparation to do this.
Program Understood	x			This youth says that the schedule is the same as was presented by the director. There are chores, personal grooming, and eating together daily.
Levels (Privileges)	x			These are outlined in the handbook and during the initial two week orientation period.
Grievances	x			Coast house has a confidential communication box in which residents can leave notes if they do not wish to bring up the issue in a public setting. Only the house manager has access to the box
Discipline	x			She feels like the discipline system is fair and makes it easier to follow guidelines.
Staff Evaluation	x			She really likes the staff and enjoys living at this facility.
Health Services	x			
Counseling/Therapy	x			There are also daily group meetings, as well as weekly visits to her therapist. She likes her therapist and all the medical support staff. She said she has never seen anyone use restraints.
Chores & Allowance	x			
Laundry	x			
Clothes	x			
Food	x			She likes the food, and the girls get to help the staff prepare the food. At other facilities she said the youth would prepare the food themselves, which made her uncomfortable.
Snacks	x			
School	x			She has good grades and maintains a high GPA. She gets any help she needs from the staff with homework, but works pretty much independently.
Library	x			
Activities &	x			This girl also likes the field trips and is looking forward to the ropes

Entertainment				course and the river trip. She also enjoys the ability to earn personal time.
Money	x			

**ADDITIONAL NOTES & SUGGESTIONS BY YOUTH**

# of Youth Interviewed:     \_\_\_1\_\_\_

Only one resident was available. Seven others were attending Journey School on the main TLC campus.

One youth was interviewed. She was the only one home at the time, with the remaining 7 girls attending the school on the main campus (Journey). This girl was attending the local high school and as it is summer vacation.

The girl has been in this facility for 3 months. She had previously been out of the state at other facilities. She has been in multiple homes and feels like this home is very good.

There was an incident involving girls and self-harm recently. This youth was happy to see that she was able to stop from being triggered herself. She says she can see that she is becoming able to control her behavior and move into a place where she can handle her future life.


**Inspection Summary**

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

Inspection  
Inspection Commissioner

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

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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