

Sonoma County Juvenile Justice Commission Group Home Inspection Report

Facility Name:	Victor Treatment Center – Irwin House
Address:	On File
Phone	On File
Contact Person	Kristine Aphugh

J.J.C. Inspector(s)	Gayle Ballinger and Michael Fried
Date of Inspection	11/15/16
Date of Last Inspection	10/6/15
C.C.L. Contact	Pauline Muntzer
Date of Last C.C.L. Inspection	08/31/15

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

Action

INSPECTED	O	S	N.I.	Comments
Grounds		x		House is set down a drive with adjoining yards to Lane House. There is a large paved area for bike riding, with basketball court and picnic table. Meticulous yard.
Building Exterior		x		Well kept.
Living Room		x		There have been additions to the art on the wall, the couches placed in a friendly conversational style, and the computer has been removed. The desk is now moved into the kitchen and holds games and other treasures. The overall feel is homey and modern.
Kitchen		x		The kitchen is clean, organized and well stocked.
Bedrooms		x		All the bedrooms were clean, homey, organized, and mostly decorated. It is up to each girl to decide if she wants to put things on her wall or not. One was missing a screen, which occurs daily with this bedroom. It was replaced while we were there and then popped out before we left.
Bathrooms		x		Both bathrooms were clean.
Fire Safety --Extinguishers		x		Extinguisher was up to date.
Fire Safety --Smoke Alarms		x		Multiple alarms.
Fire Safety --Evacuation Plan		x		Posted.
Food		x		Well-stocked cupboards and pantry.
Emergency Supplies		x		The emergency supplies are kept in the garage. Easily accessible. Well stocked.

Health Services		x		Appointments made and transportation arranged. Binders up to date.
Medications		x		Medication locked and logged.
Recreation (on site)		x		30 minutes of exercise on site per day.
Outings (off site)		x		There are many outing opportunities at VTC.
Education & Classrooms		x		All youth attend North Valley. The commissioners did not visit the school.
Mail/Phone		x		Mail and phone calls available to youth with approved people.
Discipline		x		Grounding may be used along with loss of allowance.
Library		x		The library is at the school.

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TOPICS				
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Evaluation of Program		x		
Program Understood		x		This question wasn't stated as such but in the conversation it was implied that the girls were clear on what was expected of them.
Levels (Privileges)		x		There are no levels. Depending on behaviors privileges may be added.
Grievances		x		Grievance processes are clear.
Discipline		x		Positive reinforcement is preferred.
Staff Evaluation		x		Everyone was adamant that the staff was great.
Health Services		x		They get to go to doctors and dentists.
Counseling/Therapy		x		Counseling at school is available. There is also counseling at the house.
Chores & Allowance		x		Chores are done in the morning and the afternoon. Allowance is \$1.50 per day.
Laundry		x		Each is given a day of the week to do their chore.
Clothes		x		The girls were happy to point out their tutu's.
Food		x		All the girls were very excited to say the food is great!
Snacks		x		Snacks are available after school.
School		x		Ok.
Library		x		At the school.
Activities & Entertainment		x		They are very creative.

Money		x		Money is locked in the office.
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ADDITIONAL NOTES & SUGGESTIONS BY YOUTH

of Youth Interviewed: 3

We were met at the door with bounding young girls who asked if they could have hugs. We were shown into their rooms with gusto. One young girl had just been in the house a short time. She was extremely friendly then reached over and grabbed a book and began to give us a book report on Tuck Everlasting which deals with immortality. She became serious as she described losses of her own. She said the book is helping her deal with the subject of death. There weren't any decorations on the walls. The staff mentioned that she likes things minimalist with few items but all placed where they belong. She said she loved the house.

The girls asked for multiple hugs. When we asked the staff about hugs Molly said the rule for staff is that if there is hugging for one there needs to be hugging for all.

This house had a lot of positive energy. Staff laughed at how angelic they appeared since they were all grounded.

Inspection Summary

A Eucalyptus tree had fallen shortly before we arrived. Just before the girls got home. This may or may not be on their property but they will be taking care of it.

 Inspection Commissioner Gayle Ballinger **Next Inspection Recommended:** _____ **or** _____ **Annual Inspection**

 Inspection Commissioner Michael Fried

 Mary Cone, Commissioner/Report Review

 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